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RESEARCH ARTICLE

FLORAL DIVERSITY IN THE WASTELAND OF RAMDASS VILLAGE; TEHSIL AJNALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR, PUNJAB, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Ramdass is a famous village in Punjab due to entomb of Baba Budhaa Sahab ji. It is located in tehsil Ajnala district Amritsar, Punjab. Most of the land in Punjab is used in agriculture practice, while 07 % is wasteland. Even the district Amritsar and Ramdass has a waste land, in which herbs, shrubs and trees are growing. This study was undertaken to document the floral diversity in the waste land of Ramdass village, teshil Ajnala, district Amritsar, Punjab. The study shows that 70 are easily available in wasteland in the vicinity of Ramdass village, which are belong to 65 Genus and 37 families.

Keywords: Floral diversity in wasteland

INTRODUCTION

Plants are the inspirational source in human life to afford social, economic and medicinal needs. India has a wide range of diversity in culture, vegetation and religion. Ramdas village is a small and famous village in Majha region of Punjab, tehsil Ajnala district Amritsar.[1] Presence of entomb (Samadh) of Baba Buddha Sahab Ji make this place very famous in sikh history. Baba Buddha Sahib ji blessed with six Gurus [2, 3, 4]. Most of sikh pilgrims visit Ramdass to seek blessing from Baba ji.

Wasteland is not used in agriculture and horticulture due to lack of supportive growth factor such as balanced nutrition, irrigation, deforestation and over cultivation of crops. Fertile land altered in to waste land due to water and wind erosion, chemical, and physical degradation. About, 83.13% land is utilized for agriculture practice and 6.07% is wasteland in Punjab and 1.04 % in Amritsar to the total geographical area[5]. The statistics of wasteland in India changed in last decade. It was 1172.84 square km in 2003[7] and reduces to 1.019.50 square km in year 2010[8]. It is due to planting trees, herbs, shrubs; promotion of agro forestry, training and awareness programs to local population at village level [6]. Such activities are governed by Govt. agencies and Non government organization (NGO). Scientific communities introduce new techniques by following the rule of Mother Nature do develop new varieties of crops and use the natural fertilizers.

The study was undertaken to explore the commonly growing vegetation in waste land of Ramdass. This study is beneficial to local people, students of Botany, agriculture, horticulture, pharmacy and for environmentalists.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The field surveys were conducted in January 2012 to October 2014 in the vicinity of Ramdass village, tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar, Punjab. Collected plant specimens were identified and dried in blotting sheets. The specimens were identified on the basis of literature survey through books, scientific journals [9-12] and matched with the herbarium kept at BSI (Botanical Survey of India), Dehradun and Punjabi university Patiala, Punjab. All the plant specimens were arranged alphabetically, enumerated with scientific names. Local name of the collected plant species were documented with the help of local people of Ramdass village, through interview and discussion in the age group of 40 – 80 year. English name, habitat and family are enumerated through books, Journal and scientific database.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

This study shows that 70 plants species are easily available in the vicinity of Ramdass village which are belonging to 65 genus 37 families. All the plants are mentioned in **Table 1**. It consists of family, local name,

English name, and habit. Prominent families are leguminosae, poaceae, and Rutaceae.

Discussion

Ramdass village posses wide range of floral diversity which belongs to different family and habit.

CONCLUSION

This study will be beneficial for the student of agriculture, horticulture, pharmacy and student of botany for the well being of human being by innovation and research. It will be beneficial for the new generation to know about the local names of plants in the vicinity of Ramdass village.

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Table 1: Plants available in the wasteland of Ramdass village. **D**: Dicot; **H**:Herb; **M**- Monocot; **S**- Shrub; **T**- Tree.

S.N.	Name of Plant (Family)	English name	Local Name	Habitat	Dicot/ monocot
1.	*Acacia catechu* (L.f.) Willd. (Leguminosae)	Cutch tree	Khair	T	D
2.	*Acacia nilotica* (L.) Delile (Leguminosae)	Black catechu	Kikar	T	D
3.	*Acer caesium* Wall.ex Brandis (Sapindaceae)	Indian Maple	Trekhan	T	D
4.	*Achyranthes aspera* L. (Amaranthaceae)	Devil's horsewhip	Puthkanda	H	D
5.	*Aegle marmelos* (L.) Corrêa (Rutaceae)	Holy fruit	Bil	T	D
6.	*Albizzia lebbek* L. Benth. (Leguminosae)	East Indian walnut	Siris	T	D
7.	*Anagallis arvensis* L. (Primulaceae)	Pimperne	Neel	H	D
8.	*Argemone mexicana* L. (Papaveraceae)	Prickly Poppy	Satyanashi	H	D
9.	*Bauhinia variegata* L. (Leguminosae)	Camel's foot	Kachnar	T	D
10.	*Barringtonia acutangula* L (Lecythidaceae)	Indian Oak	Hari Champa	T	D
11.	*Calligonum polygonoides* L. (Polygonaceae)	Desert teak	Ternie	S	D
12.	*Callistemon viminalis* (Sol. ex Gaertn.) G.Don (Myrtaceae)	Weeping bottlebrush	Bottle brush	T	D
13.	*Calotropis procera* (Aiton) Dryand. (Apocynaceae)	Dead sea apple	Ak	S	D

14.	*Cannabis sativa* L. (Cannabinaceae)	Marijuana	Bhang	H	D
15.	*Carthamus tinctorius* L. (Compositae)	Safflower	Kasumbh	H	D
16.	*Cassia fistula* L. (Leguminosae)	Golden shower	Amaltas	T	D
17.	*Cassia occidentalis* L. (Leguminosae)	Coffee senna	Kasundi	S	D
18.	*Cedrela toona* Roxb. ex Rottler (Meliaceae)	Red cedar	Toon	T	D
19.	*Celosia argentea* L. (Amaranthaceae)	Cedrela	Surwalie	H	D
20.	*Cinnamomum camphora* (L.) J.Presl (Lauraceae)	Camphar	Kapoor	T	D
21.	*Citrus medica* L.(Rutaceae)	Citron	Khatta	T	D
22.	*Citrus maxima* (Burm.) Merr. (Rutaceae)	Pamelo	Chakotra	T	D
23.	*Cuscuta reflexa* Roxb. (Convolvulaceae)	Giant Dodder	Aakash bail	H	D
24.	*Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers. (Poaceae)	Bermuda grass	Doob	H	M
25.	*Dalbergia sissoo* DC. (Leguminosae)	Indian rose wood.	Shisham	T	D
26.	*Datura metel* L. (Solanaceae)	Thorn Apple	Dhatura	H	D
27.	*Delonix regia* (Hook.) Raf. (Leguminosae)	Fslame tree	Gulmohar	T	D
28.	*Dendrocalamus strictus* (Roxb.) Nees (Poaceae)	Bamboo	Baans	H	D
29.	*Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk. (Asteraceae)	False daisy	Bring Raj	H	D
30.	*Emex spinosa* L.(Polygonaceae)	Devil's thorn	Trkandi	H	D
31.	*Eucalyptus globulus* Labill. (Myrtaceae)	Blue gum	Safeda	T	D
32.	*Euphorbia hirta* L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Asthma plant	Dudali	H	D
33.	*Ficus bengalensis* L. (Moraceae)	Bengal fig	Borh	T	D
34.	*Ficus religiosa* L. (Moraceae)	Sacred fig	Pipal	T	D
35.	*Fraxinus xanthoxyloides (*G.Don) Wall. ex A.DC. (Oleaceae)	Dita bark tree	Shangal	T	D
36.	*Impatiens balsamina* L. (Balsaminaceae)	Garden Balsam	Tatura	H	D
37.	*Jasminum sambac* (L.) Aiton (Oleaceae)	Arabian jasmine	Motia	S	D
38.	*Justicia adhatoda* L. (Acanthaceae)	Malabar Nut	Pasuti	S	D
39.	*Lantana camara* L. (Verbenaceae)	Yellow sage	Hule	S	D
40.	*Medicago polymorpha* L. (Leguminosae)	Burr medic	Maina	H	D
41.	*Medicago falcata* L. (Leguminosae)	Yellow alfalfa	Basin	H	D
42.	*Azadirachta indica* L. (Meliaceae)	Indian cedar	Nim	T	D
43.	*Mimusops elengi* L. (Sapotaceae)	Spanish cherry	Maulsari	T	D
44.	*Moringa pterygosperma* Gaertn. (Moringaceae)	Drum stick	Sohanjana	T	D
45.	*Morus alba* L.(Moraceae)	White mulberry	Tut	T	D
46.	*Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng. (Rutaceae)	Curry leaves	Curry pata	S	D
47.	*Neolamarckia cadamba* (Roxb.) Bosser (Rubiaceae)	Burflower-tree	Kadamb	T	D
48.	*Nerium oleander* L.	Oleander	Kaner	T	D

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	(Apocynaceae)				
49.	*Opuntia dillenii* (Ker Gawl.) Haw. (Cactaceae)	Prickly pear.	Thor	S	D
50.	*Oxalis corniculata* L. (Oxalidaceae)	Indian Sorrel	Khatti booti	H	D
51.	*Panicum colonum* L (Poaceae)	Jungle rice	Sinwak	H	M
52.	*Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb. (Arecaceae)	Wild date palm	Khajur	T	D
53.	*Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre (Leguminosae)	Indian beech	Badam paparie	H	D
54.	*Ricinus communis* L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Castor bean	Rind	S	D
55.	*Saccharum spontaneum* L. (Poaceae)	Kans grass	Kans	H	D
56.	*Salix caprea* L. (Salicaceae)	Goat willow	Mushak	S	M
57.	*Sida cordifolia* L. (Malvaceae)	Country Mallow	Bala	H	D
58.	*Sonchus asper* (L.) Hill (Compositae)	prickly sow thistle	Peeli booti	H	D
59.	*Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers. (Poaceae)	Johnson grass	Baru	H	M
60.	*Spondias pinnata* (L. f.) Kurz (Anacardiaceae)	Wild mango	Bhamb	T	D
61.	*Solanum xanthocarpum* Schard & Wendl (Solanaceae)	Yellow berried nightshade	Kateli	H	D
62.	*Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels (Myrtaceae)	Indian blackberry	Jaman	T	D
63.	*Tamarindus indica* L. (Leguminosae)	Tamarind	Imli	T	D
64.	*Taraxacum officinale* (L.) Weber (Asteraceae)	L ion's-tooth	Dudhi	H	D
65.	*Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb. ex DC.) Wight & Arn. (Combretaceae)	White marudah	Arjan	T	D
66.	*Terminalia bellirica* (Gaertn.) Roxb. (Combretaceae)	Belleric myrobalan	Bahera	T	D
67.	*Terminalia chebula* Retz. (Combretaceae)	Chebulic Myrobalan	Harad	T	D
68.	*Typha angustata* Bory & Chaub. (Typhaceae)	Indian Reed mace	Kundar	H	M
69.	*Tribulus terrestris* Linn (Zygophyllaceae)	Calthrops	kokaduu	T	D
70.	*Zizyphus jujuba* Mill & Lamk. (Rhamnaceae)	Chinese Date	Ber	S	D

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