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## **DISTRIBUTION OF ANGIOSPERMIC EPIPHYTES IN RAINFOREST OF PACHAKUMACHI HILL, CUMBUM VALLEY, WESTERN GHATS, INDIA**

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**ABSTRACT:** Angiospermic epiphytes were screened in a total sample of 3932 trees (lianas excluded) of  $\geq 30$  cm girth at breast height in a 1 ha permanent plot of tropical rain forest of Pachakumachi Hill, Indian Western Ghats. Epiphyte diversity totaled 18 species in 11 genera and 3 families. Fifteen species were in Orchidaceae family. The species richness estimators employed for species accumulation curves after 100 times randomization of sample order have stabilized the curve at 13<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> quadrat for ACE and Chao 2, respectively.

**Keywords :** *Epiphyte, India, Pachakumachi hill, Tropical rain forest, Western Ghats.*