

FLORISTIC STUDY OF KIKKARALLY, A VILLAGE LOCATED IN THE WESTERN GHATS, A BIODIVERSITY HOT SPOT

K.A. SHARVANI¹, K.B. SADANANDA², K.K. SAMPATH KUMARA³ AND N.S. DEVAKI⁴

¹*Department of Botany, Yuvaraja's College (Autonomous),
University of Mysore, Mysore-570005*

7, Temple Road, J.L. Puram, Mysore - 570012

³*Department of Studies in Biotechnology, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore – 570 006*

⁴*Dept of Molecular Biology, Yuvaraja's College (Autonomous), University of Mysore, Mysore - 570 005*

⁴*Corresponding author: devakins@yahoo.co.in*

ABSTRACT: Present study was carried out during the years 2007 and 08 to prepare an inventory of Angiosperm Flora of Kikkarally, a village of Kodagu District covering an area of 1,572 acres. It is located in Western Ghats of India which is one of the 34 biodiversity hotspots of the world and world heritage site. Kikkarally is a floristically rich village and the study revealed the presence of 383 plant species belonging to 95 families. Among these, 25 species are new record to the 'Flora of Coorg District'. The study revealed the presence of 60 endemic and 6 threatened plant species of different categories. Traditional methods were followed for the identification. In addition to this, leaf tracing technique was used for the identification of trees which were collected without reproductive structures.

Keywords: *Biodiversity hotspot, Endemism, Floristic study, Leaf tracing, Threatened species, World heritage site.*