

Biodiversity of Hessarghatta Grasslands

Compiled by:
S. Subramanya
subbu.subramanya@gmail.com

Summary

	Group	Number of species
A.	Plants (including grasses)	
a.	Native and Naturalized Plant Species in Hesaraghatta Grasslands and Grassland Scrub	39
b.	Invasive Plant species in Grassland	4
c.	Trees species planted recently in the Grassland and Grassland Scrub	12
B.	Mammals	10
C.	Reptiles	5
D.	Birds	133
E.	Amphibians	1
G.	Spiders	3
F.	Butterflies	14

A. Plants (including grasses)

a). Native and Naturalized Plant Species in Hesaraghatta Grasslands and Grassland Scrub

Family: Acanthaceae

1. *Andrographis serpyllifolia* (Vahl) Wight
2. *Barleria buxifolia* L.
3. *Lepidagathis cristata* Willd.
4. *Agave sisalana* Perrine ex Engelm.

Family: Apocynaceae

5. *Carissa paucinerva* A. DC.
6. *Ichnocarpus frutescens* (L.) R.Br.

Family: Arecaceae

7. *Phoenix sylvestris* (L.) Roxb.

Family: Asclepiadaceae

8. *Calotropis gigantea* (L.) R. Br.

Family: Asteraceae

9. *Chromolaena odorata* (L.) King & Robinson
10. *Launaea acaulis* (Roxb.) Babc. ex Kerr
11. *Vicoa indica* (L.) DC.

Family: Celastraceae

12. *Celastrus paniculatus* Willd.

Family: Convolvulaceae

13. *Evolvulus alsinoides* (L.) L.

Family: Cucurbitaceae

14. *Diplocyclos palmatus* (L.) Jeffrey

Family: Ebenaceae

15. *Diospyros melanoxylon* Roxb.

Family: Erythroxylaceae

16. *Erythroxylum monogynum* Roxb.

Family: Euphorbiaceae

17. *Euphorbia laeta* Heyne ex Roth
18. *Securinega leucopyrus* (Willd.) Muell.-Arg.
19. *Tragia involucrata* L.

Family: Fabaceae

Sub-family: Caesalpinioideae

20. *Cassia auriculata* L.

Sub-family: Faboideae

21. *Abrus precatorius* L.
22. *Butea monosperma* (Lam.) Taub.
23. *Crotalaria* sp.

Sub-family: Mimosoideae

24. *Acacia nilotica ssp. indica* (Benth) Brenan

25. *Acacia sp.*

26. *Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.) Benth

Family: Flacourtiaceae

27. *Flacourtia indica* (N. Burman) Merrill

Family: Lamiaceae

28. *Leucas hirta* (Roth) Sprengel

Family: Meliaceae

29. *Cipadessa baccifera* (Roth) Miquel

Family: Menispermaceae

30. *Cocculus hirsutus* (L.) Diels

Family: Poaceae

31. *Heteropogon contortus* (L.) Pal.-Beauv. ex Roemer & Schultes

32. *Aristida hystrix* L. f.

33. *Cymbopogon citratus* (DC.) Stapf

34. *Digitaria ciliaris* (Retz.) Koeler

35. *Themeda triandra* Forskal

Family: Rubiaceae

36. *Canthium parviflorum* Lam.

Family: Rutaceae

37. *Toddalia asiatica* var. *floribunda* Gamble

Family: Scrophulariaceae

38. *Striga asiatica* (L.) Kuntze

39. *Tridax procumbans*

b). Invasive Plant species in Grassland

Family:

1. Mesquite *Prosopis juliflora*

Family:

2. Lantana *Lantana camara*

Family:

3. Eupatorium *Eupatorium perfoliatum*

Family:

4. *Stachytarpheta indica*

c). Trees species planted recently in the Grassland and Grassland Scrub

Family: Moraceae

1. *Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lam.

2. *Ficus religiosa* L.

Family: Proteaceae

3. *Grevillea robusta* A.Cunn. ex R.Br.

Family: Anacardiaceae

4. *Mangifera indica* L.

Family: Muntingiaceae

5. *Muntingia calabura* L.

Family: Fabaceae

Sub-family: Faboideae

6. *Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre
7. *Tamarindus indica* L.

Family: Myrtaceae

8. *Psidium guajava* L.
9. *Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels

Family: Meliaceae

10. *Swietenia mahogoni* (L.) Jacq.

Family: Combretaceae

11. *Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb. ex DC.) Wight & Arn.

Family: Malvaceae

12. *Thespesia populnea* (L.) Sol. ex Correa

A. Mammals:

1. Slender Lloris *Loris lydekkerianus*
2. Common Mongoose *Herpestes edwardsii*
3. Jackal *Canis aureus naria*
4. Indian Fox *Vulpes bengalensis*
5. Palm squirrel *Funambulus palmarum*
6. Indian Mole rat *Bandicota bengalensis*
7. House Mouse *Mus musculus*
8. Indian Field Mouse *Mus booduga*
9. Black-naped Hare *Lepus nigricollis*
10. Wild Boar *Sus scrofa*

B. Reptiles

1. Garden Lizard, *Calotes versicolor*
2. Peninsular Rock Agama *Psammophilus dorsalis*
3. Ratsnake *Ptyas mucosus*
4. Common Cobra *Naja naja*
5. Russell's Viper *Daboia russelii*

C. Birds

Order: Galliformes

Family: Phasianidae

1. Grey Francolin *Francolinus pondicerianus*
2. Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*
3. Rain Quail
4. Jungle Bush Quail *Perdicula asiatica*
5. Grey Junglefowl *Gallus sonneratii*
6. Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

Order: Pelecaniformes

Family: Ardeidae

7. Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
8. Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*

Order: Falconiformes

Family: Accipitridae

9. Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

10. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*
11. Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
12. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*
13. Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*
14. Short-toed Snake Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*
15. Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*
16. Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*
17. Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*
18. Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos*
19. Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*
20. Shikra *Accipiter badius*
21. Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*
22. White-eyed Buzzard *Butastur teesa*
23. Indian Spotted Eagle *Aquila hastata*
24. Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga*
25. Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*
26. Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis??*
27. Booted Eagle *Aquila pennata*
28. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Family: Falconidae

29. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
30. Red-necked Falcon *Falco chicquera*
31. Peregrine Falcon - *Falco peregrinus*

Order: Otidiformes

Family: Otididae

32. Lesser Florican *Sypheotides indicus*

Order: Charadriiformes

Family: Turnicidae

33. Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator*

Family Charadriidae

34. Yellow-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus malabaricus*
35. Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*

Order: Columbiformes

Family: Columbidae

36. Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*
37. Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*
38. Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*
39. Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Order: Psittaciformes

Family: Psittacidae

40. Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*

Order: Cuculiformes

Family: Cuculidae

41. Pied Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus*
42. Common Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx varius*
43. Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus micropterus*
44. Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*
45. Asian Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea*

- 46. Blue-faced Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus viridirostris*
- 47. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

Order: Strigiformes

Family: Tytonidae

- 48. Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Family: Strigidae

- 49. Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*
- 50. Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia*
- 51. Indian Scops Owl *Otus bakkamoena*
- 52. Indian Eagle-Owl *Bubo bengalensis*
- 53. Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis*
- 54. Mottled Wood Owl *Strix ocellata*
- 55. Jungle Owlet *Glaucidium radiatum*
- 56. Spotted Owlet *Athene brama*
- 57. Brown Hawk Owl *Ninox scutulata*

Order: Caprimulgiformes

Family: Caprimulgidae

- 58. Indian Jungle Nightjar *Caprimulgus indicus*
- 59. Sykes's Nightjar *Caprimulgus mahrattensis*
- 60. Indian Nightjar *Caprimulgus asiaticus*
- 61. Savanna Nightjar *Caprimulgus affinis*

Order: Apodiformes

Family: Apodidae

- 62. House Swift *Apus affinis*
- 63. Alpine Swift *Apus melba*

Order: Coraciiformes

Family: Coraciidae

- 64. Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*

Family: Alcedinidae

- 65. White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* (Breeding resident)

Family: Meropidae

- 66. Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis*

Order: Bucerotiformes

Family: Upupidae

- 67. Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Pittidae

- 68. Indian Pitta *Pitta brachyura*

Family: Aegithinidae

- 69. Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

Family: Campephagidae

- 70. Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina melanoptera*

Family: Laniidae

- 71. Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* (Regular winter visitor)
- 72. Bay-backed Shrike *Lanius vittatus*
- 73. Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*

Family: Oriolidae

74. Indian Golden Oriole *Oriolus kundoo*

Family: Dicruridae

75. Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

76. White-bellied Drongo *Dicrurus caerulescens*

77. Ashy Drongo - *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

Family: Corvidae

78. House Crow *Corvus splendens*

79. Jungle Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Family: Paridae

80. Cinereous Tit *Parus cinereus*

Family: Alaudidae

81. Jerdon's Bushlark *Mirafra affinis*

82. Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix griseus*

83. Rufous-tailed Lark *Ammomanes phoenicura*

84. Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*

85. Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

Family: Pycnonotidae

86. Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

87. Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*

88. White-browed Bulbul *Pycnonotus luteolus* [34]

Family: Hirundinidae

89. Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* (Vagrant)

90. Plain Martin *Riparia paludicola* (Vagrant)

91. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

92. Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*

93. Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*

94. Streak-throated Swallows

Family: Phylloscopidae

95. Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

Family: Acrocephalidae

96. Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*

97. Sykes' Warbler *Iduna rama*

Family: Cisticolidae

98. Ashy Prinia or Ashy Wren-warbler

99. Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

100. Jungle Prinia *Prinia sylvatica*

101. Ashy Prinia *Prinia socialis*

102. Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*

103. Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Family: Timaliidae

104. Tawny-bellied Babbler *Dumetia hyperythra*

Family: Leiothrichidae

105. Large Grey Babbler *Turdoides malcolmi*

106. Yellow-billed Babbler *Turdoides affinis*

Family: Sylviidae

107. Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca blythi*

108. Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense*

Family: Zosteropidae

109. Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*

Family: Sturnidae

110. Grey-headed Starling *Sturnia malabarica*
111. Brahminy Starling *Sturnia pagodarum*
112. Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*
113. Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*
114. Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus*

Family: Turdidae

115. Indian Robin *Saxicoloides fulicatus*
116. Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maura*
117. Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*

Family: Dicaeidae

118. Pale-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum erythrorhynchus*

Family: Nectariniidae

119. Purple-rumped Sunbird *Nectarinia zeylonica*
120. Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus*

Family: Ploceidae

121. Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*

Family: Estrildidae

122. Red Munia *Amandava amandava*
123. Indian Silverbill *Euodice malabarica*
124. White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*
125. Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*
126. Black-headed Munia *Lochura malacca*

Family: Motacillidae

127. White-browed Wagtail *Motacilla maderaspatensis*
128. Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*
129. Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*
130. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*
131. Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus*
132. Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii*
133. Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

D. Amphibians

1. Common Toad *Duttaphrynus melanostictus*

E. Spiders

1. Erisid Spider *Stegodyphus sarasinorum*
2. Signature Spider *Argiope argentata*
3. Giant Wood Spider *Nephila maculate*

F. Butterflies

Family: Papilionidae

1. Common Rose *Pachliopta aristolochiae*

Family: Nymphalidae

2. Blue Pansy *Junonia orithya*

3. Chocolate Pansy *Junonia iphita*
4. Common Fourring *Ypthima huebneri*
5. Lemon Pansy *Junonia lemonias*
6. Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus*
7. Striped Or Common Tiger *Danaus genutia*
8. Yellow Pansy *Junonia hierta*

Family: Lycaenidae

9. Dark Grass Blue *Zizeeria karsandra*
10. Lesser Grass Blue *Zizina otis*
11. Tiny Grass Blue *Zizula hylax*
12. Slate Flash *Rapala schistacea*

Family: Hesperidae

13. Indian Grizzled/Indian Skipper *Spialia galba*
14. Pale Palm Dart *Telicota colon*

Source of Information:

Plants: Dr. A. N. Sringeswara & Dr. Sahana Vishwanath; Email: ansringesh@gmail.com

Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians: Arun Nadavar; Email: nk_arun@yahoo.com; Vinay Kumar Thimmappa; Email: vinaya.kumar.t@gmail.com

Birds: Dr. S. Subramanya; Email: subbu.subramanya@gmail.com

Spiders: Vinay Kumar Thimmappa; Email: vinaya.kumar.t@gmail.com

Butterflies: Rohit Girotra; Email: rohishwa18@yahoo.co.in; Vinay Kumar Thimmappa; Email: vinaya.kumar.t@gmail.com