

2  
3 **The riparian tree species composition and diversity of the midstream of**  
4 **Halda river in Chittagong, Bangladesh**

5 **Abstract**

6 The study was conducted to assess the tree species composition and diversity of the  
7 midstream area of the Halda river. Total number of 22 quadrats (20m × 20m in size) was  
8 sampled systematically. A total of 414 individual tree stems of ≥10 cm DBH of 36 tree  
9 species belonging to 31 genera and 15 families were enumerated. Fabaceae family was  
10 represented by maximum number of tree species (9) followed by Moraceae, Meliaceae and  
11 Anacardiaceae. Density, Basal area and volume of the tree species were 470.45 stem/ha,  
12 19.09m<sup>2</sup>/ha and 139.42m<sup>3</sup>/ha respectively. Among the tree species *Samanea saman* was  
13 found dominant showing maximum IVI followed by *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Mangifera indica*,  
14 *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus*. Different diversity indices, i.e  
15 Shannon-Wienners Diversity Index, Simpson's Dominance Index, Pielou's Species Evenness  
16 Index, Margalef's and Menhinick's richness index were calculated and which indicating a  
17 rich tree species diversity of riparian Halda midstream. The findings of the study will be  
18 helpful for the posterior researchers in their research work as well as their future tree based  
19 planning programs and conservation. So it is recommended that greater emphasis should be  
20 taken to proper management and conservation against over extraction and illegal felling for  
21 the maintenance of existing tree species composition and density.

22 **Keywords:** Species composition, Diversity, Riparian tree species, Halda River

30

31

## 32 **1. Introduction**

33 Rivers are the prominent and important feature of the landscape which play very crucial roles  
34 in the development of any country. Any country's economy and development are greatly  
35 dependent on the productions and service that provide a river such as fresh water supply, fish  
36 production, transportation, waste assimilation etc., along with provision of a wide array of  
37 recreation and tourism options (Hitzhusen et al. 2007). Halda (22°28'56.09"N &  
38 91°54'07.62"E), the third main river of Chittagong after the Karnaphuli and the Sangu, is  
39 such a resourceful river of Bangladesh (Kabir et al. 2013) which originates from the Batnatali  
40 Hill Ranges of Ramgarh Upazila under Khagrachari District, Bangladesh. It flows through  
41 Fatikchhari, Hathazari and Raozan Upazilas and Chandgaon Thana of Chittagong before  
42 ending into the Karnaphuli River. It is the only natural spawning ground of Indian major carp  
43 species (Tsai et al. 1981). As a nationally important river its resources need to be conserved.  
44 However, this river is vulnerable due to many natural and anthropogenic factors. Different  
45 man made activities such as industrial discharge, tobacco farming, rubber dam construction,  
46 brick-field construction, illegal quarry of sands etc. continue to threaten its existence (Dey  
47 2017). Besides, the riverbank erosion, increase of salinity in the river now threatens the  
48 livelihood of several thousand fishermen and egg collectors. On the other hand, industrial  
49 effluents including chemicals of tea gardens are regularly dumping in the river causing  
50 serious damage of the river (Dey 2017). Some of these threatening and destructive factors i.e.  
51 riverbank erosion, wastage, salinity and river depth control etc. can be maintained by a proper  
52 management of the riverbank tree species (Belsky et al. 1989; Wiel and Darby 2004). The  
53 riparian tree species play an important role in the reduction of river bank erosion which  
54 contributes to the maintenance of the river depth (Van et al. 2004). The tree cover and more  
55 tree species density is an important factor for an increasing rainfall which is important for  
56 dilution of the salinity and pollutants (Cho and Schnabel 1975; Cerqueira et al. 2014).

57 As Halda is one of the most resourceful rivers, many researches were conducted in the recent  
58 past. Studies were done to assess the surface water quality of Halda River from September  
59 2015 to March 2016 (Bhuyan and Bakar 2017) and the pollutants discharged into the Halda  
60 River through major canals were also investigated (Islam et al. 2017). The river flow of  
61 Halda is important and its impact on halda ecosystem was also estimated (Akhter 2015). The

62 conservation of Halda river in cooperation with river-dependent community was also  
63 investigated (Kabir et al. 2015). Studies were also done on the spawning of major Indian  
64 carp(Tsai et al. 1981) and the biodiversity status of carps the river which assessed the  
65 distribution of carps and most important zone of spawning (Ferdous 2015). The sediment  
66 analysis and the heavy metal contamination in the water of Halda river is an important work  
67 in maintaining the quality of the water in the feasible proportion which was also assessed  
68 (Bhuyan and Bakar 2017). Recently, Zaman (2014) focused a research project on awakening  
69 local people who are dependent on this river and developed a research training and awareness  
70 centre (Zaman 2014). Despite of all these studies mentioned above, the tree species  
71 composition on the bank of the river which is the most important component of Halda river  
72 ecosystem was still unexplored although it is directly associated to the other components such  
73 as soil, water, biodiversity of the Halda River ecosystem. Therefore, this work is done to  
74 assess the tree species composition, structure and diversity of the midstream area of the river  
75 bank. The specific objectives of this study are:

- 76 ➤ To prepare a tree species database of the midstream of Halda riparian area.
- 77 ➤ To assess the composition and diversity of available riparian tree species.
- 78 ➤ To determine the relative frequency, relative density, abundance, relative dominance  
79 and importance value index of each tree species in order to characterize the structure  
80 of the vegetation.
- 81 ➤ To find out the relative distribution of each tree species in different DBH (diameter at  
82 breast height) and height classes.

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

## 92 **2. Materials and Methods**

93

### 94 **2.1 Description of the Study area**

95

96 The Halda River is one of the major rivers in the South-East region of Bangladesh. The 98  
97 km long river has a very turbulent tributary, the Dhurung River, which joins at Sundarpur  
98 about 48.25 km downstream (Kabir et al. 2015). Halda, the third main river of Chittagong  
99 after the Karnaphuli and the Sangu, is such a resourceful river of Bangladesh (Kabir et al.  
100 2013). It originates from Halda chora at the area of 2 no. Patachora union in Ramgarh  
101 Upazila under Khagrachari District (Former Chittagong Hill Tracts), Bangladesh. It is the  
102 only pure Indian major carp breeding field of Bangladesh (Tsai et al. 1981) perhaps in South  
103 Asia. Garduara point at the mouth of Boalia and Cheng-khali tributary of Halda River was  
104 selected by taking into consideration that the site will give shelter a large number of fishes  
105 because it is the conjoined area where the Halda river meets with Boalia and Cheng khali  
106 tributary. The study was conducted in the midstream of Halda river (from Nazirhat,  
107 Fatikchhari to Sattarghat, Raojan) (**Figure 1**). The total length of the midstream area of this  
108 river from Nazirhat to Shattarghat is about 19.6 km.

109

### 110 **2.2 Sampling methods**

111 Systematic sampling method was followed during inventory of tree species. The whole  
112 sampling and primary data collection was done by a small boat (cockleboat). The plots were  
113 taken with an approximate interval of 2km by using GPS and after each of that 2km (approx.)  
114 interval two sampling plots of 20m×20m on the both sides of the river were taken. A total of  
115 22 plots were taken on each sides of the river (**Figure 1**). The plots were taken from the  
116 starting point of the tree species on each bank. Tree species having more than 10cm diameter  
117 at breast height (DBH) were counted and DBH of them were measured by diameter tape, then  
118 the total height and merchantable height were also measured by Relascope.

119

### 120 **2.3 Data analysis**

121

122 After collection of field data, to calculate the diversity index, quantitative characteristics data  
123 were compiled and processed. Basal area of the tree species was calculated by the following  
124 equation (Chaturvedi and Khanna 1982; Thakur et al. 2008):

125 Basal area =  $\pi D^2/4$  ; where, D = Diameter at breast height,  $\pi = 3.1416$

126 For each species relative density, relative frequency, relative abundance and Importance  
127 Value Index (IVI) were calculated following the methods developed by Williams (1991).  
128 Identified plants were arranged taxonomically and categorized according to their habit form.

129 **I. Frequency and relative frequency (%):**

130 Frequency of a species =  $\frac{\text{Total no. of quadrats in which the species occurs}}{\text{Total number of quadrats studied}}$

131 Relative Frequency (RF%) =  $\frac{\text{Frequency of one species}}{\text{sum of all frequencies}} \times 100$

132 **II. Density and relative density(%):**

133 Density of a species =  $\frac{\text{Total no. of individuals of a species in all quadrats}}{\text{Total no. of sample plots of all species}}$

134

135 Relative density of a species =  $\frac{\text{Total no. of individuals of the species}}{\text{Total no. of individuals of all species}} \times 100$

136 **III. Abundance and relative abundance (%)**

137 Abundance of a species =  $\frac{\text{Total no. of individuals of a species in all the quadrats}}{\text{Total no. of quadrats in which the species occurred}}$

138 Relative Abundance (RA%) =  $\frac{\text{Abundance of one species}}{\text{Total abundance of all the species}} \times 100$

139 **IV. Relative Dominance (%)**

140 Relative Dominance (RDo) =  $\frac{\text{Basal area of a species in all quadrats}}{\text{Total basal area of all species in all quadrats}} \times 100$

141 **V. Important Value Index (IVI)**

142 Importance Value Index (IVI) = Relative Frequency (RF) + Relative Density (RD) + Relative  
143 Dominance (RDo) according to (Curtis, 1959) (Dhaukhandi et al. 2008) and (Whittaker &  
144 Feeny 1971).

145

146

## 147 **2.4 Functional Diversity**

148

149 Functional diversity is defined as the variety of interactions with ecological process and can  
150 be quantified by determining the nature and extent to which functional groups are represented  
151 in an ecological system (Petchey & Gaston 2006). Functional diversity, evenness and  
152 richness were measured using different methods.

153 Generally, species diversity is determined not only by the number of species within a  
154 biological community i.e., species richness, but also by the relative abundance of individuals  
155 in that community. Species abundance is the number of individuals per species, and relative  
156 abundance refers to the evenness of distribution of individuals among species in a  
157 community. Two communities may be equally rich in species but differ in relative  
158 abundance(Colin 2018).

159 Four diversity indices, i.e. Shannon-Wiener Diversity Index (H), Margalef 's richness index  
160 (R), Simpon's Diversity Index (D), Pielou's Species Evenness Index (E) and Menhinick's  
161 richness index (DI) were analyzed as following (Margalef 1958; Pielou 1984; Shannon &  
162 Weiner 1963a; Simpson 1949a) respectively to get a picture of tree species diversity in Halda  
163 river.

### 164 **I. Shannon-Weinner Diversity Index**

165 The Shannon-Weinner's biodiversity Index is commonly used to characterize  
166 species diversity in a tree species community. As like as Simpson's index, Shannon's  
167 index accounts for both abundance and evenness of the species present. Equitability assumes  
168 a value between 0 and 1 with 1 being complete evenness. Shannon-Wiener's diversity index  
169 value is Maximum when the number of individuals of all species is equal; value is zero if  
170 there is only one species (Shannon & Weiner 1963).

### 171 **Shanon-Weinners equation:**

$$172 \quad H = - \sum_{i=1}^S P_i \ln P_i$$

173 Where,

- 174 H = The Shannon diversity index
- 175  $P_i$  = Fraction of the entire population made up of species i
- 176 S = Numbers of species encountered
- 177  $\sum$  = Sum from species 1 to species S

178 **II. Simpson's Diversity Index**

179 A community dominated by one or two species is considered to be less diverse than one in  
 180 which several different species have a similar abundance. It is a measurement of diversity  
 181 which takes into account the number of species present as well as the relative abundance of  
 182 each species. As species richness and evenness increase, so diversity increases.

183 Simpson's Index,  $D = \frac{\sum n(n-1)}{N(N-1)}$

n = Total number of organisms of a particular species

N = Total number of organisms of all species

D = Simpson's Diversity Index

184 With this index, 0 represents infinite diversity and 1 indicates no diversity. That is meant that  
 185 the bigger the value of D, the lower the diversity. This is neither intuitive nor logical, so to  
 186 get over this problem, D is often subtracted from 1 (Pielou 1984)

187 So, Simpson's Index of Diversity =  $1 - D$

188 The value of this index also ranges between 0 and 1, but now, the greater the value, the  
 189 greater the sample diversity.

190

191 **III. Margalef's Richness index**

192 It is measured by:  $R = S - 1 / \ln N$

193 Where, R = Margalef's Richness index

194 S = Total no. of species

195 N = Total no. of individual of all species

196 Margalef's richness index (R) is high in communities that include a greater number of species  
197 and in which the number of individuals of each species decreases relatively slowly on passing  
198 from the more abundant to the less abundant ones (Margalef 1958).

199 **IV. Pielou's Species Evenness Index**

200 It is measured by the following equation:

201 
$$E = \frac{H}{\ln(S)}$$

202 Where, E = Species Evenness

203 H = The Shanon-Weinner's biodiversity Index

204 S= Total number of species

205 **V. Menhinick's richness index**

206 Menhinick's richness index was calculated by using the formulae given by Menhinick (1964)  
207 as:

208 
$$DI = \frac{S}{\sqrt{N}}$$

209 Where, DI= Menhinick's richness index

210 S=No. of species

211 N=No. of total species

212

## 213 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### 214 3.1 Tree species composition

215 A complete list of trees having Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)  $\geq 10$ cm were recorded from  
216 the total 22 quadrates of Halda riparian areas. A total of 36 tree species belonging to 31  
217 genera and 15 families were recorded from the quadrates. The most common tree species  
218 were *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Samanea saman*, *Mangifera indica*, *Areca catechu*, *Artocarpus*  
219 *heterophyllus*, *Albizia lebbek*, *Acacia auriculiformis* etc. (**Table 1 and Table 2**). Fabaceae  
220 family shows the highest number of tree species (9) followed by Moraceae and Meliaceae (4)  
221 and Anacardiaceae, Arecaceae and Myrtaceae each with 3 tree species. Stem density per  
222 hectare was found to be 470.45 stem/ha. Total Basal area and volume of all the recorded tree  
223 species were calculated as 19.09m<sup>2</sup>/ha and 139.42m<sup>3</sup>/ha respectively.

224 Homestead and plantation these two types of land class were found on the bank of the river  
225 where *Swietenia mahagoni* was noticed as highly dominant plant species. People also planted  
226 *Samanea saman*, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *Mangifera indica*, *Artocarpus heterophyllus*,  
227 *Areca catechu*, *Albizia lebbek*, *Acacia auriculiformis*, *Acacia mangium*, *Bombax ceiba* for  
228 meeting fruit, fuel, timber needs for family.

229

### 230 3.2 Diversity Indices

231 Different diversity indices, i.e Shannon-Wiener Diversity Index (H), Margalef's richness  
232 index (R), Simpson's Dominance Index (D), Pielou's Species Evenness Index (E) and  
233 Menhinick's richness index (DI) were calculated to depict tree species diversity of the study  
234 area (**Table 3**). Among these, 2.86 was found for Shannon-Wiener's Diversity Index where  
235 Simpson's Dominance Index was 0.91. Moreover, Margalef's Richness Index was calculated  
236 as 5.81, Pielou's Species Evenness Index was 0.80 and Menhinick's richness index was 1.77.

237 As the species diversity is determined not only by the number of species within a biological  
238 community but also by the relative abundance of individuals in that community, so from the  
239 general observation of the diversity indices the following discussions could be given;

240 The value of Shannon-Wiener's Diversity Index 2.86 which generally indicates a relatively  
241 diversity rich area as the value of this index range between 1.5 to 3.5 (Shannon & Weiner  
242 1963c) but as Shannon-Wiener's Diversity Index is used while comparing the diversity of

243 two different land areas, the value was found poorer comparing by Sithapahar reserve  
244 forest(Nath et al., 2000) and Tankawati natural forest of Chittagong (South) Forest Division  
245 (Motaleb & Hossain 2011) where the value is 2.98 and 3.25 respectively. The index is also  
246 lower in comparison to Shanon-Wiener's diversity index of 4.449 in Dhudpukuria-  
247 Dhopachori Wildlife Sanctuary (Hossain et al. 2013).

248 Then, Simpson's diversity index was found 0.91 which indicates a high diversity of riparian  
249 tree species of Halda as its value is closer to 1 and it also shows that if two individual species  
250 would be given randomly from the quadrants there would be 91% possibility to find them of  
251 different species (Simpson 1949b).

252 The Margalef's Richness Index (5.81) and Menhinick's richness index (1.77) which indicates  
253 the number of species or richness of species along with Pielou's Species Evenness Index  
254 (0.80) which ranges from (0-1) and which shows the relative abundance indicating the  
255 riparian Halda midstream as a high diversity area.

### 256 **3.3 Importance Value Index (IVI) of Riparian Halda tree species**

257 Importance Value Index (IVI) of the tree species was assessed along with basal area (BA),  
258 Relative Density (RD), Relative Frequency (RF), Relative Dominance (RDo) of each species.  
259 *Samanea saman* possessed the highest IVI (59.28%) followed by 40.92% of *Swietenia*  
260 *mahagoni*, 24.12% by *Mangifera indica*, 18.12% by *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and 17.69%  
261 by *Artocarpus heterophyllus* shown in (Table 4 and Figure 2).

262 From the value of IVI, the higher IVI possessing species *Samanea saman*, *Swietenia*  
263 *mahagoni*, *Mangifera indica*, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and *Artocarpus heterophyllus*  
264 indicating the most abundant species and *Ziziphus jujube*, *Spondias mombin*, *Aphanamixis*  
265 *polystachya*, *Elaeocarpus serratus* and *Cassia fistula* as the rarest species of the midstream of  
266 Halda (Figure 2).

### 267 **3.4 Structural composition based on height (m) classes**

268 The structural composition of tree species of Riparian Halda tree species was assumed by  
269 determining 4 height classes, viz. 2- <7m, 7- <12m, 12- <17m, and 17- <22m (Table 5). A  
270 total of 448 tree stems per ha were considered for height class distribution. Maximum  
271 (47.34%) tree individuals belongs to height class 12- <17m followed by 7- <12m (34.54%)  
272 and 17- <22m height class (9.90%). The lowest percent (8.21%) of trees occurred in highest

273 height class 2- <7m range. Number of tree species, % of the tree individuals and number of  
274 tree individuals showed that maximum species occurred in height class of 12- <17m.

275 The distribution of tree individuals among different height classes showed a reverse U-shaped  
276 curve. That means, as the height class increases, the number of individuals and species are  
277 reducing and indicates that old, mature trees are very scarce in the study area (**Figure 3**).

278

### 279 **3.5 Structural composition of tree species based on diameter class distribution**

280 All the recorded 414 tree stems having dbh of  $\geq 10$ cm were distributed into seven diameter  
281 classes (cm), e.g. 10- <20cm, 20 -<30cm, 30- <40cm, 40- <50cm, 50- <60cm, 60- <70cm and  
282 70- <80cm. Among them, 48.79% of all the tree individuals (202 tree stems of 414 stems)  
283 belonging to 26 tree species were in the diameter range of 10- <20cm (**Table 6 & Figure 4**).  
284 Only *Samanea saman* belongs to the highest dbh class 70- <80cm.

285 The number of tree individuals is progressively decreasing with the increase of dbh. This  
286 height distribution of tree species revealed an almost reverse J-shaped curve (**Figure 4**). The  
287 number of species and percentage of tree individuals were maximum in the lower DBH  
288 ranges. These indicate that most of the tree stems are young and old growth stems already  
289 disappeared from the riparian area.

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299 **4. Conclusions**

300

301 Halda river is one of the most resourceful rivers in Bangladesh. This river provides a number  
302 of products and services all-round the year to the communities living its vicinity. This  
303 research was conducted to assess the composition and diversity of tree species which is one  
304 of the most important elements of Halda river ecosystem. The complete tree species  
305 composition of the midstream Halda riparian area was recorded through intensive field visits  
306 with direct measured. Besides, tree species diversity was calculated in the midstream of  
307 Halda. We found a total of 36 tree species under 31 genera and 15 families. In the study area,  
308 tree species like fruit species, woody and timber species were found which indicates that the  
309 riparian area plays important role from both ecological and economic point of view providing  
310 food, fuel-wood, timber, and edible fruits for the surrounding local people.

311 This composition and quantitative information of the tree species will be helpful to the policy  
312 makers, conservationists and river managers in formulating and implementing future forest  
313 resources conservation of Halda riparian vegetations. Therefore, a proper strategy for the  
314 conservation and management in the study site is required to the best utilization of riparian  
315 tree species by the local villagers. This information will be interesting to study more  
316 representatives of riparian plant communities from other type of forest that exist in  
317 Bangladesh to know more about these plant communities.

318

319

320

321

322

323

324

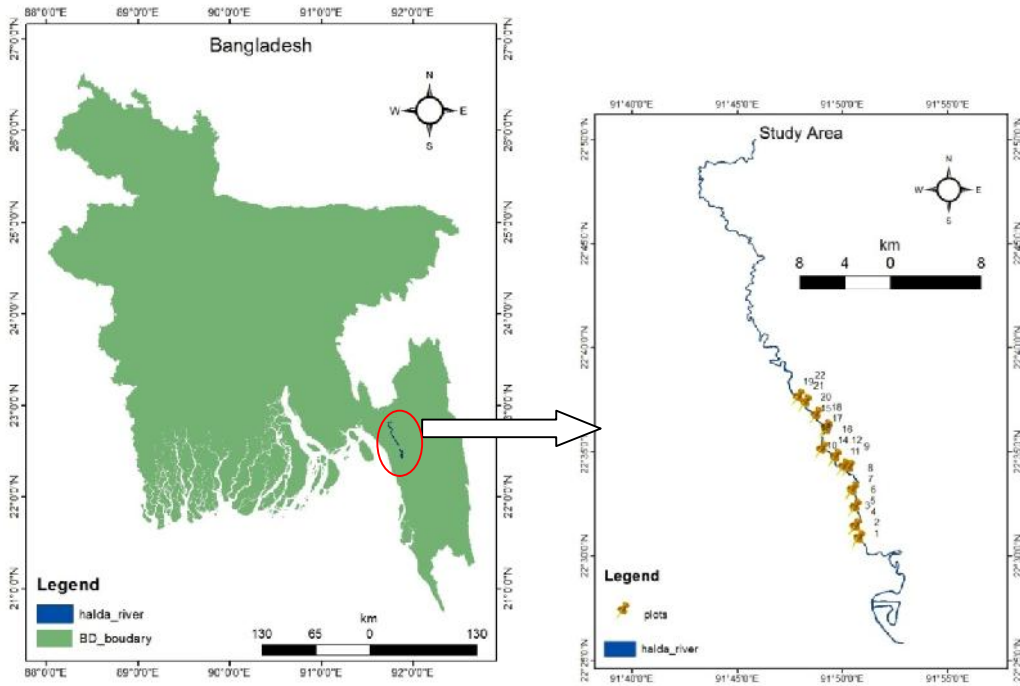
325

326

- 328 Akhter, F. (2015). *CHANGE OF HALDA RIVER FLOW DUE TO DIFFERENT WATER*  
329 *CONTROL STRUCTURES AND ITS IMPACT ON HALDA ECOSYSTEM.*  
330 BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY.
- 331 Belsky, A. J., Amundson, R. G., Duxbury, J. M., Riha, S. J., Ali, A. R., & Mwonga, S. M.  
332 (1989). The effects of trees on their physical, chemical and biological environments in  
333 a semi-arid savanna in Kenya. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 1005–1024.
- 334 Bhuyan, M., & Bakar, M. (2017). *Assessment of water quality in Halda River (the Major*  
335 *carp breeding ground) of Bangladesh* (Vol. 3).
- 336 Bhuyan, M. S., & Bakar, M. A. (2017). Seasonal variation of heavy metals in water and  
337 sediments in the Halda River, Chittagong, Bangladesh. *Environmental Science and*  
338 *Pollution Research*, 24(35), 27587–27600.
- 339 Bikash Dey, A. (2017, February 4). Halda in peril. *The Daily Star*. Retrieved from  
340 <https://www.thedailystar.net/city/halda-peril-1355791>
- 341 Cho, M. J., & Schnabel, R. (1975). Group contribution data obtained by ion-pair extraction of  
342 prostaglandin B2 with aliphatic amines. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 64(11),  
343 1894–1896.
- 344 Colin, P. (2018). Biogeographic region. Retrieved May 16, 2018, from  
345 <https://www.britannica.com/science/biogeographic-region>
- 346 Dhaukhandi, M., Dobhal, A., Bhatt, S., & Kumar, M. (2008). Community structure and  
347 regeneration potential of natural forest site in Gangotri, India. *Journal of Basic and*  
348 *Applied Sciences*, 4(1), 49–52.
- 349 Facchini Cerqueira, M. R., Pinto, M. F., Derossi, I. N., Esteves, W. T., Rachid Santos, M. D.,  
350 Costa Matos, M. A., ... Matos, R. C. (2014). Chemical characteristics of rainwater at  
351 a southeastern site of Brazil. *Atmospheric Pollution Research*, 5(2), 253–261.  
352 <https://doi.org/10.5094/APR.2014.031>
- 353 Hitzhusen, et al. (2007). 11. The Cuyahoga River Valley initiative: framing, codification,  
354 and preliminary economic analysis in an urban river corridor. *Economic Valuation of*  
355 *River Systems*, 174.
- 356 Hossain, M. A., Hossain, M. K., Salam, M. A., & Rahman, S. (2013). Composition and  
357 diversity of tree species in dudhpukuria-dhopachori wildlife sanctuary of Chittagong  
358 (South) forest division, Bangladesh. *Research Journal of Pharmaceutical, Biological*  
359 *and Chemical Sciences*, 4(2), 1447–1457.

- 360 Islam, M., Akbar, A., Akhtar, A., Kibria, & Bhuyan, M. (2017). *WATER QUALITY*  
361 *ASSESSMENT ALONG WITH POLLUTION SOURCES OF THE HALDA RIVER*  
362 (Vol. 43).
- 363 Jannatul Ferdous, M., Rashidul Karim, M., Hossain, M., Arifur Rahman, M., & Iqbal, M.  
364 (2015). *Fin fish assemblage and biodiversity status of carps on halda river,*  
365 *Bangladesh* (Vol. 02).
- 366 Kabir, H., Kibria, M., Jashimuddin, M., & Hossain, M. M. (2013). Original Article Economic  
367 Valuation of Tangible Resources From Halda– The Carp Spawning Unique River  
368 Located at Southern Part of Bangladesh, 8.
- 369 Kabir, H., Kibria, M., Jashimuddin, M., & Hossain, M. M. (2015a). Conservation of a river  
370 for biodiversity and ecosystem services: the case of the Halda – the unique river of  
371 Chittagong, Bangladesh. *International Journal of River Basin Management*, 13(3),  
372 333–342. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15715124.2015.1012514>
- 373 Kabir, H., Kibria, M., Jashimuddin, M., & Hossain, M. M. (2015b). Conservation of a river  
374 for biodiversity and ecosystem services: the case of the Halda – the unique river of  
375 Chittagong, Bangladesh. *International Journal of River Basin Management*, 13(3),  
376 333–342. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15715124.2015.1012514>
- 377 Margalef, R. (1958). Information theory in ecology. *General Systems*, 3, 36–71.
- 378 Motaleb, M., & Hossain, M. (2011). Assessment of tree species diversity of Tankawati  
379 natural forests, Chittagong (South) Forest Division, Bangladesh. *Eco-Friendly*  
380 *Agriculture Journal*, 4(2), 542–545.
- 381 Nath, T., Hossain, M., & Alam, M. (2000). Assessment of tree species diversity of Sitapahar  
382 Forest Reserve, Chittagong Hill Tracts (South) Forest Division, Bangladesh. *Indian*  
383 *Forester*, 126(1), 16–21.
- 384 Petchey, O. L., & Gaston, K. J. (2006). Functional diversity: back to basics and looking  
385 forward. *Ecology Letters*, 9(6), 741–758.
- 386 Pielou, E. C. (1984). *The interpretation of ecological data: a primer on classification and*  
387 *ordination*. John Wiley & Sons.
- 388 Shannon, C. E., & Weiner, W. (1963a). *The mathematical theory of communication* Urban  
389 University Illinois Press. 125pp.
- 390 Shannon, C. E., & Weiner, W. (1963b). *The mathematical theory of communication* Urban  
391 University Illinois Press. 125pp.
- 392 Shannon, C. E., & Weiner, W. (1963c). *The mathematical theory of communication* Urban  
393 University Illinois Press. 125pp.

394 Simpson, E. H. (1949a). Measurement of diversity. *Nature*.  
395 Simpson, E. H. (1949b). Measurement of diversity. *Nature*, 163(4148), 688.  
396 Thakur, N. S., Gupta, N. K., & Gupta, B. (2008). VOLUME AND BIO MASS  
397 PREDICTION MODELS FOR C4 CI C4 TECH U WILLID. IN AGRO  
398 FORESTRY SYSTEMS OF NORTH-WEST HIMALAYA. *Journal of Non-Timber*  
399 *Forest Products*. Vol, 15(1), 1–9.  
400 Tsai, C., Islam, M. N., Karim, R., & Rahman, K. S. (1981). Spawning of major carps in the  
401 lower Halda River, Bangladesh. *Estuaries*, 4(2), 127–138.  
402 Van De Wiel, M. J., & Darby, S. E. (2004). Numerical Modeling of Bed Topography and  
403 Bank Erosion Along Tree-Lined Meandering Rivers. *Riparian Vegetation and Fluvial*  
404 *Geomorphology*, 267–282.  
405 Whittaker, R. H., & Feeny, P. P. (1971). Allelochemicals: chemical interactions between  
406 species. *Science*, 171(3973), 757–770.  
407 Williams, G. M. (1991). *Techniques and fieldwork in ecology*. Collinseducational.  
408 www.haldariver.org. (2018). Retrieved May 13, 2018, from  
409 <http://www.haldariver.org/about%20halda.html>  
410 Zaman, F. (2014). *River halda awakening: a research training and awareness centre at*  
411 *Burishar, Chittagong* (PhD Thesis). BRAC University.  
412  
413  
414



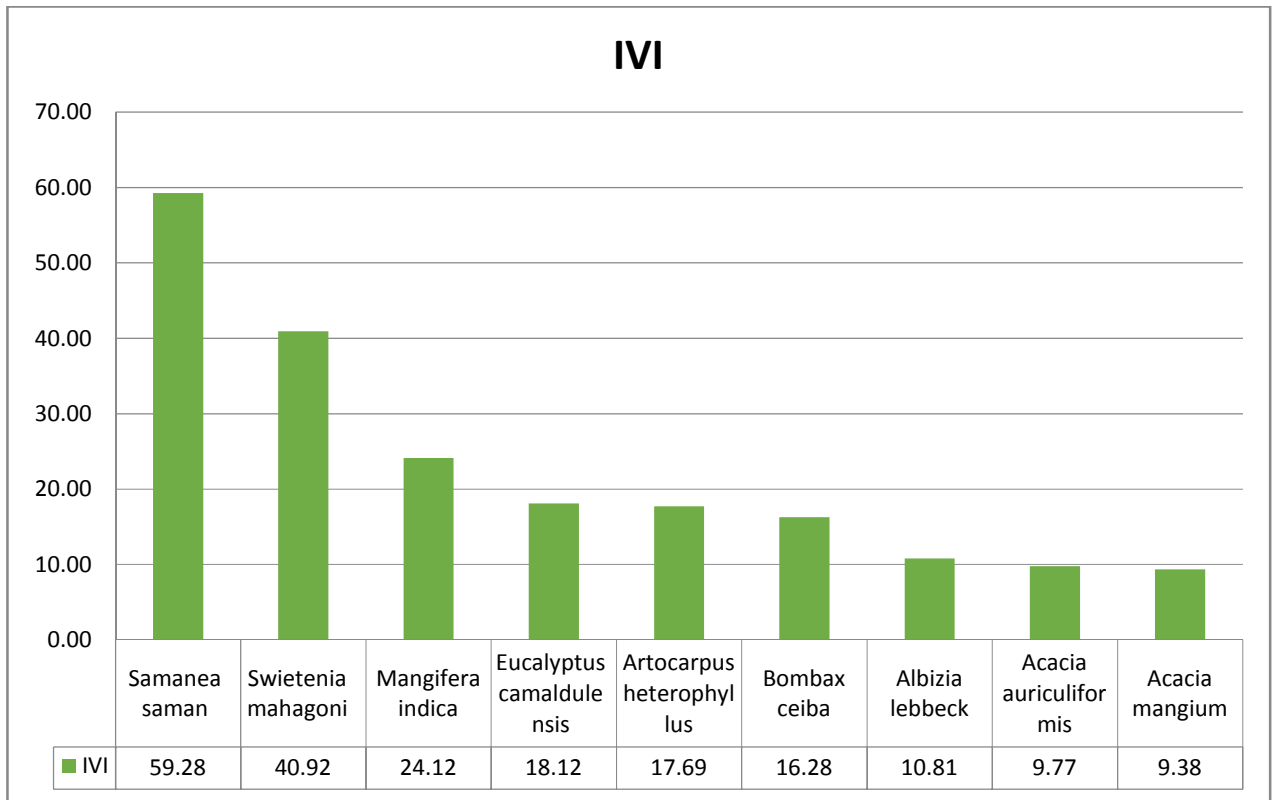
415

416 **Figure 1** Map of the study area of Halda river

417

418

UNDER PEER REVIEW



419

420 **Figure 2** Important Value Index (IVI), distribution of the riparian tree species of Halda  
 421 midstream.

422

423

424

425

426

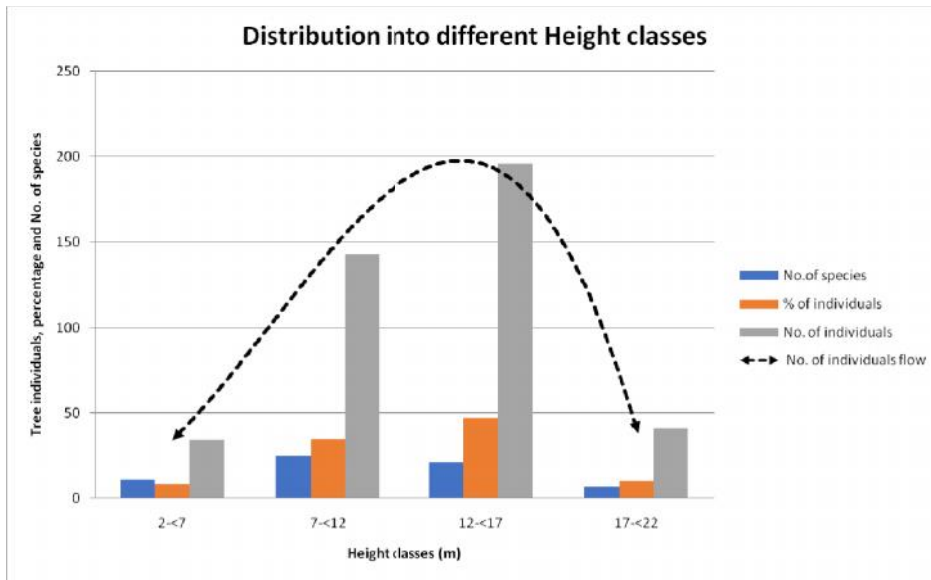
427

428

429

430

431



432

433 **Figure 3** Vertical distribution of tree species and individuals into different height classes

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

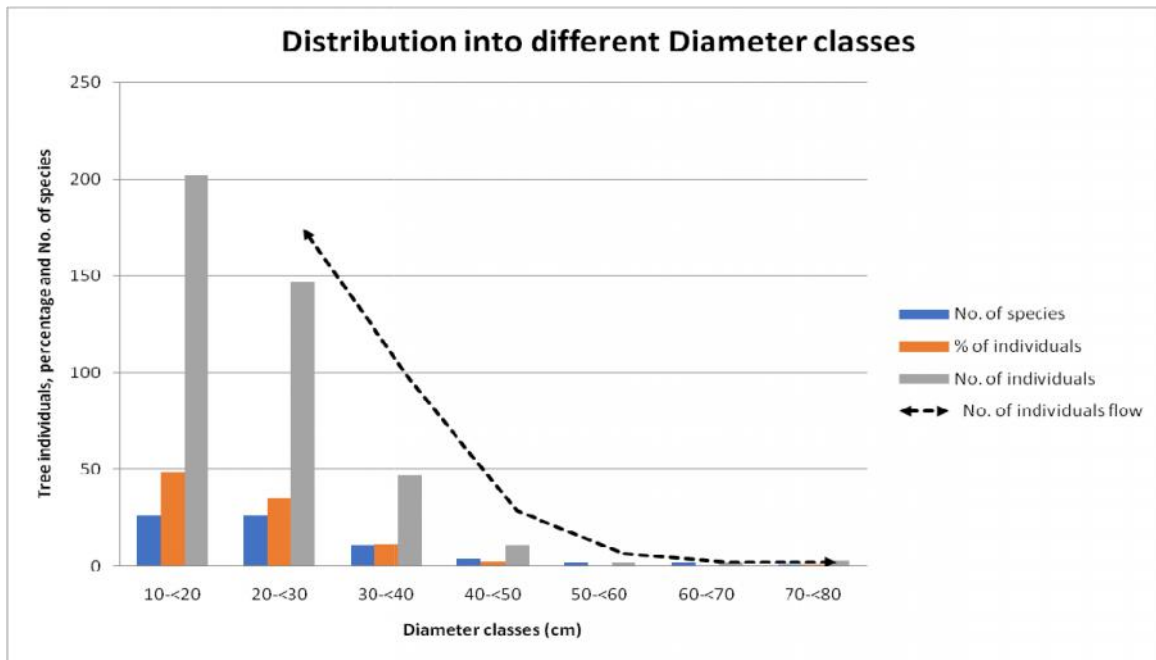
443

444

445

446

447



448

449 **Figure 4** Distribution of tree species, number and percentage of tree individuals into different  
 450 diameter classes

451

452

453

454

455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462 **Table 1 List of tree species recorded from the Halda riparian**

Sl. No.	Family	Sl. No.	Binomial name	Local name	No. of individual
1	Anacardiaceae	1	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Aam	33
		2	<i>Spondias mombin</i>	Amra	1
		3	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	Jiol badi	8
2	Apocynaceae	1	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	Chatim	1
3	Arecaceae	1	<i>Areca catechu</i>	Supari	21
		2	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	Narikel	9
		3	<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	Tal	1
4	Bombacaceae	1	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Shimul	13
5	Dipterocarpaceae	1	<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>	Teliya garjan	1
6	Elaeocarpaceae	1	<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	Jalpai	1
7	Euphorbiaceae	1	<i>Trewia nudiflora</i>	Pitali	9
8	Fabaceae	1	<i>Samanea saman</i>	Raintree	66
		2	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	Akashmoni	15
		3	<i>Acacia mangium</i>	Mangium	14
		4	<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	Mandar	6
		5	<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	Kalo koro	16
		6	<i>Albizia procera</i>	Sada koro	6
		7	<i>Senna siamea</i>	Minjiri	1
		8	<i>Albizia odoratissima</i>	Tetua koro	2
		9	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Sonalu	1
9	Lythraceae	1	<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>	Jarul	10
10	Meliaceae	1	<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	Mahagoni	74
		2	<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>	Pitraj	1
		3	<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	Lombu	7

Sl. No.	Family	Sl. No.	Binomial name	Local name	No. of individual
10	Meliaceae	4	<i>Chukrasia tabularis</i>	Chikrashi	4
11	Moraceae	1	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	Kanthal	20
		2	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Bot	2
		3	<i>Streblus asper</i>	Sheora	4
		4	<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>	Borta	4
12	Myrtaceae	1	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Eucalyptus	42
		2	<i>Syzygium grandae</i>	Dhakijam	1
		3	<i>Syzygium fruticosum</i>	Puti jam	5
13	Rhamnaceae	1	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Boroi	1
14	Rubiaceae	1	<i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i>	Kadam	7
15	Verbenaceae	1	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	Gamar	5
		2	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	Shegun	2

463

464

465

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

473

474

475

476

477 **Table 2 List of tree species with stem density per hectare recorded from Halda riparian**  
 478 **area**

Serial number	Local name	Binomial name	No. of individual	Stem/ha
1	Akashmoni	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	15	17.05
2	Mangium	<i>Acacia mangium</i>	14	15.91
3	Kalo koro	<i>Albizia lebeck</i>	16	18.18
4	Tetua koro	<i>Albizia odoratissima</i>	2	2.27
5	Sada koro	<i>Albizia procera</i>	6	6.82
6	Chatim	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	1	1.14
7	Pitraj	<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>	1	1.14
8	Supari	<i>Areca catechu</i>	21	23.86
9	Kanthal	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	20	22.73
10	Borta	<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>	4	4.55
11	Shimul	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	13	14.77
12	Tal	<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	1	1.14
13	Sonalu	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	1	1.14
14	Chikrashi	<i>Chukrasia tabularis</i>	4	4.55
15	Narikel	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	9	10.23
16	Teliya garjan	<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>	1	1.14
17	Jalpai	<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	1	1.14
18	Mandar	<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	6	6.82

Serial number	Local name	Binomial name	No. of individual	Stem/ha
19	Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	42	47.73
20	Bot	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	2	2.27
21	Gamar	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	5	5.68
22	Lombu	<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	7	7.95
23	Jarul	<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>	10	11.36
24	Jiol badi	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	8	9.09
25	Aam	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	33	37.50
26	Kadam	<i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i>	7	7.95
27	Raintree	<i>Samanea saman</i>	66	75.00
28	Minjiri	<i>Senna siamea</i>	1	1.14
29	Amra	<i>Spondias mombin</i>	1	1.14
30	Sheora	<i>Streblus asper</i>	4	4.55
31	Mahagoni	<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	74	84.09
32	Puti jam	<i>Syzygium fruticosum</i>	5	5.68
33	Dhakijam	<i>Syzygium grandae</i>	1	1.14
34	Shegun	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	2	2.27
35	Pitali	<i>Trewia nudiflora</i>	9	10.23
36	Boroi	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	1	1.14

479

480

481

482

483 **Table 3 Diversity indices of the tree species in Halda riparian area**

<b>Diversity indices</b>	<b>Diversity index value</b>
Shannon-Wiener Diversity Index	2.86
Simpson's Diversity Index	0.91
Margalef's Richness Index	5.81
Pielou's Species Evenness Index	0.80
Menhinick's richness index	1.77

484

485

486

487

488

489

490

491

492

493

494

495

496

497

498

499

500

501

502

503 **Table 4 Phytosociological attributes of the recorded tree species from the 22 quadrats**  
 504 **in Halda riparian**

Sl. No.	Binomial name	Local name	BA (m)	RD (%)	RF (%)	RA (%)	RDo (%)	IVI
1	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	Akashmoni	0.39	3.62	4.08	3.03	2.06	9.77
2	<i>Acacia mangium</i>	Mangium	0.50	3.38	3.40	3.40	2.60	9.38
3	<i>Albizia lebbeck</i>	Kalo koro	0.94	3.86	2.04	6.47	4.90	10.81
4	<i>Albizia odoratissima</i>	Tetua koro	0.09	0.48	0.68	2.43	0.46	1.63
5	<i>Albizia procera</i>	Sada koro	0.28	1.45	2.04	2.43	1.47	4.96
6	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	Chatim	0.05	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.28	1.20
7	<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>	Pitraj	0.02	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.08	1.00
8	<i>Areca catechu</i>	Supari	0.23	5.07	2.72	6.37	1.20	9.00
9	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	Kanthal	1.03	4.83	7.48	2.21	5.38	17.69
10	<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>	Borta	0.17	0.97	2.72	1.21	0.90	4.59
11	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Shimul	1.34	3.14	6.12	1.75	7.01	16.28
12	<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	Tal	0.05	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.25	1.17
13	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Sonalu	0.03	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.13	1.06
14	<i>Chukrasia tabularis</i>	Chikrashi	0.16	0.97	2.04	1.62	0.83	3.83
15	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	Narikel	0.42	2.17	2.72	2.73	2.18	7.07
16	<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>	Teliya garjan	0.05	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.25	1.17
17	<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	Jalpai	0.02	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.12	1.04
18	<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	Mandar	0.09	1.45	2.04	2.43	0.50	3.99
19	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Eucalyptus	0.87	10.14	3.40	10.19	4.58	18.12
20	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Bot	0.12	0.48	1.36	1.21	0.61	2.46
21	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	Gamar	0.29	1.21	2.04	2.02	1.54	4.79
22	<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	Lombu	0.13	1.69	0.68	8.50	0.66	3.03

23	<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>	Jarul	0.39	2.42	3.40	2.43	2.03	7.84
24	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	Jiol badi	0.19	1.93	3.40	1.94	0.99	6.33
25	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Aam	1.91	7.97	6.12	4.45	10.03	24.12
26	<i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i>	Kadam	0.38	1.69	2.72	2.12	1.98	6.39
27	<i>Samanea saman</i>	Raintree	5.80	15.94	12.93	4.22	30.41	59.28
28	<i>Senna siamea</i>	Minjiri	0.06	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.29	1.21
29	<i>Spondias mombin</i>	Amra	0.01	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.06	0.99
30	<i>Streblus asper</i>	Sheora	0.11	0.97	2.04	1.62	0.58	3.59
31	<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	Mahagoni	2.06	17.87	12.24	4.99	10.81	40.92
32	<i>Syzygium fruticosum</i>	Puti jam	0.13	1.21	2.04	2.02	0.70	3.95
33	<i>Syzygium grandae</i>	Dhakijam	0.10	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.53	1.46
34	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	Shegun	0.10	0.48	0.68	2.43	0.52	1.68
35	<i>Trewia nudiflora</i>	Pitali	0.58	2.17	2.04	3.64	3.02	7.24
36	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Boroi	0.01	0.24	0.68	1.21	0.06	0.99

505 Note: RD = Relative density, RF = Relative Frequency, RA = Relative Abundance, RDo = Relative  
506 Dominance, IVI = Importance Value Index

507

508

509

510

511

512

513

514

515

516

517

518 **Table 5 Percentage distribution of tree species in different height (m) classes**

Binomial name	% distribution of tree species into different height(m) classes				Total
	2- <7m	7- <12m	12- <17m	17- <22m	
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.00	1.45	2.17	0.00	3.62
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	0.48	1.21	1.69	0.00	3.38
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	0.00	0.24	0.97	2.66	3.86
<i>Albizia odoratissima</i>	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.48
<i>Albizia procera</i>	0.00	0.24	1.21	0.00	1.45
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Areca catechu</i>	0.00	0.48	4.59	0.00	5.07
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	0.97	3.14	0.72	0.00	4.83
<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>	0.00	0.24	0.72	0.00	0.97
<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	0.00	0.97	1.45	0.72	3.14
<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Cassia fistula</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Chukrasia tabularis</i>	0.00	0.00	0.97	0.00	0.97
<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	0.24	1.21	0.00	0.72	2.17
Binomial name	% distribution of tree species into different height(m) classes				Total

	2- <7m	7- <12m	12- <17m	17- <22m	
<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.24
<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	1.21	0.24	0.00	0.00	1.45
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	0.24	0.00	5.56	4.35	10.14
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	0.24	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.48
<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	0.00	0.00	0.97	0.24	1.21
<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	0.00	1.21	0.48	0.00	1.69
<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>	0.00	1.69	0.72	0.00	2.42
<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	1.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.93
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	1.69	1.45	4.83	0.00	7.97
<i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i>	0.00	0.00	1.69	0.00	1.69
<i>Samanea saman</i>	0.72	3.86	11.35	0.00	15.94
<i>Senna siamea</i>	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.24
<i>Spondias mombin</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Streblus asper</i>	0.00	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.97
<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	0.00	12.56	5.31	0.00	17.87
<b>Binomial name</b>	<b>% distribution of tree species into different height(m) classes</b>				<b>Total</b>
	<b>2- &lt;7m</b>	<b>7- &lt;12m</b>	<b>12- &lt;17m</b>	<b>17- &lt;22m</b>	

<i>Syzygium fruticosum</i>	0.00	1.21	0.00	0.00	1.21
<i>Syzygium grandae</i>	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.24
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.48
<i>Trewia nudiflora</i>	0.00	0.24	1.21	0.72	2.17
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<b>Total</b>	8.21	34.54	47.34	9.90	100

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

536 **Table 6 Percentage distribution of each tree species into different diameter (cm) classes**

Binomial name	% distribution of tree individuals into different diameter(cm) classes							Total
	10- <20	20- <30	30- <40	40- <50	50- <60	60- <70	70- <80	
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	2.66	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.62
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	1.69	1.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.38
<i>Albizia lebbeck</i>	0.24	2.66	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.86
<i>Albizia odoratissima</i>	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48
<i>Albizia procera</i>	0.00	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.45
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Areca catechu</i>	5.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.07
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	1.69	1.93	1.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.83
<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>	0.24	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.97
<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	0.72	0.97	0.48	0.48	0.24	0.24	0.00	3.14
<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Cassia fistula</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Chukrasia tabularis</i>	0.24	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.97
<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	0.72	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.17
<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.45
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	7.97	2.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.14
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	0.24	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48
<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	0.00	0.24	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.21

Binomial name	% distribution of tree individuals into different diameter(cm) classes							Total
	10- <20	20- <30	30- <40	40- <50	50- <60	60- <70	70- <80	
<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	1.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.69
<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>	0.72	1.45	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.42
<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	1.69	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.93
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	3.14	2.42	1.69	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.97
<i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i>	0.00	1.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.69
<i>Samanea saman</i>	3.14	6.04	4.35	1.21	0.24	0.24	0.72	15.94
<i>Senna siamea</i>	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Spondias mombin</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Streblus asper</i>	0.72	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.97
<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	12.32	4.83	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.87
<i>Syzygium fruticosum</i>	0.97	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.21
<i>Syzygium grandae</i>	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48
<i>Trewia nudiflora</i>	0.24	1.45	0.24	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.17
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
<b>Total</b>	48.79	35.51	11.35	2.66	0.48	0.48	0.72	100

537

538

539

540