

Theme 7: Lakes, rivers, estuaries: water quality, biotic resources, sustainable management

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PHENOLOGICAL STUDY OF SOME AQUATIC PLANTS OF BORBEEL (WETLAND), DIBRUGARH, ASSAM WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ITS ETHNO-BOTANICAL USES BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STUDY AREA.

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The Borbeel is situated in the Dibrugarh district of Assam at a distance of 3 Km Northwest of NH37 and 2 Km south west of the river Buridihing at Khowang.. The area of the Beel is 50 hectares and covered with a large number of floating, free-floating submerged and emergent hydrophytes. The most dominant species like Eichhornia, Nymphaea, Salvinia, Trapa, Cyperus, Euryale ferox etc are found to cover the large part of water body from the month of April to September.

During the study, the phenology of different dominant macrophytes was observed. The aquatic macrophytes like Eichhornia crassipes, Jussiaea diffusa Nymphaea nouchali, Euryale ferox, Ranunculus sp, Trapa sp, etc have different flowering and fruiting phases during the year. In Eichhornia crassipes leaf flush takes place between December and March and flowering starts from the Month of April to July. The flowering and fruiting occurs from the month of May to August in Trapa, Nymphaea, Euryale, and Jussiaea. During the investigation it was found that most of the plants are used as vegetable and medicines by the rural people of the study area.

Key note – phenology, macrophyte, ethnobotany, wetland (borbeel)