

## POLLINATION BIOLOGY OF *TURNERA ULMIFOLIA* LINN.

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*The present paper deals with the study of flower morphology, anthesis, pollen production, pollen/ovule ratio, foraging behaviour of flower visitors and pollen germination (in vitro and in vivo) of Turnera ulmifolia Linn. (Turneraceae) which is a medicinally important perennial, extra floral nectaries bearing plant. The flowers open in between 6.00 to 8.00 hrs. As soon as the flowers open, different insects like Trigona sp., Ceratina viridissima, Amegilla sp., Camponotus compressus (ant), and butterflies (members of Nymphalidae, Papilionidae, Pieridae) and flies visit the flowers for collecting their food materials. A single flower produces an average of 6,26,340 pollen and pollen/ovule ratio was obtained 8947:1. During the visit the insects carry a considerable amount of pollen attached to their body parts and help in pollination. Although the flowers are visited by different flower visitors, about 5% pollen grains were trapped in the atmosphere.*

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