Waterlilies of the Wetlands of Sivasagar District of Assam, India

ABSTRACT: A study was conducted on the wetlands of Sivasagar district of Assam. Twenty eight major wetlands of the district consisting of 718 hactares of area were surveyed. These wetlands are globally recognized for their hydrophytic flora and the most prominent one of this is the waterlilies (Nymphaeaceae). Besides, being ornamental, the waterlilies also have medicinal and other economic values. Survey of these aquatic plants in the wetlands of Sivasagar district of Assam reveals that there are three genera with six species of waterlilies distributed in different wetlands of the district. Habit and habitat and phenotypic differences of the species are critically discussed in this paper.

Key words: waterlilies, wetlands.