

Taxonomy and Ethnobotany of *Sthalavrikshas* (Temple Trees) in Palakkad, Kerala, India

Abstract : Veneration of solitary trees as *Sthalavriksha* is reported from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. However, less is known about *Sthalavrikshas*' of Kerala. The authors report taxonomy and ethnobotany of *Sthalavrikshas* in Palghat district, Kerala, India. Preponderance of *Sthalavrikshas* in two relatively drier Taluks of the study area leads the authors to observe that *Sthalavrikshas* are condensed form of sacred groves.

Keywords : *Sthalavriksha*, Conservation.