



Diversity of Butterflies from Dattapur Dhamangaon Railway, Amravati District: Maharashtra

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Abstract: A Study on documenting diversity of butterflies, during the course of study 15 species of butterflies were recorded belonging to 11 genera and 4 families of the order Lepidoptera. Maximum number of species were observed from the family Papilionidae (7), followed by Nymphalidae (5), Lycaenidae (2), Hesperidae (1). Study on their abundance showed that 03 species were very common and 09 species common, whereas 2 species were recorded to be occasional and 01 species were uncommon. They are one of the most colourful, popular and conspicuous species of earth's biodiversity. Their presence and diversity is considered to be a sign of good condition of any terrestrial biotope.

Keywords- Butterflies, Diversity, Dhamangaon Railway, lepidoptera

Introduction: Butterflies are the most fabulous creations of nature. Butterflies make up a large group of insects known as the order Lepidoptera in Phylum Arthropod. They are most beautiful and attractive than most other insects. Butterflies are good indicators of environmental condition, as habitat, atmosphere, temperature and weather directly affect the presence of butterflies. Butterflies are the most important invertebrate species to study the effect of abiotic factors on the ecosystem. Specific food habits in their different stage of life make them important model species to study the effect of climate change and anthropogenic effect on habitat, ecosystem and biome. Therefore, High species richness of butterflies indicate health ecosystem.

Materials And Method:

Study area: Dhamangaon railway is city and municipal council in Amravati district in the state of Maharashtra, India. It covers about 18km² Area; Elevation 297 m and it situated at north east to Amravati districts.(20.76N,78.16 E).

Survey Method: The field survey on butterflies were carried out in the study area (Amravati district) three times a week for the period of three months from 1 December 2021 to 28 February 2022. In the study area, photographs of the butterflies were taken with the help of camera.

Identification of Specimens: Photographic image were examined carefully and identifies with the help of available literature (Gupta I.J. And Mridula Majumdar,2012. *Handbook on Diversity in some of the Indian Butterflies*) butterflies are identified.

Results: A check list of butterflies of Dattapur Dhamangaon railway, Amravati Dist has been prepared based on the current investigation (Table 1-2) and Fig:1 Total 15 species butterflies were recorded belonging to 11 genera and 04 family. Maximum number of species were observed from the family Papilionidae (7), followed by Nymphalidae (5), Lycaenidae (2), Hesperidae (1). Study on their abundance showed that 03 species were very common and 09 species common, where as 2 species were recorded to be occasional and 01 species were uncommon.

Table-1: A Checklist of Butterflies of Dhamangaon railway, Amravati District

Sr. No	Generic Name	Common Name	Status	Family
1	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i>	Tailed Jay	C	Papilionidae Genera-03 Species-07
2	<i>Graphium doson</i>	Common Jay	C	
3	<i>Papilio polytes</i>	Common Mormon	O	
4	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i>	Common Rose	C	
5	<i>Papilio demoleus</i>	Lime butterfly	C	
6	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i>	Common bluebottle	C	
7	<i>Papilio helenus</i>	Red Helen	UC	
8	<i>Acraea terpsicore</i>	Tawny coster	C	Nymphalidae Genera-05 Species-05
9	<i>Melanitis leda</i>	Common evening brown	VC	
10	<i>Junonia lemonias</i>	Lemon pansy	VC	
11	<i>Euploea core</i>	Common Crow	VC	Lycaenidae Genera-02 Species-02
12	<i>Ariadne merione</i>	Common Castor	C	
13	<i>Jamides celeno</i>	Common Cerulean	C	
14	<i>Castalius rosimon</i>	Common Pierrot	C	Hesperiidae Genus-01 Species-01
15	<i>Suastus gremius</i>	Indian palm bob	O	
Total	Genera:11	Species-15		Family- 04

Abbreviations: Common-C, Very Common-VC, Occasional-O, Uncommon-UC

Table-2: Distribution of Genera and Species of butterflies in respective families

Sr. no	Family	No. of genera	No. of species
1	Papilionidae	Genera-03	Species-07
2	Nymphalidae	Genera-05	Species-05
3	Lycaenidae	Genera-02	Species-02
4	Hesperiidae	Genus-01	Species-01

Table-3: Status of Butterflies of Dattapur Dhamangaon Railway

Sr. no	Status	No. of Species	% of Species
1	Very Common	3	20%
2	Common	9	60%
3	Occasional	2	13.33%
4	Uncommon	1	6.67%
		15	100%

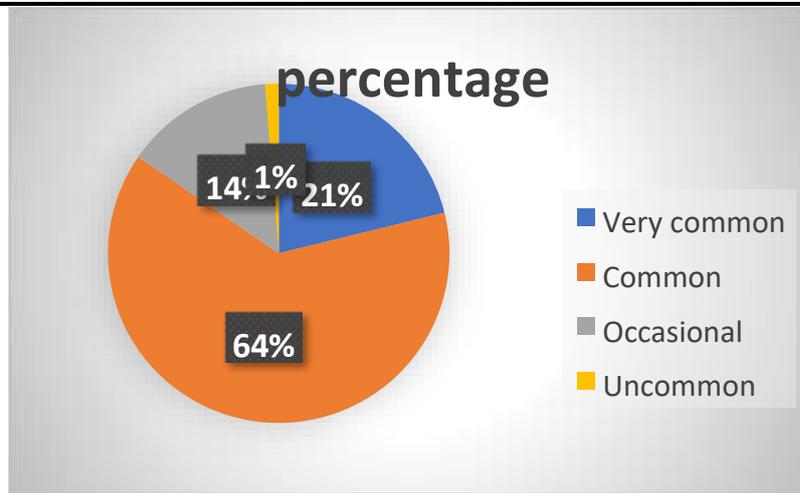


Fig-1: Status of Butterflies

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