

**Research Article**

## **A revisionary study on *Cinnamomum* species in central western ghats, Karnataka**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Present research high light the *Cinnamomum* 's of Karnataka with emphasis on distribution, taxonomic identification, status in Central Western Ghats, Karnataka. The floristic survey undertaken in central part of Western Ghats, Karnataka, it comprises ten districts of the state (from North Belgaum to South Chamarajnaraga). Eight species have been collected, identified and prepared voucher specimens and deposited in Herbarium, Botanical Garden, UAS, Bangalore, the identified species like *Cinnamomum heyneanum* Nees *C.macrocarpum* Hooker f., *C.malabattrum* (Burm f.) Bl., *C. sulphuratum* Nees, *C.travancoricum* Gamble, *C. verum* J.S.Presl, *C.walaiwarens* Kosterm. and *C.wightii* Meissn.. All these species identified based on morphological characters and considered ecology of the species. Among eight species seven species belongs various categories of endangered status. Distributional maps were prepared for each species by using Erdas Imagen 9 software. The latitude, longitude and altitude data's were collected during field surveys were used for preparation of maps. Among eight species two species such as *Cinnamomum travancoricum* Gamble, and *C.walaiwarens* Kosterm. are considered as Critically Endangered species like *Cinnamomum heyneanum* Nees, *C.wightii* Meissn. are belongs to Endangered category. Species like *C.sulphuratum* Nees, *C.walaiwarens* Kosterm. and *C.wightii* Meissn. are facing sever threat due to unwise exploitation, conversion of forest land to estates, mining operations, roads, etc. Eight species have been reported from Karnataka, among eight species 6 species have been belongs various IUCN categories and shows poor germination in natural as well as nursery conditions, hence it indicates it need further studies on germination by forestry researchers and use some advanced techniques like scarification, stratification and application of growth hormones may induce the germination.

**Keywords:** Cinnamomum, Central Western Ghats, Karnataka

