

Research Article

Preliminary Studies on the Diversity and Abundance of Odonates in the selected sites of southern Kerala

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ABSTRACT

Biodiversity forms the foundation of the vast array of ecosystem that critically contributes to human well-being. Odonates are considered to be indicator of ecological balance and are commonly seen in and around water bodies. The present study was carried out to assess the Diversity and Abundance of Odonates in the selected sites of Kollam and Trivandrum districts, Kerala, India in 2020-2021. A total of 25 species belonging to 16 genera and 6 families were recorded during the entire study. Suborder Anisoptera was represented by the families Libellulidae, comprising 10 species and Gomphidae, with 1 species; and the suborder Zygoptera was represented by the families Calopterygidae, with 2 species; Platynemididae, with 3 species; Coenagrionidae, with 8 species; and Chlorocyphidae, with 1 species. Libellulidae was the dominating family with 40% of the total observations, followed by Coenagrionidae family. The only way to save the Odonata fauna and its habitats is creating awareness among the people. In this context, knowledge of Odonata fauna of a region is the first step towards conservation.

Key words: Biodiversity, Family, Odonata, Kerala

