

Floristic studies of Piram Island near Gogha, Bhavnagar, Gujarat

D.C. Bhatt and K.D. Mitallya

*Department of Marine Sciences, Bhavnagar University,
Bhavnagar-364 002, India*

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Seventy six plant taxa are reported from Piram Island near Gogha of Bhavnagar, which were unexplored so far. A short description, frequency and dominance along with flowering and fruiting times of each taxon have been provided.

Key-words– Floristic, Piram Island, Bhavnagar District, Gujarat, India.

INTRODUCTION

PIRAM Island is situated in the Gulf of Cambay near Gogha and Hathab villages of Bhavnagar District, Gujarat. It is nearly 6 nautical miles south of Gogha and 4 nautical miles east of Hathab coast. The island is somewhat rectangular in shape and covers approximately an area of 20 square kilometres at low tide and the land area is reduced to 2.5 x 0.75 square kilometres at high tide. Piram Island consists of rocky and sandy types of soil. West and north coastal areas are sandy. East and southern coastal areas are muddy and sand dunes are also found on the eastern coast. Central region of the island is made up of blackish soil. Plant and animal fossils have been reported from the island (Anonymous, 1836).

Although floristic and ecological investigations of the Saurashtra region (Piram Island falls in the region) of Gujarat have been carried out by a number of workers, viz., Cooke (1903-1908), Kapadia (1950), Santapau (1962), Santapau and Janardhanan (1967), Bhatt and Inamdar (1971), Shah (1978), Bole and Pathak (1988), Mitallya (1998) and Bhatt *et al.* (1999) yet no floristic study of Piram island has been done so far.

To fill this gap the authors organized regular trips to Piram Island from 1993 to 2000 in different seasons and collected good number of plants and identified them.

In the enumeration of taxa, the flora of Piram island is described with latest name of plants, their important synonyms, basionym, habit, habitat and locality. The families are arranged according to the classi-

fication of Bentham and Hooker.

ENUMERATION OF TAXA

Capparaceae

Cadaba fruticosa (L.) Druce, Syn. *Cadaba farinosa* Forsk., *Cadaba indica* Lam. FOB. 1:45. 1903, FOS.1:17. 1988, FGS. 1:67. 1978.

Straggling shrub, Leaves elliptic, oblong. Flowers greenish yellow. Fruit pendulous, olive green, common in eastern region. VN- Telio hemkand, Fls & Frs: Oct.-May., Loc-Piram, DCB & KDM, 21.

Capparis decidua (Forsk.) Edgew. Syn. *Capparis aphylla* Roth. FOB. 1:49. 1903, FOS. 1:18. 1988, FGS.1.68. 1978.

Erect, armed, bushy shrub. Leaves only on young shoots, linear, minute, oblong. Flowers scarlet red, in short corymbs. Fruit globose, green, red when ripe. Common in central region. VN. Kerdo, Fls & Frs: Sept.-May, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM 57.

Maerua oblongifolia (Forsk.) A. Rich. Syn. *Maerua ovalifolia* (DC.) Camb., *M. arenaria* (DC.) Hk. FOB. 1:43.1903, FOS.1:46.1988, FGS. 1:74. 1978.

Unarmed glabrous shrub. Leaves leathery, oblong. Flowers greenish white, in axillary corymbs. Fruits cylindrical capsule. Rare in central region, VN.-Dudhio hemkand, Fls & Frs:-Oct.-March., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM., 58.

Malvaceae

Abutilon fruticosum Guill. & Perr. FOB. 1:104. 1903, FOS, 1:39 1988, FGS. 1:96. 1978.

Appressed white tomentose undershrub. Leaves ovate, hairy. Flowers yellow, axillary. Fruit carcerule. Frequent, in central region. VN.-Makhmall khapat., Fls & Frs: August- February, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 22.

Abutilon indicum. (L.) Sw. Syn. *Sida indica* L. FOB. 1: 102. 1903, FOS. 1:40. 1988, FGS. 1:96. 1978.

Erect, grey tomentose, small shrub. Leaves cordate, ovate, acuminate, toothed. Flowers bright yellow, axillary, solitary. Fruit carcerule. Rare in eastern region. VN.-Khapat, Fls & Frs: Sept.-Mar., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 59.

Sida cordata (Burm.f.) Borss. Syn. *Sida veronicaefolia* Lam., *Sida humulis* Cav., FOB, 1:97. 1903, FOS, 1:37. 1988, FGS, 1978. 1:114. 1978.

Small, hairy herb. Leaves cordate, lobes triangular. Flowers yellow, axillary, solitary. Fruit globose capsule. Common in central region. VN.-Bhonya bala, Fls & Frs: Sept.-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM. 60.

Sida cordifolia L. FOB. 1: 99. 1903, FOS. 1: 38. 1988, FGS. 1:115. 1978.

Small, hairy, branched herb. Leaves cordate, crenate, petioles long. Flowers yellow, solitary. Fruit globose capsule. Common in central region. VN.-Bala., Fls & Frs: Aug.-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM., 62.

Tiliaceae

Corchorus depressus (L.) Stocks Syn. *Corchorus antichorus* Raensch. FOB.1:159. 1903 FOS. 1:72 1988 FGS, 1:127. 1978.

Radially prostrate herb. Leaves small, oblong to roundish, crenate. Flowers small, yellow, in leaf-opposed fascicles. Fruit cylindrical capsules. Common in central plains. VN.-Bahuphali, Fls & Frts : Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM 23.

Corchorus trilocularis L.FOB.1:158. 1903 FGS, :1:128. 1978.

Annual, hairy herb. Leaves elliptic oblong, serrate, Flowers yellow, 2-3 fascicled. Fruit trigonous capsule. Common, in central plains. VN.-Chhunch, Fls & Frs: Aug.- Oct., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM., 61.

Grewia tenax (Forsk.) Fiori Syn. *Grewia populifolia* Vahl, FOB. 1: 148. 1903, FOS. 1:67. 1988, FGS:1:132. 1978.

Straggling small shrub. Leaves suborbicular, hairy beneath, dentate. Flowers white. Fruit tetra-globose drupe. Rare in eastern region. VN.-Gangeti, Fls & Frs: Jul -Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 26.

Triumfetta rotundifolia Lamk. FOB. 1:157. 1903, FOS. 1:173; 1988, FGS.1:135.

Small herb, Leaves orbicular, hairy, serrate, Flowers yellow, in terminal racemes. Fruit ovoid with hooked spines. Common in central region. VN.-Zipto., Fls & Frs : Aug-Nov., Loc.: -Piram, DCB & KDM, 25.

Zygophyllaceae

Tribulus terrestris L.FOB.1:170. 1903, FOS. 1:76. 1988, FGS. 1:40. 1978.

Prostrate hairy herb. Leaves compound, opposite, leaflets 3-6 pairs, oblong. Flowers yellow, axillary, solitary, Fruit globose spiny. Common in central hilly area. VN.-Bethu gokhru, Fls & Frs: Aug-Feb., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM: 24.

Meliaceae

Azadirachta indica A. Juss. Syn. *Melia azadirachta* L.FOB, 1:220. 1903, FOS.1:87; FGS. 1:149. 1978.

Tall, deciduous tree. Leaves compound, imparipinnate, leaflets falcate, serrate. Flowers white, fragrant in panicles. Fruit ellipsoid, drupe. Rare, near light house. VN.-Limbo, Fls & Frs: Mar-Jun., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 19.

Rhamnaceae

Zizyphus mauritiana Lam. Syn. *Zizyphus jujuba* (L.) Lam, FOB.1:256. FOS.1:92; FGS.1:155.

Small armed tree. Leaves ovate, oblong. Flowers greenish-yellow, in axillary fascicles. Fruit globose drupe. Rare, near light house. VN.: Bordi. Fls & Frs: Oct-Feb., Loc-Piram, DCB & KDM, 20.

Vitaceae

Cayratia trifolia (L.) Domin Syn. *Cayratia carnos* (Lam.) Gagnep., *Vitis carnos* Wall, 'Vitis

trifolia auct non L. FOB.1:271. 1903, FOS. 1:98. 1988, FGS. 1:159. 1978.

Slender, herbaceous climber,. Leaves trifoliolate, leaflets ovate, suborbicular, crenate. Flowers greenish-white, in axillary cymes. Fruits-globose, berries. Rare, in eastern region. VN.-Khat khatumbo, Fls. & Frs: Aug- Nov. Loc.: Piram., DCB & KDM,27.

Sapindaceae

Cardiospermum halicacabum L.FOB.1:280. 1903, FOS.1:100. 1988, FGS. 1:163. 1978.

Slender, herbaceous climber with 3-fid tendrils. Leaves ovate, biternate. Flowers white, in terminal cymes. Fruit trigonous capsules. Common, in central region. VN.-Kagdolia, Fls & Frs. Aug-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 63.

Anacardiaceae

Mangifera indica L.FOB. 1:291. 1903, FOS. 1:103. 1988, FGS. 1:167. 1978.

Evergreen, branched tree. Leaves lanceolate, acute, coriaceous. Flowers small, greenish yellow, in large terminal panicles. Fruit fleshy, drupes. Rare, near light house. VN.-Ambo, Fls & Frs: Jan.- June., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 18.

Moringaceae

Moringa oleifera Lam. Syn. *M. pterigosperma* Gaertn. FOB.1:301. 1903, FOS. 1:105. 1988, FGS. 1:170. 1978.

Small, tree with soft woods. Leaves tripinnate, leaflet ovate. Flowers, creamy white, in axillary panicles. Fruit cylindrical, ribbed capsules. Rare, near light house. VN.-Sargavo, Fls & Frs: Major part of the year, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 17.

Fabaceae

Crotalaria medicaginea Lam. FOB. 1:322. 1903, FOS 1:119. 1988, FGS. 1:196. 1978.

Small, erect, herb. Leaves trifoliolate, leaflet obovate. Flowers yellow. in treminal racemes. Fruit subglobose pods, beaked. Common, in central region. VN.-Ranmethi, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Jan., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 28.

Indigofera linnaei Ali Syn. *Indigofera enneaphylla* L. *Indigofera prostrata* (Burm.f.)

Domin. FOB. 1:332. 1903, FOS.1:126. 1988, FGS. 1:222. 1978.

Radially prostrate herb. Leaves alternate, leaflets obovate. Flowers red, axillary. Fruit oblong pods. Common, in central region. VN.-Bhonya gali, Fls & Frs: Jul-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 64.

Indigofera oblongifolia Forsk. Syn. *Indigofera paucifolia* Del. FOB:1: 3. 1903; FOS.1:27. 1988, FGS. 1:222. 1978.

Erect, small, shrub with reddish stems. Leaves imparipinnate, leaflets oblong. Flowers scarlet, in racemes. Fruit cylindrical pods. Rare, in eastern region. VN.-Zll Fls & Frs: Sept.-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 29.

Sesbania bispinosa (Jacq.) W.F. Wight Syn. *Aeschynomena bispinosa* Jacq. FOB. 1:350. 1903 FOS. 1:140. 1988, FGS. 1:241. 1978.

Small, prickly, branched herb. Leaves paripinnate, leaflets 10-20 pairs, linear. Flowers yellow, in axillary and terminal racemes. Fruit falcate, drooping pods. Rare, in western region. VN.-Ikad, Fls & Frs : Aug.-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 65.

Taverniera cuneifolia (Roth.) Arn. Syn. *Taverneira nummularia* Baker. FOB. 1:353. 1903, FOS. 1:141. 1988, FGS. 1:245. 1978.

Small, branched undershrub. Leaves unifoliolate, leaflets obovate. Flowers purple. Fruit oblong, cylindrical pods. Rare, in northern region. VN.-Jethimal, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 66.

Tephrosia purpurea (L.) Pers. Syn. *Cracca purpurea* L. FOB. 1:346. 1903, FOS.1:136. 1988, FGS. 1:249. 1978.

Small, erect undershrub. Leaves imparipinnate, leaflets obovate, hairy beneath. Flowers purple, in terminal racemes. Fruit flat, oblong pods. Common in central region. VN.-Sarpankho, Fls & Frs : July-March., Loc.-Piram. DCB & KDM, 30.

Caesalpiaceae

Delonix elata (L.) Gamble Syn. *Poinciana elata* L. FOB. 1:441. 1903, FOS:1:185. 1988, FGS. 1:274. 1978.

Small deciduous tree. Leaves pinnate, leaflets 10-20 pairs, linear oblong. Flowers creamy white, in

terminal racemes. Fruit flat, long, pods. Rare, near light house. VN.-Sandhesaro., Fls & Frs : March-August, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 16.

Mimosaceae

Acacia farnesiana (L.) Willd. Syn. *Mimosa farnesiana* L. FOB. 1:473. 1903, FOS. 1:206. 1988, FGS. 1:282. 1978.

Small armed shrub, Leaves bipinnate, spines, divaricate, pinnae 4-8 pairs. Flowers reddish yellow, fragrant, in heads. Fruit pod. Rare, in southern coast. VN.-Tal baval., Fls & Frs : Nov.- April., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 14.

Acacia nilotica (L.) Del. Syn. *Acacia arabica* Willd. FOB. 1:472. 1903, FOS. 1:204. 1988, FGS. 1:283. 1978.

Armed, small tree. Leaves bipinnate, stipules modified into two large spines. Flowers bright yellow, in globose heads. Fruit moniliform pods, compressed grey. Rare, near light house. VN.-Deshi baval, Fls & Frs: July-April., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 15.

Acacia senegal (L.) Willd. Syn. *Mimosa senegal* L. FOB.1:478. 1903, FOS. 1:208. 1988, FGS:1:285. 1978.

Armed large shrub. Leaves bipinnate, spines usually three at node. Flowers greenish-white, in axillary spikes. Fruit oblong pods. Common in northern and southern regions. VN.-Gorad, Fls & Frs : May-February, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 13.

Dichrostachys cinerea (L.) Wight & Am. Syn. *Mimosa cinerea* L. FOB.1:468. 1903, FOS. 1:202, 1988, FGS. 1:288. 1978.

Armed shrub. Leaves bipinnate, spines small. Flowers white-pink-yellow, in axillary spikes. Fruit twisted pods. Rare, in western region. VN.-Mordhundhiyu, Fls & Frs : July-January, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 31.

Mimosa hamata Willd. FOB. 1:471. 1903, FOS. 1:202. 1988, FGS. 1:290. 1978.

Much branched, small shrub with curved and straight spines. Leaves bipinnate. Flowers purple. in globose heads. Fruit oblong pods. Common in central region. VN.-Kal baval, Fls & Frs : Aug.-Feb., Loc. Piram, DCB & KDM, 12.

Pithecellobium duice (Roxb.) Bth. Syn. *Mimosa dulcis* Roxb. *Inga duice* Willd. FOB. 1:485. 1903, FOS. 1:211 1988, FGS. 1:291. 1978.

Armed, tall tree. Leaves compound, bilobed, Stipules modified into spines. Flowers creamy white, in axillary and terminal paniculate globose heads. Fruit spirally twisted pods, arillate. Rare, near light house. VN.-Goras amli, Fls & Frs : December-April, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 11.

Prosopis chilensis (Molina) Stuntz. Syn *Prosopis juliflora* (Sw) DC., *Mimosa juliflora* Sw. FOS:1:201, FGS:1:293.

Armed, large shrub. Leaves bipinnate, pinnae 4-6, leaflets oblong. Flowers yellow, in axillary pendulous spikes. Fruit fleshy pods, Abundant, throughout island. VN.-Gando baval, Fls & Frs: Throughout the year, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 01.

Lythraceae

Lawsonia alba Lam. Syn. *Lawsonia inermis* L. FOB.1:544. 1903, FOS 1:228. 1988, FGS. 1:309. 1978.

Much branched shrub. Leaves opposite elliptic, acute. Flowers white, fragrant, in terminal panicles. Fruit globose capsules. Rare, near light house. VN.-Mendi, Fls. & Frs.: Major part of the year, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 10.

Cucurbitaceae

Coccinia grandis (L.) Voigt, Syn. *Coccinia indica* W. & A, *Cephalandra indica* Naud. FOB. 1:572. 1903, FOS. 1:242. 1988, FGS. 1:319. 1978.

Slender, herbaceous climber. Leaves broadly ovate. Flowers white, axillary, solitary. Fruit oblong pepo. Common in western. & southern region. VN.-Tindora, Fls & Frs : Aug-Dec., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 32.

Cucumis callosus (Rottl.) Cogn. Syn. *Cucumis trigonous* Roxto., *Bryonia callosa* Rottl. FOB.1:569. 1903, FOS. 1:249. 1988, FGS:1:321. 1978.

Slender, herbaceous climber. Leaves 5-7 lobed, hairy, ovate. Flowers yellow. Fruit globose, berries. Rare, in central region. VN.-Gay Vasukada, Fls & Frs: Aug-Dec, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 34.

Rubiaceae

Borreria articularis (L.) f.F.N. Will. Syn. *Borreria hispida* (L.) K. Schum, *Spermacoce hispida* L. FOB. 2:53. 1906, FOS. 1:261. 1988, FGS. 1:349. 1978.

Hispidly hairy herb. Leaves elliptic, acute, stipules membranous. Flowers pale blue. Fruit capsule. Common in central region. VN.-Ganthiyu, Fls & Frs: July-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 67.

Asteraceae

Eclipta alba (L.) Hassk. Syn. *Eclipta prostrata* (L.), L. *Eclipta erecta* L. FOB. 2:96. 1906, FOS:2:15. 1988, FGS. 1:379. 1978.

Small, diffuse, prostrate herb. Leaves opposite, oblong, hairy. Flowers white, heads. Pappus absent. Common in central region. VN.-Bhangro, Fls & Frs: Jul-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 33.

Vernonia cinerea (L.) Less. Syn. *Conyza cinerea* L. FOB. 2:65. 1906, FOS. 2:39. 1988, FGS. 1:398. 1978.

Erect annual herb. Leaves ovate. Flowers pale to bright purple, in terminal paniculate heads. Pappus hairy, white. Common in central region. VN.-Sahdevi. Fls & Frs: Aug - Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 35.

Salvadoraceae

Salvadora persica L. FOB. 2:182. 1906, FOS. 2:54. 1988, FGS, 1:413. 1978.

Evergreen small tree. Leaves opposite, ovate glabrous. Flowers yellow, in panicles. Fruit globose, drupes, pink. Rare, near light house. VN.-Piludi, Fls & Frs: Sept-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 02.

Asclepiadaceae

Calotropis procera (Ait.) R. Br. Syn. *Asclepias procera* Ait. FOB. 2:215. 1906, FOS. 2:65. 1988, FGS. 1:423. 1978.

Small shrub with milky juice. Leaves opposite, decussate, oblong, sessile. Flowers purple, in umbellate cymes. Fruit follicles. Seeds comate. Common in central region. VN.-Ankdo, Fls & Frs : Major part of year, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 09.

Leptadenia reticulata (Retz.) Wight & Arn. Syn.

Gymnema aurantiacum Wall.ex Hook. f. FOB. 2:237. 1906, FOS:2:69. 1988, FGS. 1:427. 1978.

Perennial herbaceous climber. Leaves cordate, ovate, opposite, Flowers greenish-yellow, in umbellate cymes. Fruit follicles. Seeds comate, Rare, in eastern region. VN.-Kharkhodi, Fls. & Frs : July-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 08.

Pentatropis capensis (L.F.) Bullock. Syn. *Pentatropis microphylla* W & A. FOB. 2:218. 1906, FOS. 2:70. 1988, FGS:1:428. 1978.

Slender, herbaceous climber. Leaves opposite, ovate. Flowers greenish-yellow. Fruit follicles. Rare, in eastern region. VN.-Shingroti, Fls & Frs: Aug - Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 36.

Pergularia daemia (Forsk.) Chiov. Syn. *Daemia extensa* R. Br., *Asclepias daemia* Forsk. FOB. 2:219. 1906, FOS. 2:72. 1988, FGS.1:429. 1978.

Slender, perennial climber. Leaves cordate, hairy beneath. Flowers creamy white, in umbellate cymes. Fruit paired follicies, softly echinate. Common in central region. VN.-Nagla dudhell, Fls & Frs : July- Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 37.

Ehretiaceae

Cordia gharaf (Forsk.) Ehrenb ex. Asch. Syn. *Cordia rothii* Roem. & Schult. FOB. 2:268. 1906, FOS:2:85. 1988, FGS. 1:445. 1978.

Small tree. Leaves oblanceolate. Flowers white, in cymes. Fruit ovoid, drupes, orange when ripe. Rare, in eastern region. VN.-Gundi, Fls & Frs : February-June., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 03.

Convolvulaceae

Cressa cretica L.FOB. 2:296.1906, FOS. 2:103. 1988, FGS. 1:463. 1978.

Small, erect, hairy herb. Leaves ovate, hairy. Flowers white, in clusters. Fruit ovoid capsules. Common, in eastern region. VN.-Rudanti, Fls & Frs: Aug-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 38.

Ipomoea aquatica Forsk. FOB. 2:315. 1906, FOS. 2:108. 1988, FGS. 1:468. 1978.

Aquatic, creeping herb with hollow stems, rooting at nodes. Leaves ovate, lanceolate. Flowers purple, in axillary cymes, Fruit ovoid, capsules. Common in central region. VN.-Jalgamini, Fls. & Frs: August-

December., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 69.

Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) Sw. Syn. *Ipomoea biloba* Forsk. FOB. 2:318. 1906, FOS. 1988, 2:112. 1978. FGS:1:472.

Perennial, herbaceous creeper, rooting at nodes. Leaves bilobed, fleshy. Flowers purple, in axillary cymes. Fruit globose, capsules. Common in southern coast. VN.-Maryad vel, Fls & Frs: Aug-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 39.

Ipomoea pes-tigridis L. FOB. 2:320. 1906, FOS: 2. 113. 1988, FGS. 1:472. 1978.

Herbaceous climber, stem brown, hairy. Leaves paemately 5-9 lobed. Flowers white, in axillary cymes. Fruit ovoid, capsules. Common in central region. VN.-Waghpad, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 41.

Solanaceae

Datura metel L. Syn. *Datura fastuosa* L. FOB. 2:344. 1903.1906, FOS. 2:128. 1988, FGS. 1:408. 1978.

Small herb. Leaves broadly ovate, triangular. Flowers white, solitary. Fruit globose, berries. Rare, near light house. VN.-Dhaturo, Fls & Frs: Aug - Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 40.

Physalis minima L. FOB. 2:340. 1906, FOS. 2:132. 1988, FGS. 1:523. 1978.

Small, diffuse herb. Leaves ovate, acute. Flowers yellow, solitary. Fruit berries, red when ripe. Common in central region. VN., Popta, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Nov., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 70.

Pedaliaceae

Pedaliium murex L. FOB. 2: 412. 1906, FOS. 2: 162. 1988, FGS. 1: 523. 1978.

Small, annual, much branched herb. Leaves opposite, fleshy, serrate. Flowers yellow, axillary solitary. Fruit hard, spiny drupe. Common, in central region VN.-Ubhu gokharu, Fls & Frs: July-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 42.

Martyniaceae

Martynia diandra Glox. Syn. *Martynia annua* L. FOB. 414. 1906, FOS. 2:164. 1988, FGS. 1:524. 1978.

Erect, annual herb. Leaves opposite, cordate, suborbicular. Flowers purple, in lax racemes. Fruit drupes, horned. Common in central region. VN.-Vinchhudo., Fls & Frs: Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM: 43.

Acanthaceae

Andrographis echioides (L.) Nees. Syn. *Justicia echioides* L. FOB. 2:451. 1906, FOS. 2:168. 1988, FGS. 1:528. 1978.

Small, hairy, annual herb. Leaves elliptic, opposite. Flowers white with purple dots, in axillary racemes. Fruit elliptic, capsules. Rare in central region. VN.-Kariyatu, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Nov., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 71.

Avicenniaceae

Avicennia marina (Forsk.) Vierh. Syn. *Avicennia officinalis* L. Var. *alba* Hkf. *Seeura marina* Forsk. FOB. 2: 517. 1906, FOS. 2:197. 1988, FGS. 1:557. 1978.

Evergreen shrub or small tree. Leaves ovate-lanceolate, acute at apex. Flowers yellow, sessile. Fruit capsules. Common in eastern and southern coasts. VN.-Tiwari, Fls & Frs: May-July., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 04.

Avicennia officinalis L. FOB. 2:517. 1906, FOS. 2:197 1988, FGS:1:557. 1978.

Small, evergreen tree. Leaves elliptic, oblong, obtuse at apex. Flowers yellow, sessile. Fruit capsules. Common in eastern and southern coasts. VN.-Tamar, Fls & Frs: Apr.-July., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 05.

Lamiaceae

Leucas cephalotes (Roxb.ex Roth.) Spr. Syn. *Phlomis cephalotes* Roxb. FOB. 2:549. 1906, FOS. 2:218. 1988, FGS. 1:572. 1978.

Small, hairy herb. Leaves ovate, crenate, hairy. Flowers white, sessile, in globose whorls. Fruit nutlets. Common in central region. VN.-Kubo, Fls & Frs: Aug.- Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 44.

Ocimum canum Sims. Syn. *Ocimum americanum* L. FOB. 2:521. 1906, FGS:1:577. 1978.

Annual, much branched, aromatic herb. Leaves

elliptic-lanceolate. Flowers white, in terminal verticillaster. Fruit nutlets. Common in central region. VN.-Takmaria. Fls & Frs : Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 46.

Nyctaginaceae

Boerhavia diffusa L. Syn. *Boerhavia repens* L. FOB. 2:563. 1906, FOS. 2:228. 1988, FGS. 1:587. 1978.

Perennial, diffuse herb. Stem purplish, thickened at nodes. Leaves opposite, ovate. Flowers pink, axillary. Fruit achenes. Common in whole island. VN.-Satodi, Fls & Frs: July-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 45.

Amaranthaceae

Achyranthes aspera L. var. *argentea* Hook. FOB. 2:508. 1906, FOS. 2:233. 1988, FGS. 1:587. 1978.

Erect, much branched herb. Leaves ovate-elliptic, tomentose beneath. Flowers greenish white, in terminal spikes. Fruit utricles. Common in central region. VN.-Anghedo, Fls & Frs: Sept.-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 47.

Aerva javanica (Burm.f.) Juss.ex. Schultes. Syn. *Celosia lanata* L., *Iresine javanica* Burm. f. FOB. 2:578. 1906, FOS. 2:234. 1988, FGS. 1:588. 1978.

Erect, woody, tomentose, small shrub. Leaves linear-oblong. Flowers greenish-white, small, in spikes. Fruit utricles. Common in central region, VN.-Gorakh ganjo, Fls & Frs: July-Jan., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 49.

Aerva lanata (L.) Juss. Syn. *Achyranthes lanata* L. FOB. 2:578. 1906, FOS. 2:234. 1988, FGS. 1:588. 1978.

Small, erect or diffuse herb. Leaves obovate, elliptic, obtuse. Flowers white, in axillary spikes. Fruit minute, utricles. Common in central region. VN.-Gorakh ganjo, Fls & Frs : Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 48.

Digera muricata (L.) Mart. Syn. *Digera arvensis* Forsk. FOB. 2: 572. 1906, FOS. 2: 240. 1988, FGS. 1: 595. 1978.

Small, annual herb. Leaves elliptic-ovate. Flow-

ers pinkish white, in axillary spikes. Fruit globose, utricles. Common in central region. VN.-Kanejaro, Fls & Frs: Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 72.

Pupalia lappacea (L.) Juss. Syn. *Achyranthese lappacea* L. FOB. 2:583. 1906, FOS. 2:243. 1988, FGS. 1: 597.

Erect, hairy herb. Leaves elliptic, tomentose. Flowers greenish-yellow, in terminal spikes. Fruit ovoid, utricles. Rare in central region. VN.-Dholo zipto. Fls & Frs : Aug.-Dec., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 73.

Chenopodiaceae

Suaeda maritima (L.) Dum. Syn. *Chenopodium maritimum* L. FOB. 2: 592. 1906, FGS. 1:601. 1978.

Annual, erect herb. Leaves fleshy, linear-oblong. Flowers greenish. Fruit utricle. Rare in southern coast. VN.-Morad., Fls & Frs Sept.-Dec., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 76.

Suaeda nudiflora (Willd.) Moq. Syn. *Salsola nudiflora* Willd. FOB. 2:591. 1906, FOS. 2:251. 1988, FGS. 1:601. 1978.

Prostrate herb. Leaves linear-oblong, spatulate, fleshy. Flowers greenish, in axillary and terminal spikes. Fruit ovoid, utricle. Common in coastal areas. VN.-Morad., Fls & Frs : Sept.-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 50.

Moraceae

Ficus benghalensis L. FOB. 3:145. 1908, FOS. 2:293. 1988, FGS. 2:644. 1978.

Large evergreen tree. Leaves elliptic, ovate, obtuse, coriaceous. Flowers in globose receptacle. Fruit globose, red. Rare, near light house. VN.-Vadio, Fls. & Frs: Sept. - March, Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 06.

Ficus tsiela Roxb. Syn. *Ficus amplissima* Sm. FOB. 3:150. 1906; FOS. 2:292. 1988, FGS. 2:643. 1978.

Deciduous tree. Leaves elliptic ovate obtuse. Flowers in globose receptacle. Fruit ovoid, red. Rare, near light house. VN.-Pipar, Fls & Frs : Sept-Apr., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 07.

Commelinaceae

Commelina benghalensis L. FOB. 3:291. 1908, FOS. 3:323. 1988, FGS. 2. 687. 1978.

Small, annual herb. Leaves ovate, sessile. Flowers light blue. Fruit capsules. Common in central region. VN.-Shishmuli, Fls & Frs : Aug-Oct., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 51.

Commelina forskalaei Vahl, FOB. 3:292. 1908, FOS:3:324. 1988, FGS. 2:687. 1978.

Small, annual herb, rooting at lower nodes. Leaves linear, oblong, undulate. Flowers blue. Fruit oblong, capsule. Common in central region. VN.-Shishmuli Fls & Frs: Aug - Oct., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 52.

Areaceae

Borassus flabellifer L. FGS. 2:692. 1978.

Tall tree with annular scars. Leaves in terminal crown, fan-shaped, coriaceous. Flowers minute, creamy-white. Fruit drupes. Rare, near light house. VN.-Tad, Fls & Frs; March-May., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 08.

Cyperaceae

Cyperus alopecuroides Rottb. Syn. *Juncellus alopecuroides* (Rottb.) Cl.FGS. 2:720. 1978.

Rhizomatous, perennial herb. Leaves linear. Flower in terminal paniculate spikes. Fruit nut. Common in central region. Fls & Frs: Sept-Nov., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 53.

Cyperus rotundus L. FOB. 3:385 1908, FOS. 3:357. 1988, FGS. 2:735. 1978.

Rhizomatous, perennial herb. Leaves linear, Small, acuminate. Flowers in compound umbellate spikes. Fruit oblong, nut. Common in central region. VN.-Moth, Fls & Frs: Aug-Dec., Loc.-Piram., DCB & KDM, 74.

Poaceae

Aeluropus lagopoides (L.) Trin.ex. Thw. Syn. *Aeluropus villosus* Trin ex.L.FOB. 3:567. 1908, FOS. 3:383. 1988, FGS 2;775. 1978.

Perennial, prostrate herb. Leaves lanceolate, acuminate, Flowers white, in subglobose spike. Fruit

caryopsis. Common in eastern & western regions. Fls & Frs: Aug-Mar., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 54.

Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. Syn. *Panicum dactylon*. L. FOB. 3:554. 1908, FOS. 3:441. 1988, FGS. 2:808. 1978.

Perennial, prostrate herb, rooting at nodes. Leaves linear, acute. Flowers in terminal umbellate spikes. Fruit caryopsis. Common in central region. VN.-Durva, Fls & Frs: Aug-Feb., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 55.

Dactyloctenium aegyptium (L.) P. Beauv. Syn. *Eleusine aegyptiaca* (L.) Desf. FOB. 3. 560. 1908: FOS. 3:412. 1988, FGS. 2:808. 1978.

Annual, decumbent herb, rooting at the nodes. Leaves linear, acute. Flowers in terminal 2-6 digitately congested spikes. Fruit globose, caryopsis. Common in central region. VN.-Chaman chotlo, Fls & Frs: Aug.- Dec., Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 56.

Desmostachya bipinnata (L.) Stapf. Syn. *Eragrostis cynosuroides* (Retz.) P Beauv., *Poa cynosuroides* Rotz. FOB. 3:550. 1908, FOS. 3:414. 1988, FGS. 2:809. 1978.

Perennial, tufted herb. Leaves linear, sharp on margins, ligule hairy. Flowers in paniculate spike. Fruit caryopsis, grains minute. Rare, near light house. VN.-Dabhdo, Fls & Frs : Aug-Dec. Loc.-Piram, DCB & KDM, 75.

A total of seventy six taxa comprising 37 herbs, 8 climbers, 17 shrubs and 14 trees have been recorded from the Piram Island. Majority of the plant taxa are herbs and climbers found during monsoon season only. The whole island is covered by the dominant exotic species *Prosopis chilensis* (Molina) Stuntz. The eastern and southern coasts of the island are covered by two species of *Avicennia*. Near the light house there is a single male palm plant of *Borassus flabellifer* L.

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