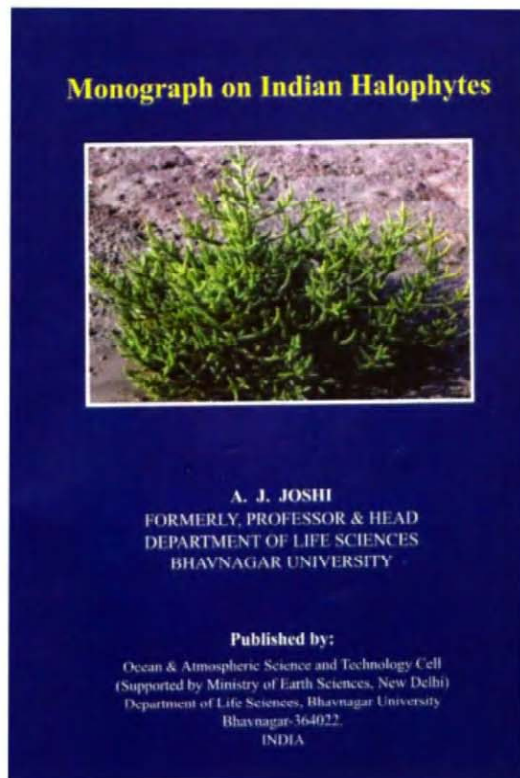


Monograph on Indian Halophytes – A.Joshi, published by Ocean & Atmospheric Science and Technology Cell, Dept. of Life Sciences, Bhavnagar University, Bhavnagar – 364 022. 2011. 140 pp. Price: Rs. 500/-.

Halophytes constitute a fascinating group of angiosperms that are adapted to high salinity and are the vital part of the marine ecosystem. They are good sources for food, fodder, biofuel, paper pulp, cosmetics, chemicals as well as useful for dune stabilisation, etc. Although sustained efforts have been made in the past to study the ecophysiology and economic utility of halophytes, however, this book is the first concise academic document on Indian halophytes. This Monograph gives complete information on 36 halophytic species growing along maritime States / Union Territory [Gujarat, Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal (Sundarbans)]. The species have been categorised into five groups viz., Succulent, Non-succulent, Shrubby, Facultative and Strand species. Under each species citation, vernacular name, distribution, habitat characteristics, brief description, composition of mineral ions, amino acids, heavy metals, economic utility, research and development areas are given. Photographs have been provided for all the species. In the end References have been given. Nomenclature needs corrections in some cases. For example on page 45 *Suaeda indica* Moq. has been treated as a synonym of *Suaeda fruticosa* (L.) Forssk. ex J.F.Gmel. In fact this species is synonymous to *Suaeda maritima* (L.) Dumort.; author names, journal and book titles have mostly not been standardised; some references are given before enumeration of species on pages 23-26 which should have been included along with the References given at the end of the book (pages 125-138); abbreviations such as E S P, S A R etc. should have been expanded. For example E S P stands for Exchangeable Sodium Percentage & S A R for Sodium Adsorption Ratio; values for ESP, SAR, mineral contents, free amino acid contents, sugars of all plants are given in wide range. Instead only the statistical data (Mean \pm SEM) should have been given and References (R_1 , R_2 , R_3 ,.....) could have been cited against each observation/data separately. However, this book must be read by all to get first hand information on the Halophytes of India.



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