

Curriculum Vita of Dr. D. Mohandass



Current Position : Post-doctoral Fellow

Contact details : Plant Evolutionary Ecology Group
Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG)
Chinese Academy of Sciences
Menglun Town, Mengla County
Yunnan 666303, P. R. China

Nationality : Indian

Date of birth & age : 04-12-1977, 33 Years

Sex : Male

Marital Status : Married

Educational Qualifications :

Degree	Major	Year	Institution	Class
<i>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)</i>	Ecology and Environmental Sciences	2007	Pondicherry University	-
<i>Master of Science (M.Sc)</i>	Botany	2000	Pondicherry University	I
<i>Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)</i>	Botany	1998	Madras University	I

Research Experience :

Position	Institution	Period of Employment	Responsibilities
Research Coordinator	Edhkwehlynawd Botanical Refuge (EBR), Nilgiris, India	Jan 2007-2010	<p><i>Ex situ</i> and <i>In situ</i> conservation of endangered shola –grassland forest species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco-restoration of endangered montane rain forest, Nilgiri hills, India.
Research Scholar	Pondicherry University <i>Thesis Supervisor: Prof. Priya Davidar</i>	Aug 2002 to Dec 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant breeding and phenology of shola forest in Nilgiri hills, India. • Thesis titled: Plant diversity and forest dynamics in montane evergreen forest (<i>shola</i>) of the Nilgiri Mountains, Southern India.
Botanist	Toda Tribe Nalavaazhu Sangam, Nilgiris, India	Aug 2001 to Jul 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of wetlands in upper Nilgiris • Inventory of medicinal plants and importance for Toda cultural practices <p><i>[Project under Hill Area Development Programme (HADP), Nilgiri District Administration, India]</i></p>
Botanist	Pitchandikulam Bio-resource centre, Auroville, India	Jun 2000 to Jul 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of medicinal plants • Restoration of tropical dry evergreen forest • Identifying sacred groves around Pondicherry region, India <p><i>(Project of Pondicherry Agricultural Department, India)</i></p>

Research Interests :

- To demonstrate the techniques of tree assessment and long term monitoring of species turnover in the tropical montane forest. It is very important that the conservation of *shola* woody species and genetic resources to conserve their natural ecosystem in terms of preservation and in-situ conservation
- Demonstrate the use of tools to characterize and assess a forest stand: height, girth, diameter, basal area, population stages of trees, species richness and diversity indices (Fisher's alpha). To compare the habitat types sampled and tools to use that would be more appropriate for an assessment of the forest stand studied.
- To study the ecology of pollination and breeding system in tropical rain forest in various parts of the Asian countries. To study the plant-pollinator interactions, specialized in terms of the effect of variation in composition of plant species on pollinator population, and conversely the effect of changes in pollinator fauna on plant populations.
- To study the growth rates of seedlings and saplings that generally increases following both natural disturbances and selective logging. To know if the tropical rain forest trees possess diverse modes of reproduction with a variety of breeding systems, pollination mechanisms and seed dispersal mechanisms. .
- To concentrate on the protected area network such as reserve forests, national parks, sanctuaries, biospheres reserves and all ecologically fragile areas. No commercial exploitation can be allowed in these areas and these need to be protected from cattle grazing, fire, and introduction of exotic species and also fuel starved villages and fodder-starved cattle. For this support from local people must be generated in order to fulfill the real goal of eco-development.

Publications in journals :

- Puyravaud.J.P., **Mohandass, D.** Chhabra, T. 2003. A rediscovery of *Eriochrysis rangacharii* Fischer., (Poaceae) in the Nilgiri Mountains, southern India. *Candollea* 58: 97-100.
- Davidar, P., Nayak, K. G. and **Mohandass, D.** 2007. Effect of adult density on regeneration success of woody plants in natural and restored tropical dry evergreen forest fragments in Puducherry region, India. *Current Science*, 92: 6 pp 805-811.
- Davidar, P., Rajagopal, B., **Mohandass, D.** Puyravaud, J.P., Condit, R. Wright, S.J. and Leigh, E.G. Jr. 2007. The effect of climatic gradients, topographic variation and species traits on beta diversity of rainforest trees. *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 16 (4): 510-518.

- Davidar, P., **Mohandass, D.** Vijayan, L. 2007. Floristic inventory of woody plants in a tropical montane (shola) forest in the Palni hills of the Western Ghats, India. *Tropical Ecology* 48 (1): 1-11.
- **Mohandass, D.** 2008. Floristic Distributions in Montane Swamps of the Nilgiri Mountains, India. *International Journal of Ecology and Environmental Sciences* 34 (1): 55-62.
- **Mohandass, D.**, and Davidar, P., 2009. Floristic structure and diversity of a tropical montane evergreen forest (*shola*) of the Nilgiri Mountains, southern India. *Tropical Ecology* 50 (2): 219-229
- **Mohandass, D.**, and Davidar, P. 2010. The relationship between area, and vegetation structure and diversity in montane forest (shola) patches in southern India. *Plant Ecology & Diversity* Vol. 3: 67–76
- Puyravaud, J.P., **Mohandass, D.** Davidar, P. 2012. Impact of human-related disturbance on *Eriochrysis rangacharii* Fischer, a rare keystone endemic grass (Nilgiris, southern India): a preliminary assessment *Tropical Ecology* **53**(1): 25-32

Reports:

- Chhabra, T., **Mohandass, D.** and Puyravaud, J.P., 2002. *Eriochrysis rangacharii* Fischer: A Keystone Resource for the Todas and an Emblematic Species for the Nilgiris Wetlands Conservation.

Symposia/ conferences attended:

- Davidar, P. and **Mohandass, D.**, 2005. *Tree diversity of montane evergreen forests of the Nilgiri Mountains, India.* CTFS Symposium: Forest Dynamics around the Globe June 4-5, 2005, Panama City, Republic of Panama.
- Davidar, P., Nayak, K.G. Mohapatra, S. D., and **Mohandass, D.**, 2007. Disrupted ecosystem services in the tropical dry evergreen forests of the Pondicherry region. *Averting biodiversity meltdown in the Asian tropics*” 1st annual conference of The Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation – Asian Chapter.
- **Mohandass, D.** and Davidar, P., 2007. Tree diversity and assemblage structure in montane sholas forests of the Nilgiris, India. *Averting biodiversity meltdown in the Asian tropics*” 1st annual conference of The Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation - Asian Chapter.

Declaration :

I, the undersigned, certify that the above information given in this curriculum vita is correct and true.

Date : 2011-10-12

Place : Pondicherry

(D. Mohandass)