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## Pond networks in an urban context

Gledhill, DG and James, P

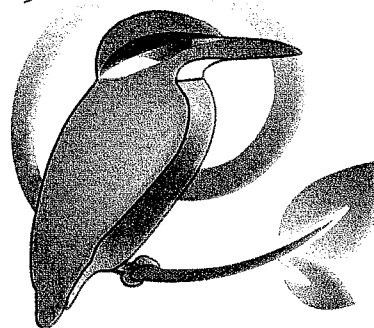
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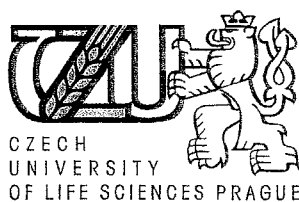
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Society for Conservation Biology

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

[www.eccb2009.org](http://www.eccb2009.org)

### 666. MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY BHILS TRIBES OF RATLAM DISTRICT, MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA

Gera, Neeta, Forest Research Institute, India; Sharma, Ajinash Kumar, Forest Research Institute, India; Kala, Rajendra Prasad, Forest Research Institute, India

This paper documents the traditional knowledge of medicinal plants that are in use by the indigenous Bhil tribes residing in Ratlam district of Madhya Pradesh, INDIA. The present study was done through structured questionnaires in consultations with the tribal practitioners and has resulted in the documentation of 34 medicinal plant species belonging to 17 families for curing diverse form of ailments. The study shows the need for the documentation of traditional ethno botanical knowledge pertaining to the medicinal plant utilization for the greater benefit of mankind.

### 667. ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AFFECTING ON *MEDICAGO* GENUS IN IRAN

Ghanavati, Farangis, Seed and plant improvement institute, Iran

Iran is one of the most important centers of diversity for *Medicago* sp. Annual Medics were collected from different states, evaluated and the relationship between geographical diversity and ecological factors was analysed. Results showed Annual Medics were distributed mostly in the North-West, West and South of Iran. Meanwhile longitude and precipitation are the two important factors in this diversity. Most of them had been distributed from 0-2750m longitudinally, in areas with 100-400mm annual rainfall and Mediterranean climates. Also, they had normal growth in pH=7.0-8.0. Soil texture analysis showed, the proper soil for Annual Medics was Loam or Clay soil. Never the less some species could grow in ecologically different areas. Among these species *M. rigidula* and *M. rigiduloides* had been adapted to cold zones, while *M. laciniata* and *M. sauvagei* were found in Southern parts of Iran with 20°C temperature. *M. littoralis* is a littoral plant and it was growing near the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Also, *M. noeana* was seen just in Northwest and West of Iran.

### 668. POND NETWORKS IN AN URBAN CONTEXT

Gledhill, David, University of Salford, United Kingdom; James, Philip, University of Salford, United Kingdom

In 2008, ponds were designated as habitats of national importance within the UK. The northwest of England has one of the densest pond landscapes in Europe. Continued urban expansion in this area has seen many former rural ponds incorporated into urban developments. Ecological data was collected from 37 urban ponds in the Borough of Halton (northwest England) over a period of 2 years (2005-2006). These ponds were placed into a national and regional context with data from the national lowland pond survey and the adjacent rural county of Cheshire. The median species richness of ponds in the Halton sample were 27 species of aquatic invertebrates and 10 species of aquatic macrophyte per pond, compared to 42 and 20 species of invertebrates and macrophytes in rural Cheshire. Although factors such as water chemistry, shade and vegetation cover impact on the composition of invertebrate communities the major determinant of species richness was the proximity of other ponds and the nature of the surrounding landscape. The results show many aquatic species operating at the landscape scale rather than within individual ponds and the need for the creation of pond networks in order to maximise their impact for biodiversity conservation.

### 669. RECOVER A CORK OAK FOREST - BIRDS AS MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

Godinho, Carlos, LabOr - Laboratory of Ornithology, University of Évora, Portugal; Pereira, Pedro, LabOr - Laboratory of Ornithology, University of Évora, Portugal; Rabaça, João, LabOr - Laboratory of Ornithology, University of Évora, Portugal

The original Portuguese forest was dominated by Oaks with Cork Oak *Quercus suber* as dominant specie in the south. Along the last century's these forests were transformed in the actual landscape know as Montado - a complex system with several valences (e.g. agricultural, forestry and cattle exploration). Although Montado is considerate a priority for conservation and is habitat of a high biological diversity, is threat by abandonment and inaccurate management. We study an area of 775ha of fragmented Montado in the Southwest of Portugal chosen for recover actions in order to forest densification. We use a point count methods for bird census (10 minutes) with distance limit (3 bandwidths) in 38 sampling stations along a grid of squares 500x500m. In 2008 we characterized the context in, and compared the results with well establish patches in the same area. Results shows that recover area is dominated by woodland and insectivorous species (e.g. Tits and Creepers) presenting lower species richness and community composition than control areas.

### 670. PLAN OF MEASUREMENTS FOR AN ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE UPPER PART OF ATOYAC RIVER (ATOYAC, VERACRUZ, MEXICO)

González Machorro, Maili Alicia, Universidad Veracruzana, Universidad Internacional de Andalucía, Mexico; Ciobanu, Marcel, Institute of Biological Research, Romania; Pimentel Ugarte, Fernando, H. Ayuntamiento de Atoyac, Mexico; González Machorro, Mario Arturo, Universidad Pedagógica Veracruzana, Mexico; Peña Montenegro, Javier, Secretaría de Educación de Veracruz, Mexico

The river Atoyac originates in a mountainous region located in the State of Veracruz (Mexico) and its waters flow into the river Jamapa, which finally reach the Gulf of Mexico. The upper part of the river is heavily affected by works (dams and water storage reservoirs turning dry the riverbed for several hundreds of meters during the drought season) designed to assure a continuous and constant water flow through a waterway for a local sugarcane plant and sugarcane fields nearby. The river is also heavily polluted due to industrial water wastes but also by the human settlements, affecting its aquatic life. A plan of measurements for an ecological restoration and conservation of the upper part of river Atoyac is herein proposed, as follows: elimination of the pollution sources, detailed studies on local biodiversity in order to protect and conserve rare, endemic, vulnerable, endangered plant and animal species, reestablishment of a permanent water flow in the riverbed, cleaning the river sides, promotion of sustainable development, sensibilization of local community including producers, civil society and authorities to integrate them as protagonist agents of a scenario of preserving the natural resources for a rationale, more effective water use and an economic socio-ecologic development.

### 671. CHARACTERISTIC OF BARRIERS CAUSING LANDSCAPE FRAGMENTATION FOR LARGE MAMMALS

Gorčicová, Ivana, Evernia s.r.o., Czech Republic; Anděl, Petr, Evernia s.r.o., Czech Republic; Petřílka, Leoš, Evernia s.r.o., Czech Republic

Submitted results from research work are focusing on the categorisation of overland roads in the Czech Republic