



Current Distribution of Invasive Alien Flora of Arookkutty Panchayath, Kerala, India

Swapna Vijayan and C.M. Joy

Department of Botany, Sacred Heart College Thevara, Kochi-682 013, India
Email: chinchu.vijayan698@gmail.com

Abstract: In this ecological investigation using quadrat methods seventeen species were observed, out of which 11 were terrestrial invasive plants. Four terrestrial species were minor and distributed along the roadsides; 2 of them were aquatic plant species reported from lake water and fresh water ponds respectively. Among these 17 problematic plants, 11 species (61.11%) were native to South America, followed by North America (2 species), Africa (4 species), and China (1 species). *Mikania micrantha* Kunth was the frequent species and Asteraceae was dominant family among the quadrats with wide range of habitats and hosts. Less competitive environments, high resource availability, salinity of the soil, easy dissemination of propagules, and presence of bare lands may cause the easy colonization of invasive alien species in the study area

Key Words: Alien plants, Aquatic weeds, Invasive *Mikania micrantha* Kunth, Plant invasions
