

Plant Diversity and Sustainable Development in a Tribal Village Eco-complex on the Eastern Ghats of Orissa

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ABSTRACT The paper reports the plant diversity available in and around three tribal village ecosystems of Phulbani district of Orissa and shows how the biodiversity resources essentially met the basic demand of the tribals for their sustenance. Of the total 249 plant species recorded in and around the villages, the tribals used 43 species for food, 16 for fuel, 61 for medicine, 18 for timber, 18 for other economic purpose, 3 as stimulants and 17 as sacred plants. Besides, 13 species served as fodder plants. It was felt that biodiversity is essential for the functioning of village ecosystems.