

## The Flora of Adyar\*

by

J. SAKHARAM RAO,  
Agricultural College and Research Institute,  
Coimbatore.

Adyar is an enchanting place. One main reason for this is undoubtedly to be found in the exuberant vegetation which consists of different kinds of assorted plants, partly indigenous and partly introduced, both combined into a beautiful mosaic by nature as well as by design in which may be seen the work of the Hidden Artist. The rich and varied flora consisting of over two hundred and fifty species excluding the potted ornamentals, and belonging to various genera and families is well worth study by a trained botanist. Herbs, shrubs and climbers: trees large and small, evergreen and deciduous; palms and bamboos; grasses and weeds and the humble denizens of the pond, meet the eye at different levels and form an effective scenery of considerable beauty.

To understand the composition and distribution of the flora it is only necessary to know that.

- i. the average annual rainfall as recorded for the Madras city is about fifty inches, most of it falling from October to December in the North East monsoon.
- ii. the soil is predominantly sandy and
- iii. the water table is within six to ten feet.

As is well known Adyar is bounded immediately on the north by the river which goes by the same name and on the east by the Bay of Bengal. Proximity to the sea, the loose sandy soil, medium rainfall and humid atmosphere under the tropical sun, support an interesting and characteristic type of vegetation native to the soil which has been greatly enriched by the introduction and acclimatization of very many exotic species.

The conspicuous part of the north consists of the coconut palms (*Cocos nucifera* Linn.) and the casuarina (*Casuarina equisetifolia* Forst) which dominate the whole vegetation by their height. Things are different as one enters the Adyar Estate. Right within the entrance to the left are a few Phoenix palms (*Phoenix dactylifera* Linn.) with *Pongamia glabra* Vent. and neem trees (*Margosa*, *Azadirachta indica*

---

\* Adyar is the International Head-quarters of the Theosophical Society.



The Adyar River on the side of Adyar Estate



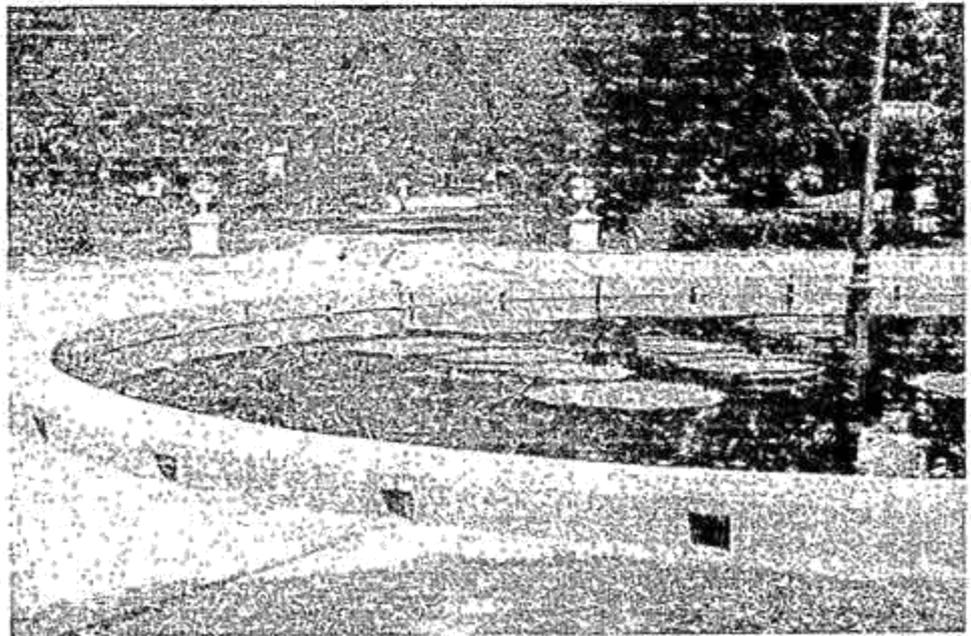
A view of the Estate from the gate



The Headquarters Building with Palms



The Famous banyan tree with seventy pillars



Victoria regia

A. Juss.) and to the right are trees of Guanacaste (*Enterolobium cyclocarpum* Griseb.), one *Jacaranda mimosaefolia* D. Don., the Royal palm (*Oreodoxa regia* H. B. K.) on both the sides and the Sand box (*Hura crepitans* Linn.) Further within are, old trees of neem, the tamarind (*Tamarindus indica* Linn.), wood apple (*Feronia elephantum* Corr.) and *Cassia siamea* Lam. at a distance. The avenue may be said to begin with an old banyan (*Ficus bengalensis* Linn.) to the left and another banyan a few yards off to the right but it soon changes to long rows of coconuts on both sides interrupted on the right by a few trees of the jambo (*Syzigium jambolanum* DC.) and a mango (*Mangifera indica* Linn.) both as old as the banyan, changing again to miscellaneous kinds of trees in the further ramification of the estate.

The centre of attraction in the whole vegetation is the famous banyan tree, near the Blavatsky hall which is the meeting place for large gathering and is for this reason specially looked after and well kept. There are over dozen specimens of this magnificent tree scattered over the estate but the above one near the Blavasky building is the most beloved of all. It was reported in the 'Theosophist' for October 1927 (page 40) that the tree and its branches were supported by seventy aerial roots most of them specially trained to get into the ground to serve as 'natural pillars'. Brothers to the banyan are three other species of *Ficus* viz., *F. glomerata* Roxb., the wild Indian fig. *Ficus religiosa* L., the Bo tree, Pipul or Aswatha, both tall trees with ascending branches and *F. retusa* Linn., adopting in a way the spreading habit of banyan with fewer aerial roots. A very interesting and rare *Ficus* is *F. Krishna* near the Hindu temple, characterised by funnel shaped leaves.

The quick growing and shade giving rain tree (*Enterolobium saman* Prain) does well indeed and also the less useful gul mohr or gold Muhur (*Delonix regia* Raf.). Sirish (*Albizia lebeck* Benth.) with dry pods long persisting and *Peltophorum ferrugineum* Benth., attractive by means of its yellow flowers are other popular trees of the same family (Leguminosae) widely planted on the estate. A good specimen of mahogany (*Swietenia mahagoni* Linn.) exists which is many years old and young plants have established in the newly formed avenues alternating in some places with the peacock flowers (*Caesalpinia pulcherrima* Sw.) The Indian laurel (*Calophyllum inophyllum* Linn.) with glossy leaves and balls of white flowers, (*Cerbera manghas* L.) of handsome foliage, flowers and light fruits,

(*Barringtonia acutangula* Gaertn.) with long pendulous racemes of flowers and (*Wrightia tinctoria* R. Br.) with delicate white flowers and pencil shaped fruits in pairs are some of the trees peculiar to littoral areas.

Distributed within the estate in smaller or larger numbers are the following well known trees of S. India, each interesting and useful in its own way:— the deciduous *Odina wodier* Roxb., propagated by stumps; the deformed evergreen and night flowering *Morinda tinctoria* Roxb., the Indian beach *Pongamia glabra* Vent., the familiar Indian Tulip (*Thespesia populnea* Cav.) the ironwood (*Cassia siamea* Lam.) the thorny *Pithecolobium dulce* Benth., with peculiar twisted pods and edible aril, Bastard Cedar (*Guazuma tomentosa* Kunth.) Divi-Divi (*Caesalpinia coriaria* Willd.) *Cassia marginata* Roxb., *C. glauca* Lam., and many others.

Among the larger trees may be noticed the interesting Australian *Acacia auriculiformis* A. Cunn., quite attractive when in flower but not less so even with its foliage which consists not of leaves but leaf like phyllodes; the tall night flowering Indian cork *Millingtonia hortensis* L. f., with its long pendant white flowers in bunches shedding silver white corolla tubes during the day; the curiously flowered cannon ball tree (*Couropita guianensis* Hook.) sweet scented (*Guettarda speciosa* Linn.) to which may be added the following noteworthy features of interest to the lover of plants; the Baobab (*Adansonia digitata* Linn.) of Africa whose trunk is the most massive of all trees, the red silk cotton tree (*Bombax malabaricum* DC.), *Mimusops elengi* Linn., with inconspicuous but fragrant flowers dropping by gentle showers by the wind, the Trincomaliwood (*Berrya ammonilla* Roxb.) the lemon scented *Eucalyptus citriodora* Hook., the sinuous leaved *Polyalthia longifolia* Hk. f., the Silver oak (*Grevillia robusta* A. Cunn.) the scarlet seeded *Adenanthera pavonina* Linn., the queens flower *Lagerstroemia flos-reginae* Retz., with mauve coloured flowers of much beautiful structure, the tree lettuce (*Pisonia morindifolia* R. Br.) the Traveller's palm *Revenala madagascarensis* Sonn., of striking appearance and the valuable sandal wood (*Santalum album* Linn.) a root parasite.

Much of the beauty of Adyar is due to the palms of which there are many good examples. The coconut being the chief and prominent, the following deserve mention viz., the palmyra (*Borassus flabellifer* Linn.) the wild date (*Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb.) the introduced stately and ornamental Royal Palm or Bottle palm

(*Oreodoxa regia* H. B. K.) the Malabar sago palm (*Caryota urens* Linn.) and arecanut (*Areca catechu* Linn.) The introduced species of *Livistonia* R. Br., *Pritchardia*, *Thrinax* and *Raphis* are valuable additions to this notable group of plants. Bamboos too have a charm of their own and their presence in a few places gives a natural and wild aspect to the scenery. The uses of this giant grass for construction and other purposes are too well known to require mention and doubtless it is one of the useful plants of Adyar.

Trees of Economic importance have always received attention at Adyar. Of these though the coconut and casuarina have been planted on a large scale as paying crops there are other useful trees such as the evergreen mango (*Mangifera indica* Linn.) of which there are quite a large number including grafted varieties, the hardy tamarind, (*Tamarindus indica* Linn.) the big fruited Jack, (*Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lam.) the mango like mahu (*Bassia longifolia* Linn.) the curiously fruited cashewnut (*Anacardium occidentale* Linn.), the soapnut (*Sapindus emarginatus* Vahl.) not to mention the fruit trees and shrubs of the orchard viz., the orange (*Citrus sinensis* Pers.) pumelo (*C. grandis* Murr.) sapota (*Achras sapota* Linn.) Pine apple (*Ananas sativus* Scult.) Avacado pear (*Persea gratissima* Gaertn.) plantain (*Musa sapientum* Linn.) etc., and the less valuable wood apple (*Feronia elephantum* Corr.), guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) and papaya (*Carica papaya* Linn.) and the rarer ones like *Averrhoa bilimbi* Linn. and *A. carambola* Linn.

As important as the trees in making Adyar picturesque are the numerous shrubs and climbers which by their variegated foliage or brilliance of colour form an attractive feature of the vegetation. The different varieties and hybrids of "Shoe flower" (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* Linn.) unhappily so called, *H. schizopetalus* of handsome flowers, the oleander (*Nerium odorum* Soland.) with white, pink or red and single or double flowers, the peacock flowers (*Caesalpinia pulcherrima* Sw.) the white flowered *Ervatamia coronaria* Stapf., the night flowering and popular *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* Linn., the yellow flowered *Thevetia nerifolia* Juss., and *Stenolobium stans* D. Don.) the Queen of the night (*Cestrum nocturnum* Linn.), the scarlet flowered *Ixora*, the pretty *Bauhinias* and the dwarf palms are some of the ornamental shrubs which have been variously distributed in the garden with striking effect.

The *Bougainvilleas* are a special delight. The peculiarity of the flowers which are set in threes are by themselves inconspicuous but are enveloped by beautifully coloured bracts subtending each

flower. *B. spectabilis* Willd. is the common species with deep purple bracteal leaves and though essentially a climbing shrub lends itself remarkably well for hedges, borders, arches and trellises of various designs. Two other varieties of hybrids are seen viz., *Mrs. Butt* and *Laterita*. A shy flowering white variety is also grown with much care.

Other noteworthy climbers of much ornamental value are the Malathi (*Aganosma dichotoma* K. Schum.), *Allamanda cathartica* Linn., with larger yellow flowers, *Hiptage madablata* Gaertn., (corrupt for sanskrit Madhavalatha), strong scented *Jasminum sambac* Ait., and *J. grandiflorum* Linn., *Passiflora* sp., the sweet scented *Telosma minor* Craib., with greenish bell shaped flowers, *Porana paniculata* Roxb, the bridal creeper, *Pothos scandens* Linn., *Quisqualis indica* Linn., the Rangoon Creeper and the common *Antigonon leptopus* Hook., with white or pink flowers.

Of particular interest to the Botanist is the association of plants confined to the ponds of Adyar and may be seen in an active growth during sometime or other of the year. The sacred lotus (*Nelumbium speciosum* Willd.) and the water lily (*Nymphaea stellata* Willd.) thrive well with proper care and the American *Victoria regia* which has covered the entire pond opposite the large banyan and the aggressive but attractive Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes* Solms.) Bull nut or the water chestnut (*Trapa bispinosa* Roxb.) is slowly becoming extinct, possessing other interesting features of adaptation in its roots and leaves and is much valued as food in North India owing to the starchy fruits which are sold under the name Singada nut. Less conspicuous but more successful than the above in the struggle for existence are the following completely submerged plants viz., *Chara*, *Ceratophyllum demersum* Linn., *Hydrilla verticillata* Royle., *Najas graminea* Del. The very small duckweed (*Lemna gibba* Linn.) *Wolfia mechellii*, Schied., the smallest known of the flowering plants and the Water fern (*Azolla*) are however free floaters.

In the mud flat near the mouth of the river (Adyar) and confined to this habitat only is a small tree *Excoecaria agallocha* L. which is of interest to the ecologist. Of similar interest are the soil binders of which there are a few interesting examples.

Much of the largest group of plants next to trees from the point of view of number of species consist of "what the dull incurious weeds account" and a glance at the list appended at the end will

give an idea of the contribution made by these lowly plants to the richness of the flora of Adyar. About these weeds which adorn the grounds of Adyar and all our "fellow residents of the vegetable kingdom" it has been well said that "they have their importance hardly less than our own and Adyar is theirs almost as much as it is ours". We may therefore know them well.

TREE FLORA

- Acacia arabica* Willd. — *Babul*  
*Acacia auriculiformis* Buch. Ham  
*Achras sapota* L. — *Sapota*  
*Adansonia digitata* L. — *Baobab*  
*Adenanthera pavonina* L. — *Bead tree*  
*Albizzia amara* Boiv.,  
*A. lebeck* Benth. — *Sirish*  
*Anacardium occidentale* L. — *Cashewnut*  
*Anona squamosa* L. — *Custard apple*  
*Araucaria* sp.  
*Areca catechu* L. — *Arecanut palm*  
*Artocarpus incisa* Linn. — *Bread fruit*  
*A. heterophyllus* Lam. — *Jack* — (*A. integrum* Thumb)  
*Atalantia missionsis* Oliv. — *Wild lime*  
*Averrhoa bilimbi* L.  
*A. carambola* L.  
*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss. — *Neem, Margosa*  
*Bambusa* sp.  
*Barringtonia acutangula* Gaertn  
*Bassia longifolia* L. — (*Madhuca longifolia* L.)  
*Bauhinia krugii* Urban  
*B. purpurea* L.  
*Berrya ammonilla* Roxb. — *Trincomali wood*  
*Bombax malabaricum* DC. — *Red cotton tree*  
*Borassus flabellifer* L. — *Palmyra palm*  
*Caesalpinia coriaria* Willd. — *Divi - Divi*  
*Calophyllum inophyllum* L. — *Alexandrian Laurel*  
*Carica papaya* L. — *Papaw, Papaya*  
*Caryota urens* L. — *Bastard sago, Kitul palm, Fish tail palm*  
*Cassia glauca* Lam., Var. *suffruticosa* Prain  
*Cassia marginata* Roxb.  
*C. siamea* Lam.  
*Casuarina equisetifolia* Forst. — *She oak, Beef wood*  
*Cerbera manghas* L.  
*Cicca disticha* L. — *Star-gooseberry*  
*Citrus sinensis* Pers. — *orange*  
*C. grandis* Mur. — *pumelo*

- C. medica* L. — *Lime*  
*Cocos nucifera* L. — *Coconut palm*  
*Cordia obliqua* Willd.  
*Couropita guianensis* Hk. — *Cannon-ball tree*  
*Crataeva religiosa* Forst.  
*Delonix regia* Raf. — *Gul Mohr, Flamboyant tree*  
*Diospyros* sp.  
*Dracaena fragrans* Ker Gawl.  
*Enterolobium cyclocarpum* Gr. — *Guancaste*  
*E. saman* Prain  
*Erythrina indica* Lam. — *Coral tree*  
*Eucalyptus citriodora* Hook.  
*Euphorbia tirucalli* Linn.  
*Excoecaria agallocha* Linn.  
*Feronia elephantum* Corr. — *Wood apple*  
*Ficus bengalensis* L. — *Banyan*  
*F. religiosa* Linn. — *pipul*  
*F. retusa* Linn.  
*Filicium decipiens* Thw.  
*Grevillia robusta* A. Cunn. — *Silver Oak*  
*Guazuma tomentosa* Kunth. — *Bastard cedar*  
*Guettarda speciosa* Linn.  
*Hura crepitans* Linn. — *Sand box tree*  
*Ixora parviflora* Vahl. — *Torch tree*  
*Kigelia pinnata* D. C.  
*Kleinhovia hospitata* Linn.  
*Lagerstroemia flos-reginae* Retz. — *Queens flower* — (*L. speciosa* Pers)  
*Leucaena glauca* Benth  
*Livistonia* sp.  
*Mangifera indica* L. — *Mango*  
*Melia azadirach* Linn. — *Persian Lilac*  
*Millingtonia hortensis* Linn. f. — *Indian Cork*  
*Mimusops elengi* Linn.  
*Morinda tinctoria* Roxb.  
*Moringa oleifera* Lam. — *Horse Radish, Drumstick*  
*Murraya exotica* Linn.  
*M. koenigii* Spr. — *Curry leaf*  
*Musa sapientum* L. — *banana*  
*Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* Linn.  
*Odina wodier* Roxb.  
*Oreodoxa regia* — *Royal palm, Bottle palm*  
*Peltophorum ferrugineum* Benth.  
*Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb. — *Wild date palm*  
*Pisonia morindifolia* R. Br. — *Tree Lettuce*  
*Pithecolobium dulce* Benth.  
*Plumeria acutifolia* Poir. — *Pagoda tree*

- P. alba* Linn.  
*Polyalthia longifolia* H. K. f.  
*Pongamia glabra* Vent. — *Indian beach* — (*P. pinnata* Merr.)  
*Premna latifolia* Roxb. Var. *mollissima* Cl.  
*Pritchardia* sp.  
*Punica granatum* Linn. — *Pomegranate*  
*Psidium guajava* Linn. — *guava*  
*Ravenala madagascarensis* Sonn. — *Travellers' palm*  
*Santalum album* Linn. — *Sandal wood*  
*Sapindus emarginatus* Vahl. — *Soapnut*  
*Stenolobium stans* D. Don  
*Swietenia mahagoni* Linn. — *Mahogany*  
*Syzigium jambolanum* DC — *Java plum*  
*Tamarindus indica* Linn. — *Tamarind*  
*Tectona grandis* Linn. f. — *Teak*  
*Terminalia catappa* Linn. — *Indian almond*  
*Thespesia populnea* Cav. — *Indian tulip, Portia tree*  
*Thevetia neriifolia* Juss — (*T. peruviana* Merr.)  
*Wrightia tinctoria* R. Br.

## ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

- Caesalpinia pulcherrima* Sw. — *Peacocks flower*  
*Canna indica* L. — *Indian shot*  
*Cestrum nocturnum* — *Queen of the night*  
*Ervatomia coronaria* Stapf.  
*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* Linn. — *Shoe flower*  
*H. schizopetalus* Hook.  
*Ixora coccinea* Linn.  
*Jasminum sambac* Ait. — *Jasmine*  
*J. grandiflorum* Linn.  
*Mirabilis jalapa* Linn. — *Marvel of Peru*  
*Nerium odorum* Soland — *Oleander* — (*N. indicum* Mill.)  
*Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* Linn.

## CLIMBERS

- Abrus precatorius* Linn.  
*Antigonon leptopus* Hk & A  
*Beaumontia grandiflora* Wall  
*Bougainvillea spectabilis* Willd  
*Echites paniculata* Roxb — *Malathi*  
*Hiptage madablata* Gaertn — *Madhaviatha*  
*Ipomoea* sp.  
*Pentatropis microphylla* W & A. — wild  
*Porana paniculata* Roxb. — *Bridal creeper*  
*Pothos scandens* Linn.

*Quisqualis indica* Linn. — *Rangoon creeper*  
*Telosma minor* Craib.  
*Tinospora cordifolia* Miers. — Willd.

## PALMS

*Areca catechu* Linn. — *Arecanut palm*  
*Borassus flabellifer* L. — *Palmyra palm*  
*Caryota urens* Linn. — *Malabar sago, Kittul palm*  
*Cocos nucifera* L. — *Coconut palm*  
*Kentia sanderiana* Hort.  
*Livistonia* R. Br.  
*Oreodoxa regia* H. B. K. — *Royal Palm*  
*Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb. — *Wild date*  
*Pritchardia* Seen & H. wendl.  
*Raphis flabelliformis* Beauv.  
*Thrinax* Linn.

## FRUIT TREES

*Achras sapota* Linn. — *Sapota*  
*Anona squamosa* Linn. — *Custard apple*  
*Artocarpus heterophyllus* Linn. — *Jack* — (*A. integra* Thumb.)  
*Averrhoa bilimbi* Linn.  
*A. carambola* Linn.  
*Carica papaya* Linn. — *Papaw*  
*Citrus sinensis* Pers. — *Orange*  
*C. grandis* L. — *Pumelo*  
*Feronia elephantum* Corr. — *Wood apple*  
*Mangifera indica* L. — *Mango*  
*Musa sapientum* Linn., *Banana*  
*Persea gratissima* Gaertn. — *Avacado pear*  
*Psidium guajava* Linn. — *Guava*  
*Punica granatum* Linn. — *Pomegranate*  
*Syzigium jambolanum* DC. — *Jamboo, Java Plum*

## WATER PLANTS

*Azolla* — *Water fern*  
*Ceratophyllum demersum* Linn. — *hornwort*  
*Chara* sp. — *stonewort*  
*Eichhornia crassipes* Solms. *Water hyacinth*  
*Hydrilla verticillata* Royle.  
*Lemna polyrrhiza* Linn. — *Duck weed*  
*Nelumbium speciosum* Willd. — *Lotus*  
*Nymphaea pubescens* Willd. — *Lily (Water)*  
*Trapa bispinosa* Roxb. — *Bullnut, Water Chestnut, singada nut*  
*Victoria regia* Lindl.  
*Wolffia arrhiza* Wimm.

## WEED FLORA

- Abutilon crispum G. Don.  
 A. indicum G. Don.  
 Acalypha lanceolata Willd.  
 Achyranthes aspera Linn.  
 Aerva lanata Juss.  
 Allmania nodiflora R. Br.  
 A. nodiflora R. Br., var. procumbens Hk. f.  
 A. nodiflora R. Br., var. dichotoma Hk. f.  
 Alysicarpus monilifer DC.  
 Blainvillca rhomboidea Cass.  
 Borreria hispida K. Sch.  
 Bulbostylis barbata Kunth.  
 Calotropis gigantea R. Br.  
 Cassia absus Linn.  
 Cissus vitiginea Linn.  
 Cleome aspera Koen.  
 C. viscosa Linn.  
 Commelina bengalensis Linn.  
 Corchorus acutangulus Lam.  
 C. tridens Linn.  
 Crotalaria linifolia L. f.  
 C. verrucosa Linn.  
 Cyperus rotundus Linn.  
 Datura metel Linn.  
 Desmodium gangeticum DC.  
 D. triflorum DC.  
 Evolvulus alsinoides Linn.  
 Eleiotis sororia DC.  
 Euphorbia hirta Linn.  
 E. corrigioloides Boiss.  
 Gisekia pharnaceoides Linn.  
 Gomphrena celosioides Mart.  
 Gynandropsis pentaphylla DC. — (*G. gynandra* Merr.)  
 Hibiscus micranthus Linn. f.  
 Heliotropium indicum Linn.  
 H. curassavicum Linn.  
 Hyptis suaveolens Poit.  
 Indigofera glabra Linn.  
 I. enneaphylla Linn.  
 I. hirsuta Linn.  
 Jatropha gossypifolia Linn.  
 Justicia procumbens Linn.  
 Lagasca mollis Cav.  
 Lantana camera Linn.  
 Leptadenia reticulata W & A.

*Leucas diffusa* Benth.  
*Lochnera rosea* Reichb.  
*Malvastrum coromandelianum* Garcke.  
*Merremia tridentata* Hall. f.  
*Mollugo cerviana* Ser.  
*M. disticha* Ser.  
*M. nudicaulis* Lamk.  
*Ocimum canum* Sims.  
*Oldenlandia stricta* Linn.  
*O. umbellata* Linn.  
*Pavonia zeylanica* Cav.  
*Pedaliium murex* Linn.  
*Pentatropis microphylla* W & A.  
*Phaseolus semierectus* Linn.  
*P. trilobus* Ait.  
*Phyllanthus maderaspatensis* Linn.  
*P. niruri* Linn.  
*Polycarpaea corymbosa* Lam.  
*Rauvolfia canescens* Linn.  
*Rhynchosia aurea* DC.  
*Sesamum prostratum* Retz.  
*Sida cordifolia* Linn.  
*S. schimperiana* Hochst.  
*Solanum nigrum* Linn.  
*S. trilobatum* Linn.  
*Stachytarpheta indica* Vahl.  
*Tephrosia purpurea* Pers.  
*Trianthema triquetra* Rottl.  
*T. decandra* Linn.  
*T. portulacastrum* Linn.  
*Tribulus terrestris* Linn.  
*Tridax procumbens* Linn.  
*Vernonia cinerea* Less.  
*Waltheria indica* Linn.

### SYSTEMATICS

(according to the flora of the Madras Presidency.)

by J. S. GAMBLE

#### Annonaceae :

*Annona squamosa* Linn.  
*Polyalthia longifolia* Hook. f.

#### Menispermaceae :

*Tinospora cordifolia* Miers.

#### Nymphaeaceae :

*Nymphaea pubescens* Willd.  
*N. stellata* Willd

*N. zanzibariensis* Gasp.  
*Nelumbium speciosum* Willd.  
*Victoria regia* Lindl.

#### Capparidaceae :

*Cleome viscosa* Linn.  
*C. aspera* Koen.  
*Crataeva religiosa* Forsk.

#### Violaceae :

*Ionidium suffruticosum* Ging.

**Guttiferae :**

*Calophyllum inophyllum* Linn.

**Malvaceae :**

*Malvastrum coromandelianum* Garcke

*Sida cordifolia* Linn.  
*S. schimperiana* Hochst.  
*Abutilon indicum* G. Don.  
*A. crispum* G. Don.  
*Pavonia zeylanica* Cav.  
*Hibiscus micranthus* Linn.  
*H. rosa-sinensis* Linn.  
*H. schizopetalus* Hook.  
*Thespesia populnea* Cav.  
*Adansonia digitata* Linn.

**Bombacaceae :**

*Bombax malabaricum* DC.  
*Ceiba pentandra* Gaertn.

**Sterculiaceae :**

*Sterculia foetida* Linn.  
*Waltheria indica* Linn.  
*Guazuma tomentosa* Kunth.

**Tiliaceae :**

*Corchorus acutangulus* Lam.  
*C. tridens* Linn.  
*Berria ammonilla* Roxb.

**Malpighiaceae :**

*Hiptage madablata* Gaertn.

**Zygophyllaceae :**

*Tribulus terrestris* Linn.

**Geraniaceae :**

*Averrhoa bilimbi* Linn.  
*A. carambola* Linn.

**Rutaceae :**

*Murraya exotica* Linn.  
*M. koenigii* Spreng.  
*Feronia elephantum* Corr.  
*Atalantia monophylla* Corr.  
*Citrus sinensis* Linn.  
*C. grandis* L.

**Meliaceae :**

*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.  
*Swietenia mahagoni* Linn.

**Vitaceae :**

*Cissus vitiginea* Linn.

**Sapindaceae :**

*Filicium decipiens* Thw.  
*Sapindus emarginatus* Wall.

**Anacardiaceae :**

*Mangifera indica* Linn.  
*Anacardium occidentale* Lin.  
*Odina woder* Roxb.

**Moringaceae :**

*Moringa oleifera* Lamk.

**Leguminosae : (Papilionaceae)**

*Crotalaria linifolia* Linn.  
*C. verrucosa* Linn.  
*C. laburnifolia* Linn.  
*Indigofera enneaphylla* Linn.  
*I. glabra* Linn.  
*I. tinctoria* Linn.  
*I. hirsuta* Linn.  
*Tephrosia purpurea* Pers.  
*Eleiotis sororia* DC.  
*Alysicarpus monilifer* DC.  
*Desmodium biarticulatum* Benth.  
*D. gangeticum* DC.  
*Canavalia lineata* DC.  
*Phaseolus semierectus* Linn.  
*P. trilobus* Air.  
*Rhynchosia aurea* DC.  
*Pongamia glabra* Vent.

**Caesalpinaceae :**

*Caesalpinia pulcherrima* Sw.  
*C. coriaria* Willd.  
*Delonix regia* Raf.  
*Cassia marginata* Roxb.  
*C. siamea* Lamk.  
*C. glauca* Lam., var. *suffruticosa* Prain  
*C. absus* Linn.  
*Bauhinia krugii* Urban  
*Tamarindus indica* Linn.

**Mimosoideae :**

*Adenantha pavonina* Linn.  
*Leucaena glauca* Benth.  
*Acacia arabica* Willd.  
*A. auriculiformis* Buch-Ham.  
*Albizzia lebbek* Benth.  
*A. amara* Boivin.  
*Pithecolobium dulce* Benth.  
*Enterolobium saman* Prain.  
*E. cyclocarpum* Griseb

**Combretaceae :**

*Terminalia catappa* Linn.  
*Quisqualis indica* Linn.

**Myrtaceae :**

*Syzigium jambolanum* DC.  
*Eucalyptus citriodora* Hook.  
*Couroupita guianensis* Aubl.

**Lecythidaceae :**

*Barringtonia acutangula* Gaertn.

**Lythraceae :**

*Lagerstroemia flos-reginae* Retz.  
*Lawsonia inermis* Linn.

**Onagraceae :**

*Trapa bispinosa* Roxb.

**Turneraceae :**

*Turnera ulmifolia* Linn.  
*T. ulmifolia* Linn., var. *elegans* Urb.  
*T. ulmifolia* Linn., var. *angustifolia* Willd.

**Passifloraceae :**

- Passiflora foetida* Linn.  
*P. leschenaultii* DC.

**Caricaceae :**

- Carica papaya* Linn.

**Aizoaceae :**

- Trainthema portulacastrum* Linn.  
*T. triquetra* Rottl.  
*T. decandra* Linn.  
*Mollugo cerviana* Ser.  
*M. disticha* Ser.  
*M. nudicaulis* Lam.  
*Gisekia pharnaceoides* Linn.

**Rubiaceae :**

- Oldenlandia umbellata* Linn.  
*O. stricta* Linn.  
*Mussaenda glabrata* Hutch.  
*Ixora parviflora* Wall  
*Ixora coccinea* Linn.  
*Pavetta indica* Linn.  
*Morinda tinctoria* Roxb.  
*Borreria hispida* K. schum.

**Compositae :**

- Vernonia cinerea* Less.  
*Lagasca mollis* Cav.  
*Blainvillea rhomboidea* Cass.  
*Tridax procumbens* Linn.  
*Launea pinnatifida* Cass.

**Campanulaceae :**

- Sphenoclea zeylanica* Gaertn.

**Sapotaceae :**

- Achras sapota* Linn.  
*Bassia longifolia* Linn.  
*Mimusops elengi* Linn.

**Ebenaceae :**

- Diospyros* sp.

**Oleaceae :**

- Jasminum sambac* Ait.  
*J. grandiflorum* Linn.  
*Nyctanthes arbortristis* Linn.

**Apocyanaceae :**

- Allamanda cathartica* Linn.  
*Carissa spinarum* Linn.  
*Thevetia neriifolia* A. Juss.  
*Cerbera manghas* Linn.  
*Rauvolfia canescens* Linn.  
*Ervatamia coronaria* Stapf.  
*Wrightia tinctoria* R. Br.  
*Beaumontia grandiflora* Wall.  
*Aganosma dichotoma* K. Schum.  
*Plumeria alba* Linn.  
*P. acutifolia* Poir.  
*Nerium odorum* Soland.

**Asclepiadaceae :**

- Calotropis gigantea* R. Br.  
*Pentatropis microphylla* W & A.  
*Pergularia extensa* N. E. Br.

- Telosma minor* Crai  
*Leptadenia reticulata* W. & A.

**Boraginaceae :**

- Heliotropium curassavicum* Linn.  
*H. indicum* Linn.  
*Cordia obliqua* Willd.  
*Trichodesma indicum* R. Br.  
*Cynoglossum furcatum* Wall

**Convulaceae :**

- Ipomoea pes-caprae* Sweet  
*Porana paniculata* Roxb.  
*Evolvulus alsinoides* Linn.  
*Merremia tridentata* Hollier. f.

**Solanaceae :**

- Solanum nigrum* Linn.  
*S. trilobatum* Linn.  
*Physalis minima* Linn.  
*Datura metel* Linn.  
*Cestrum nocturnum* Linn

**Bignoniaceae :**

- Kigelia pinnata* DC.  
*Millingtonia hortensis* Linn. f.  
*Stenolobium stans* D. Don.  
*Jacaranda mimosaeifolia* D. Don.

**Pedaliaceae :**

- Pedaliium murex* Linn.  
*Sesamum prostratum* Retz.

**Acanthaceae :**

- Ruellia prostrata* Poir.  
*R. tuberosa* Linn.  
*Andrographis echioides* Nees.  
*Justicia prostrata* Gamb.  
*Adhatoda vasica* Nees.

**Verbenaceae :**

- Lantana camera* Linn.  
*Stachytarpheta indica* Vahl.  
*Tectona grandis* Linn. f.  
*Premna latifolia* Roxb. var.  
*mollissima* Cl.

**Labiatae :**

- Ocimum canum* Sims.  
*Hyptis suaveolens* Poit.  
*Leucas diffusa* Benth.  
*Leonotis nepetaefolia* R. Br.

**Nyctaginaceae :**

- Pisonia morindifolia* R. Br.  
*Bougainvillea spectabilis* Willd.  
*Boerhaavia repens* Linn.  
*Mirabilis jalapa* Linn.

**Amaranthaceae :**

- Allmania nodiflora* R. Br., var.  
*procumbens* HK. f.  
*A. nodiflora* R. Br., var. *dichotoma*  
HK. f.  
*Pupalia orbiculata* W.  
*Achyranthes aspera* Linn.  
*Aerva lanata* Juss.  
*A. monsoniae* Mart.  
*Gomphrena celosioides* Mart.

**Polygonaceae :**

*Antigonon leptopus* HK. f.

**Euphorbiaceae :**

*Euphorbia hirta* Linn.  
*E. corrigioloides* Boiss.  
*Phyllanthus maderaspatensis* Linn.  
*P. niruri* Linn.  
*Phyllanthus emblica* Linn.  
*Kirganelia reticulata* Baill.  
*Breynia rhamnoides* M. Arg.  
*Jatropha gossypifolia* Linn.  
*Sebastiania chamaelea* M. Arg.  
*Excoecaria agallocha* Linn.  
*Hura crepitans* Linn.

**Moraceae :**

*Ficus bengalensis* Linn.  
*F. religiosa* Linn.  
*F. glomerata* Roxb.  
*F. Krishnae*  
*Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lam.  
*A. incisa* Linn.

**Coniferae :**

*Araucaria* sp.  
*Cupresses* sp.  
*Thuja orientalis*

**Cycadaceae :**

*Cycas* sp.

**Hydrocharitaceae :**

*Hydrilla verticillata* Royle.

**Scitamineae :**

*Canna indica* Linn.  
*Musa sapientum* Linn.  
*Ravenala madagascarensis* Son.

**Liliaceae :**

*Asparagus racemosus* Willd.

**Pontederiaceae :**

*Eichhornia crassipes* Solms.

**Commelinaceae :**

*Commelina bengalensis* Linn.

**Palmaceae :**

*Areca catechu* Linn.  
*Cocos nucifera* Linn.  
*Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb.  
*Caryota urens* Roxb.  
*Borassus flabellifer* Linn.  
*Oreodoxa regia*  
*Livistonia chinensis*  
*Pritchardia Seén & H. Wendl.*  
*Thrinax* Linn.  
*Raphis* sp.

**Araceae :**

*Pothos scandens* Linn.

**Lemnaceae :**

*Lemna polyrrhiza* Linn.  
*Wolffia arrhiza* Wimm.

**Cyperaceae :**

*Cyperus distans* L. f.  
*C. rotundus* Linn.  
*Meriscus cyperinus* Vahl.  
*Fimbristylis ferruginea* Vahl.  
*Bulbostylis barbata* Kunth.

**Gramineae :**

*Spinifex littoreus* Merr.  
*Saccharum spontaneum* Linn.  
*Heteropogon contortus* Beauv.  
*Manisuris myurus* Linn.  
*Digitaria marginata* Link.  
*Alloteropsis cimicina* Stapf.  
*Eriochloa procera* C. E. Hubb.  
*Brachiaria ramosa* Stapf.  
*Paspalum scrobiculatum* Linn.  
*Panicum repens* Linn.  
*Aristida depressa* Retz.  
*Trachys muricata* Steud.  
*Tragus biflorus* Schult.  
*Perotis indica* O. Ktz.  
*Desmostachya bipinnata* Stapf.  
*Eragrostis plumosa* Link.  
*Cynodon dactylon* Pers.  
*Chloris barbata* Sw.  
*Dactyloctenium aegyptium* Beauv.  
*Bambosa arundinacea* Willd.

**Acknowledgment:** The author wishes to place on record an expression of his deep sense of gratitude to Prof. P. S. Jivanna Rao, M. A., for his help in the preparation of this article, besides leaving at author's disposal his notes on the flora of Adyar. The author is thankful to the President of the Theosophical Society for according permission to the author to visit the Adyar gardens frequently and publish the above account.

**REFERENCES.**

- |                    |           |  |
|--------------------|-----------|--|
| Hooker J. D.       | 1895      | Flora of British India.  |
| Gamble J. S.       | 1914—1930 | Flora of the Presidency of Madras.                                   |
| Mayuranathan P. V. | 1920      | The Flowering plants of Madras City and its immediate neighbourhood. |