

CHAPTER 3

Overview on nativity, diversity and uses of invasive alien plant species in Odisha, India

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ABSTRACT

Invasive plants create lots of ecological problems. Therefore a floristic survey was carried out in selected regions of Odisha state. The results revealed that 209 invasive alien species are enumerated belonging to 162 genera and 62 families. It was noted that most of species have medicinal values and belong to Asteraceae family. Their growth rate was observed and found spreading very fast which could be harmful for native plant species. The present paper highlights the invasive alien species of the state.

Keywords: Asteraceae, Diversity, ecology, Invasive alien plant species

3.1 INTRODUCTION

In the daily routine, humans depend upon the plants for their needs and fulfil their needs of humans, they introduced plants intentionally or accidentally from one region to another new region which alienated them (Mallick *et al.* 2019) . These initiated plant species are known to be as alien plant species. The human who accidentally or intentionally introduced the plants by relocation from their natural habitat to another new habitat and their localities, known as alien, introduced and exotic originated from foreign or normative species (Reddy *et al.* 2008; Sharma *et al.* 2005). Preston and Williams stated that “IAPs are grown such a way that they enhance more treacherous to sustainable development” (Preston and Williams 2003). Invasive Alien Species are the foreign organisms that have been introduced by humans intentionally for social and personal gain and accidentally from one region of the world to other from time immemorial. Biological invasion by alien species is recognized as an important component of anthropogenic biodiversity change in global level, which has a significant impact on economy, species diversity, and change in the invaded ecosystem where it was naturalized (Williamson and Griffiths 1996).