

**A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE STUDY OF WILDLIFE
AGGREGATION ON FIGS, EMPHASISING *FICUS SEMICORDATA*
BUCH. EX J.E. SMITH IN DAMPA TIGER RESERVE,
MIZORAM, INDIA**

SHAMPA SARKAR

Dampa Tiger Reserve which is situated at the western Mizoram of India is located at Indo-Myanmar hotspot in the Lushai hills is one of the remotest Tiger Reserve of the country and immensely rich in floral and faunal biodiversity. Ficus trees are ecologically important and serve as keystone species in the tropical forests as many seed dispersal animal species live and feed on nutritionally rewarding Ficus fruits and Ficus are important in forest restoration. Ficus semicordata Buch. ex J.E. Smith is found in Eastern Himalaya at altitude of 600-2000 mt. Drooping figs and wildlife assemblages of Dampa Tiger Reserve was noted during the study over a period of 9 months by recording direct sighting or evidence of vertebrate fauna which has immense ecological importance.

Keywords: Keystone species, Indo-Myanmar Hotspot, biodiversity, Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram
