Flora and Vegetation along the Coast in Narathiwat

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Abstract

Floristic and vegetation study on the sandbars along the coast of Narathiwat was conducted from October 2001 – March 2003. One hundred and fifty-seven species of plants were recorded. There are one hundred and twelve species of dicotyledonous plant; thirty-two species of monocotyledonous plant and thirteen species of non-flowering plant. Phytosociological classification of the remnants of terrestrial natural vegetation remaining as separated patches on sandbars according to the concept and method of the Zurich – Montpelier School (Braun-Blanquet method) were analyzed. Ten plant communities have been identified i.e. *Remirea maritima*-community, *Ipomoea imperati-Zoysia matrella*-community, *Vigno-Ipomoetum pedis-caprae* (*Canavalia rosea-Ipomea pedis-caprae*-community), *Glehnio-Spinificetum littorei* (*Spinifex littoreus*-community), *Thareio-Viticetum routundifoliae* (*Vitex rotundifolia*-community), *Pandanus ordoratissimus* community, *Morinda eliptica-Pouteria obovata* community, *Memecylon ovatum-Vatica hamandiana* community, *Syzygium gratum-Shorea roxburghii*-community, *Desmos dasymachala-Syzygium grande*-community. Three types of vegetation have been grouped from those ten plant communities i.e. Dune Grassland Vegetation; Dune Scrub Vegetation and Dune Woodland Vegetation. *Syzygium gratum-Shorea roxburghii*-community has been classified as first time in the present study and is a characteristic of coastal sandbars in Narathiwat.

The short descriptions of plant species collected during the study period as well as the references of each name, list of plant names, table of plant species found in each site studied, together with plates of photographs of most species found had been achieved. The profiles of actual and original vegetation across the sandbars along the coast are proposed.