

MAJOR TREE SPECIES IN URBAN AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Ahmedabad is situated on bank of Sabarmati river in state of Gujarat India having longitude 23° 1' N, 72° 41' E. Ahmedabad is largest city of Gujarat state and connected by air, rail and road to rest of the country. Ahmedabad city has an area of 464 square kms and population of 5,570,585: urban/metropolitan population would be 6,352,254 (Census 2011). Current records represent total 6.18 lac trees in all 6 zones of Ahmedabad wherein highest no. of trees was recorded in south zone and the lowest no. of trees in central zone. Out of about 410 tree species in Gujarat state, over 200 tree species are present in urban Ahmedabad. With an intention to study major tree species of urban Ahmedabad, we have visited various zone/wards of urban Ahmedabad and found that main three tree species in order of their population are Neem (*Azadirachta indica* A.Juss), *Asopalav* (*Pollyalthia longifolia* (Sonn) Thw.) and *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) planch

Keywords: Ahmedabad, Tree density, Gujarat

INTRODUCTION

It is quite important to learn balance of natural assets as it impact on everyone's lives. We have made an effort to learn balance of tree density of urban Ahmedabad. Every growth has it's own story, pros and cons and Ahmedabad city to 7th metropolitan city of India has it's own story. It has been learned that tree density affect life of inhabitant in one or other way but a balance planning can avoid some bad effects.

METHODOLOGY

We have divided Ahmedabad in to 6 zones namely East, West, South, North, New West and Central. We further divided each zones in to different wards for easiness of visiting and recording. We have as well visited Government records on tree density from Forest Department of Gujarat state. Then tree species were arranged in a table in accordance with density of species.

RESULT

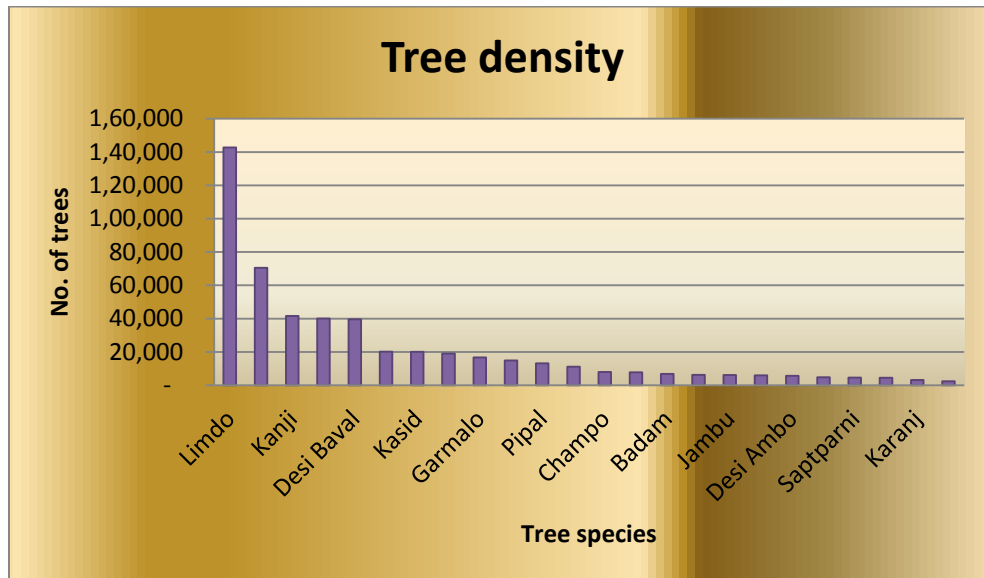
We have summarized tree density in Table-A and tree species were identified as per Flora of Bombay Presidency and G.L. Shah.

Table 1. Tress density of urban Ahmedabad

Tree species of urban Ahmedabad			
Botanical name	Family	Vernacular name	Total no. of trees
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss	Meliaceae	Limdo	142,768
<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> (Sonn.) Thw. var pendula	Annonaceae	Asopalav	70,550
<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i> (Roxb.) planch	Urticaceae	Kanji	41,590
<i>Delonix regia</i> (Bojer. ex Hook) Rafm.	Caesalpiniaceae	Gulmohar	40,064
<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Willd ex Delile ssp. indica (Benth.) Brenan	Mimosaceae	Desi Baval	39,540
<i>Ficus religiosa</i> L.	Moraceae	Piplo	20,177
<i>Cassia siamea</i> Lamk.	Caesalpiniaceae	Kasid	20,044
<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i> D.	Caesalpiniaceae	Peltoform	18,985
<i>Cassia fistula</i> L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Garmalo	16,701
<i>Leucaena latisiliqua</i> (L.) Gillis	Mimosaceae	Subaval	14,882
<i>Ficus amplissima</i> J. E. Sm.	Moraceae	Pipal	13,183
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i> L.	Moraceae	Vad	11,140
<i>Plumeria rubra</i> L.	Apocynaceae	Champo	8,034
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i> (Swartz.) DC.	Mimosaceae	Gando Baval	7,811
<i>Terminalia catappa</i> L.	Combretaceae	Badam	6,814
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lamk.	Moringinaceae	Saragavo	6,272
<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels.	Myrtaceae	Jambu	6,115
<i>Mimusops elengi</i> L.	Sapotaceae	Borsali	6,011
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L	Anacardiaceae	Desi Ambo	5,687
<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i> Roxb.	Simaroubaceae	Arduso	4,786
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (L.) R. Br.	Apocynaceae	Saptarni	4,601
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Labill.	Myrtaceae	Nilgiri	4,545
<i>Derris indica</i> (Lam.) Bennet (<i>Syn :Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre)	Papillionaceae	Karanj	3,140
<i>Cordia dichotoma</i> Forster.	Ehretiaceae	Gunda	2,414
Others	Others	Others	102,194
Total :			618,048

CONCLUSION

Ahmedabad is having total @6.18 lac trees with 20 major tree species. Three major species, namely *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss (limdo), *Polyalthia longifolia* (Sonn.) Thw. var pendula (Asopalav) and *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) planch (Kanji) are having highest density.



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3. Data from Garden department, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.