

The Impact of Flood in the Diversity of Myxomycetes in Vadayar Village, Kottayam District, Kerala

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The Myxomycetes or plasmodial slime molds, are a group of ameboid protists with fungus-like fruiting bodies and are commonly found in moist and humid environment. About 900 species are known worldwide and 373 species are found in India. The present study investigates the impact of flood in the species diversity of myxomycetes in Vadayar Village, Kottayam District, Kerala. The study was conducted between June, 2017 and December, 2018. During this period, about 16 species of myxomycetes has been collected and identified from this

flood affected area. Species composition was found to be entirely different before and after the flood. The myxomycetes species with smooth spore surface and hydrophilic property were dominated before flood, while the species with reticulate spore surface and hydrophobic property were dominated after flood.

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