

# A Floristic Study of Aquatic and Wetland Plants of Lal Nalla Dam of Samadrapur Tehsil, District Wardha, Maharashtra

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**Abstract:** *The floristic diversity study was carried out at Lal Nalla Dam. It was constructed on the Lal Nalla River, the nearest city to the dam is Samudrapur in Wardha District of Maharashtra. Extensive and repeated field surveys were carried out from January 2020 to December 2021 in the study area, covering all the seasons of the year to document the species richness of the wetland. The three sites were selected from where a comprehensive list of aquatic and wetland plants occurring in the study areas prepared. During field surveys, emphasis was given to document the type of vegetation, growth form, and associated species. Morphological characters were recorded based on fresh material in the field. The open water zone of the lake has less growth of submerged and free-floating plants. The Marginal shallow zone with a depth of 30-40 cm is inhibited by the floating-leaved-like and emergent plants. In the study area total of 41 species were investigated from three major habitats as open-water zone, marginal shallow zone, and seasonal puddles were studied and according to the sites, the growth form like one floating-leaved, five submerged plants, twenty-nine emergent, and six other plants was identified belonging to 22 different families in which Cyperaceae was a dominant family with 6 species. The study area shows species diversity but because of seasonal water level change and grazing by domestic livestock the disturbance is seen in vegetation.*

**Keywords:** Floristic diversity, Lal Nalla Dam, Wetlands, Emergent plants