

THE DISTRIBUTION AND THE SPECIES COMPOSITION OF THE
PRESENT MANGROVE VEGETATION AROUND CHILAW LAGOON

P.M.A. Jayasuriya
National Aquatic Resources Agency, Colombo 15.

The distribution pattern, species composition, zonation and the abundance of the mangrove communities around Chilaw lagoon were studied. 12 typical mangrove species and 16 mangrove associated species were listed.

Quadrat sampling analysis shows that most of the western part of the lagoon is dominated by Excoecaria agalloca and Aegiceras corniculatum. Line transect analysis shows a prominent border of Rhizophora apiculata near the shore around most part of the lagoon. Some rare mangrove species such as Xylocarpus granatum is common in the islands of Chilaw lagoon.

Mangrove area has been reduced due to the new developments and expansion for aquaculture.

Reference :

Pinto, M.L. (1982) Distribution and zonation of mangroves in the northern part of the Negombo lagoon Sri Lanka. J.Nati.Sci. Coun. Sri Lanka 10(2):245-255

11th Dec. 1987 (Friday) 02.45 p.m. - 03.00 p.m.