



BARK MORPHOLOGY AS A TOOL TO IDENTIFY THE TREES

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ABSTRACT

In the present study, 35 trees inside the Shrimathi Devkunvar Nanalal Bhatt Vaishnav college campus were studied for their bark morphological characters. The studies reveals that 31 trees have rough bark surface and 4 have smooth bark surface. Twenty four trees showed black coloured bark, 6 brown, one pale white, one sandal and 3 have green colour bark. The fissuring type showed 21 have fissured type of bark, and 10 have non- fissured type of bark. After exfoliation of the bark twenty-three trees had thick chunks and twelve had thin flakes. After exfoliation, twenty seven trees showed brown coloured bark, five pale white in colour, one black, one orange and one pale green in colour. The texture of the bark is fibrous in 26 trees and in 9 trees it is granular. The minimum thickness of the bark is 0.1cm and the maximum is 1cm. A dichotomous key is provided to identify the plants using bark characters. This study shows that bark morphology plays a key role in the identification of the trees.

KEY WORDS: *Bark, Vaishnav College, chunks, dichotomous key, exfoliation, fissures, flakes*

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