

**Research Article**

## **Avifaunal diversity in the tropical thorn forest of Kiluvamalai, Madurai district, Tamil Nadu, India**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Birds are good indicators of the state of our biodiversity since they are high up in the food chain. Avifauna density and diversity are affected by seasonal and climatic variations. Land use changes are one of the most important threats to biodiversity, yet data scarcity makes quantifying their ecological impact challenging in many regions of the world. A variety of bush birds and raptors live in the thorny shrub woodlands. From June 2014 to May 2015, researchers investigated the variety and status of avifauna in the Kiluvamalai Reserve Forest, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, India. The study area's avian variety was observed using the line transect method. The Shannon Wiener index was used to calculate the species richness. The data analysis included 30 species from eight orders and 22 families. During the monsoon months, the avian diversity was at its highest, while during the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon months, it was at its lowest. Passeriformes dominated with 19 species of overall avifaunal species richness, according to the findings. The current study will serve as a foundation for future studies on the management and conservation of bird species in thorny forest area.

**Key words:** Avian diversity, Kiluvamalai, Line transect method, Species richness, monsoon season, Thorny Forest

