

609. Agrawal, S.C., Madan, U.S., Chinnamani, S. and Rege, N.D. 1961. Ecological studies in the Nilgiris. *Indian For.*, 87(6):376-389.

The paper gives an account of various ecological studies taken up in the Nilgiris with a view to determine the trends of succession under prevailing conditions and possible introduction of secondary succession as an effective means of soil conservation. The studies so far carried out have given some very interesting information. When *shola* forests are cleared, herbs like bracken and *Hypericum mysoranse* come up alongwith members of compositae and Leguminosae. If the area has been infested with *Cytisus scoparius*, *Symplocos spicata* is seen to be the first tree species to appear in some places, *Rhododendron nilagirica* comes first in the grasslands. Amongst the grasses, the first to appear are *Eragrostis* spp., *Setaria glauca*, *Digitaria* spp., *Bothriochloa pertusa* followed by either *Chrysopogon zeylanicum* or *Pennisetum clandestinum*. Both of these are subsequently replaced by *Arundinella* or *Themeda* spp. This replacement of *P.clandestinum* may prove to be very useful with the help of *Arundinella* spp.