

Wildlife

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0303-280. Gokhale MV, Chavan NS (Dept Bot, Shivaji Univ, Kolhapur 416004, MS). **Degradation of mangrove habitat of Achara – a need of rescuing.** *Eco Env conserv*, **9**(1)(2003), 15-23 [20 Ref].

Achara estuary is located in Sindhudurga District of Maharashtra inhabited by some critically endangered mangrove species. These species require rescuing of habitat to flourish. In the present work the altered geomorphological features have been identified to know the overall habitat status.

0303-281. Jeyasingh Punidan D, Davidar Priya (Dept Zoo, Univ Oklahoma, 730, Van Vleet Oval, Room No.314, Norman, OK 73019-0235, USA). **Crop predation by wildlife along the eastern boundary of the Kalakad – Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Southern India.** *J Bombay Natural Hist Soc*, **100**(1)(2003), 38-45 [18 Ref].

Crop raiding patterns by wildlife at ten villages along the eastern boundary of the Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR), southern India were studied. The Indian wild pig (*Sus scrofa cristatus*) was identified as the major crop pest in this area and the crop loss caused by it was quantified. The electric fence was not effective in preventing crop raiding by the wild pig.

0303-282. Johnsingh AJT, Negi AS (Wildlife Inst India, PB18, Chandrabani, Dehra Dun 248001). **Status of tiger and leopard in Rajaji – Corbett Conservation Unit, northern India.** *Biol Conserv*, **111**(3)(2003), 385-393 [29 Ref].

Paper evaluates the status of tiger and leopard in Rajaji-Corbett Tiger Conservation Unit by counting the number of different pug marks on 3-5 km transect walks along 52 dry stream beds ('raus'). Owing to increasing biotic pressures, the tiger has become rare in Rajaji-Corbett corridor and has become extinct in four divisions. There is a growing threat of further degradation and fragmentation of its habitat. To implement a recovery programme, paper suggests several management measures.