



Invasive Plants as Nectar Sources for Butterflies

Researchers in **Assam** have found that invasive plant species such as **Lantana camara** and **Chromolaena odorata** serve as important nectar sources for butterflies in **Raimona National Park**. The finding emerged from a study documenting **220 butterfly species**, along with their larval host plants and nectar plants, in the **Bodoland Territorial Region**.

Although **Lantana camara** and **Chromolaena odorata** are among the world's most aggressive invasive plant species and are known to harm native vegetation and ecosystem functioning, the study highlights their ecological role in supporting butterfly populations. The findings underscore the need for balanced conservation strategies that protect biodiversity while effectively managing invasive species.

APSC Relevance: Environment; Biodiversity.