



# Aquatic and marsh plants from the Recôncavo basin of Bahia state, Brazil: checklist and life forms

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**Abstract:** Aquatic and marsh plants are those that have the capacity to withstand a continuous or periodic submersion in water, at least of their roots. Such plants are thus able to occupy environments that are at least periodically waterlogged. The knowledge about this plant group is still rather incomplete for various parts of Brazil including the Northeast. The present study was conducted in Bahia state, through collections in 20 municipalities within the Recôncavo basin between 2009 and 2015. All species were classified across six life forms. We report 316 species in 206 genera and 71 families, including 11 fern species, with helophytes and emergent being the commonest ones. Collection efforts in aquatic environments in the Recôncavo region added nine families of angiosperms to those already reported in previous studies of such plants in Northeastern Brazil. The region presents a wide variety of aquatic and marsh plants and the respective habitats play an important role in the conservation/maintenance of biodiversity and especially of water bodies in Eastern Bahia.

**Key words:** wetland flora; Cyperaceae; helophytes

## INTRODUCTION

Aquatic and marsh plants are those that have the capacity to withstand a continuous or periodic submersion in water, at least of their roots. Such plants are thus able to occupy environments that are at least periodically waterlogged (Amaral et al. 2008). This is a rather broad concept where even the terms “aquatic” and “marsh” are not strictly defined, and where

intermediate conditions are always present. Aquatic plants are also referred to as macrophytes, though there is much disagreement on the use of this term (Cook 1990; Ferreira et al. 2014).

The term “aquatic macrophytes” was first used by Weaver and Clements (1938), who defined them as herbaceous plants growing in water, on waterlogged land, or even in water-saturated soils. Raunkiaer (1934) called water-submerged plants, or those with floating leaves, hydrophytes. Iversen (1936) proposed the term “limnophytes” to describe exclusively higher freshwater plants. Cook et al. (1974) and Cook (1985) used the term “aquatic macrophytes” for all plants whose active photosynthetic parts are permanently, or periodically, submerged or floating on water and which are visible to the naked eye.

In our study, we use the term macrophytes for superior aquatic and marsh plants that spend all or part of their life cycle in water or in a periodically flooded substrate, and that are usually found in ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, on their margins, or nearby.

Because of the wide variation in the distribution of plants in an aquatic environment, several authors have also classified them according to their life forms or habit. On the basis of their position in relation to the water surface and degree of adaptation to the environment they may be divided into free-floating, fixed-floating, free-submerged, fixed-submerged, emergent, or helophytes (Cook 1990). Plants of these groups are distributed along the margins of the waterways in an organized manner, forming division zones from the margins of the body of water to its interior, from the emergent plants to the fixed-submerged ones (Cook 1990; Ferreira et al. 2014).

Brazil has the largest hydrographic network in the world, with the aquatic ecosystems of its rivers and lakes (permanent or temporary) often showing unique characteristics and considerable endemism (Bove et al. 2003). In order to guarantee their preservation as well as improve their management, the study of plants in such environments should be considered of primary importance (Amaral et al. 2008).

Floristic approach has been prevalent in the surveys of aquatic plants in Brazil (Ferreira et al. 2014), carried out for the most part in reservoirs (Pompeo and Moschini-Carlos 2003) of the Southeast, Midwest and Northeast (França et al. 2003; Neves et al. 2006; Amaral et al. 2008, Pivari et al. 2008; Cervi et al. 2009; Pivari et al. 2011; Kufner et al. 2011; Lima et al. 2011; Meyer and Franceschinelli 2011; Valadares et al. 2011; Araújo et al. 2012). These studies demonstrate taxonomic diversity of aquatic plants as well as different methods of morphological adaptation to the aquatic environment (Esteves 1998; Alves et al. 2011.). However, there are large areas of the Brazilian Northeast that still lack basic information such as species lists of aquatic plants (Moura-Jr. et al. 2013) and data sets on their ecology.

The objective of our study was to provide a floristic survey of the freshwater environments of the Recôncavo basin of Bahia, Northeastern Brazil. Such habitats of this region of Bahia are floristically poorly studied and we consider this contribution as a start for further studies of aquatic environments of the coastal regions of the state.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Study area

The Recôncavo basin of Bahia comprises an area of 11,200 km<sup>2</sup> and encompasses 20 municipalities (Cabaceiras do Paraguaçu, Cachoeira, Castro Alves, Conceição do Almeida, Cruz das Almas, Dom Mamede Costa, Governador Mangabeira, Maragogipe, Muniz Ferreira, Muritiba, Nazaré, Santo Amaro, Santo Antônio de Jesus, São Felipe, São Félix, São Francisco do Conde, São Sebastião do Passe, Sapeaçu, Saubara, and Varzedo) (SEI 2015). It is part of the Atlantic Forest Phytogeographic Domain, being bordered in the west by the Caatinga Domain. Its soil is commonly known as “massapê baiano”, being relatively fertile. The climate is quite varied due to the differences in relief, with coastal areas reaching annual mean temperatures of about 23°C, and the total amount of rainfall exceeding 1,500 mm. Annual mean temperatures inland vary from 18°C in the higher-lying areas and 22°C in lower areas, with an annual rainfall of 1,000 mm (SEI 2015).

**Floristic inventory:** the inventory was performed during periodic visits to the lotic and lentic aquatic environments in 16 of the 20 municipalities in the Recôncavo basin (Figure 1) from 2009 to 2015 through

the rainy and dry seasons.

All collected plant materials were prepared in accordance with the methodology proposed by Mori et al. (1985) and a voucher for each species was deposited at the Herbário do Recôncavo da Bahia (HURB, abbreviation according to Thiers 2015). Plant family classification is that of the APG III (2009) and species nomenclature is that found in the Plant List of Brazil (Lista de Espécies da Flora do Brasil 2015).

Ecological groups were determined according to Cook (1990), using the following categories: helophytes, fixed-floating, free-floating, emergent, epiphytes, fixed-submerged, and free-submerged. Lorenzi (2008) and Moreira and Bragança (2011) were used to recognize the ruderal species.

Taxa identifications were made using specific literature, specimens studies at HURB and HUEFS herbaria (Herbarium of the State University of Feira de Santana, Bahia), and by sending duplicates to plant experts for determination. Photographic records have been taken for all collected species. They will eventually be used in the construction of a multiple-access interactive key for aquatic and marsh plants of the Recôncavo basin in Bahia (<http://www2.ufrb.edu.br/chave-plant-aq/>).

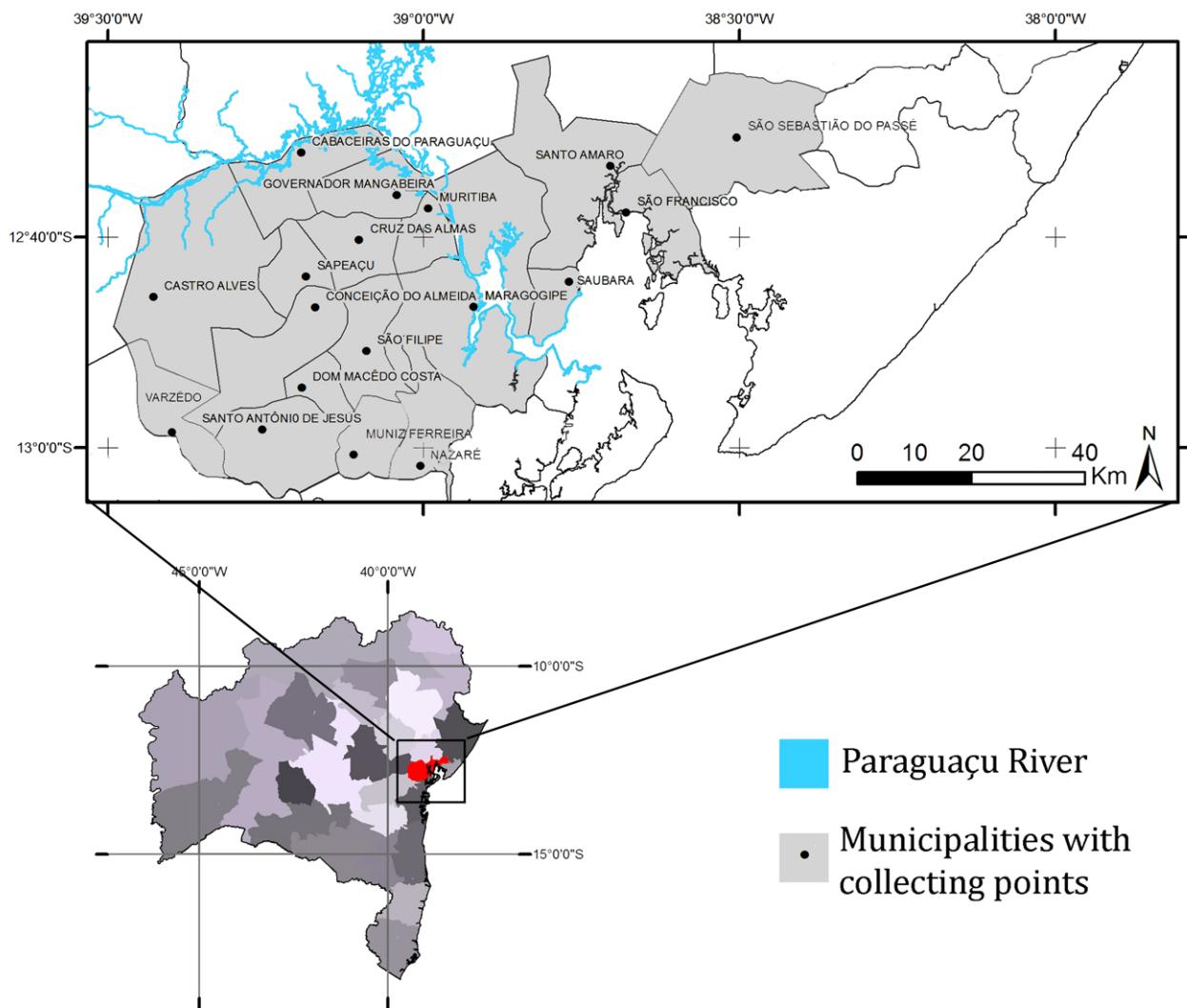
## RESULTS

Floristic composition: a total of 316 plant species, distributed in 206 genera of 71 families have been collected (Table 1), with 11 species of ferns and lycophytes, distributed in eight genera and six families. *Anemia* and *Salvinia* are represented by three and two species, respectively.

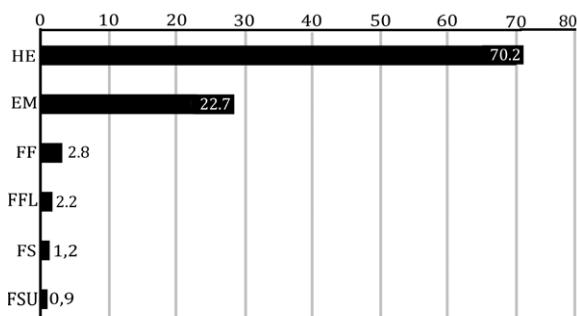
Angiosperms are represented by 305 species, in 198 genera and 64 families. Cyperaceae was the most diverse family (39 species), followed by Poaceae (29), Fabaceae (25) and Asteraceae (22). About 80% of angiosperm families had less than five species in the studied environments. The most diverse genera with the highest number of species were *Eleocharis* (12 species) and *Cyperus* (9). About 33%, or 99 of the 295 collected species, were ruderal plants.

The predominant life form was helophyte, with 68.7% of the species, followed by emergent (24%), with the rest of life forms representing less than 3% (Figure 2). Among the helophyte plants the most representative families were Fabaceae (22 species), Asteraceae (18), and Cyperaceae (16), while the most representative genera were *Cuphea* (five species), *Cyperus* (four), and *Ludwigia* (four).

Among the emergent plants Cyperaceae (26 species) and Poaceae (6) were the dominant families, with *Eleocharis* (10 species) and *Cyperus* (7) the most diverse genera. Among the fixed-floating plants, Nymphaeaceae was predominant, with four species of *Nymphaea*. The best represented families of the free-floating plants were Salviniaceae (three



**Figure 1.** Map of the Recôncavo basin of Bahia. Sampled municipalities are indicated.



**Figure 2.** Percentages of life forms of the aquatic species occurring in the Recôncavo basin of Bahia. HE = helophytes; EM = emergent; FF = free floating; FS = free submerged; FFL = fixed floating; and FSU = fixed-submerged.

species) and Araceae (two). In the fixed-submerged category, Hydrocharitaceae was the most important family, with two species, whereas Lentibulariaceae was dominant in the free-submerged category, with two species of *Utricularia*. Among collected plants, *Najas conferta* was the only species with submerged flowers.

Examples of collecting locations and of some of the collected species are illustrated in Figure 3.

## DISCUSSION

The aquatic flora of the Recôncavo basin of Bahia is characterized by its high species richness representing about 50% of the 500–600 species estimated for the aquatic environments in Brazil (Agostinho et al. 2005). The present work showed values higher than those recorded both in spot inventories, with 28 to 125 species (França et al. 2003; Neves et al. 2006; Pivari et al. 2008; Kufner et al. 2011; Lima et al. 2011; Valadares et al. 2011; Araújo et al. 2012), and in inventories of larger geographic areas, with a species richness of 70–184 (Cervi et al. 2009; Pivari et al. 2011; Meyer and Franceschinelli 2011).

These results indicate that the region is of fundamental importance for the understanding of ecological processes associated with the aquatic environment, since there is a direct relationship between species richness and its ecosystem functionality (Maestre et al. 2012).

Despite the high degree of species richness, both at species and family levels, the Recôncavo basin of Bahia shows that Cyperaceae is the predominant family (39 spp.), with Poaceae (29 spp.), Fabaceae (25 spp.), and Asteraceae (21 spp.) also prominently represented. The predominance of these families was also observed in several studies involving aquatic plants (França et al. 2003; Neves et al. 2006; Pivari et al. 2008; Cervi et al. 2009; Pivari et al. 2011; Kufner et al. 2011; Lima et al. 2011; Meyer and Franceschinelli 2011; Valadares et al. 2011; Araújo et al. 2012).

In the generic level, species richness varies among the reviewed studies. Apart from the common generic predominance of Cyperaceae (*Cyperus*, *Eleocharis*, and *Rhynchospora*) (França et al. 2003; Cervi et al. 2009; Lima et al. 2011; Meyer and Franceschinelli 2011; Valadares et al. 2011), several studies showed an elevated species richness of *Ludwigia* (Onagraceae) (Neves et al. 2006; Pivari et al. 2008; Pivari et al. 2011; Araújo et al. 2012), *Baccharis* (Asteraceae) (Kufner et al. 2011), and *Utricularia* (Lentibulariaceae) (Moreira et al. 2011).

With the increased collection of aquatic and marsh plants in the Recôncavo basin of Bahia, several important records were made, such as the first records for Bahia state of *Enydra anagallis* Gardner (Asteraceae), *Oxypetalum tubatum* Malme (Apocynaceae), *Caperonia palustris* (L.) A.St.-Hil. (Euphorbiaceae), *Lindernia crustacea* (L.) F.Muell. (Liderniaceae), *Peltaea obsita* (Colla) Krapov. & Cristóbal (Malvaceae), *Ludwigia peploides* (Kunth) P.H.Raven (Onagraceae), *Diodia macrophylla* K.Schum. (Rubiaceae); a re-collection of *Mecardonia procubens* (Plantaginaceae); a new species of *Eleocharis* (Cyperaceae); and an expansion of the distribution range for *Heteranthera rotundifolia*, previously associated with the semi-arid areas of Bahia (Sousa and Giulietti 2014). These findings confirm the

view that regular collections over longer period of time (2009-2015) will provide new data about the distribution of various species of higher plants in many parts of Brazil. Obviously, sound biogeographical analyses depend on reliable data about the occurrence of species.

The importance of these collection efforts is evident in the number of new families (nine) that were added to the 72 of aquatic plants previously recorded for Northeastern Brazil and presented in Moura-Júnior et al. (2013). These are: Anemiaceae, Amaryllidaceae, Heloniaceae, Hypoxidaceae, Iridaceae, Piperaceae, Polygalaceae, Sapindaceae and Vitaceae.

The noticeable presence of ruderal species is probably due to the fact that many aquatic environments were found within livestock raising areas, strongly associated with pasture grasses. Their presence in the aquatic environments is an indicative of irreversible processes of the beginning/intensification of alteration of the original native flora (Kufner et al. 2011). Species richness of Cyperaceae in aquatic environments in the Recôncavo basin of Bahia is another indicator of the anthropogenic influence on the native flora composition (Pivari et al. 2008, Bryson and Carter 2008). The study area is also characterized by the predominance of helophytic species. Helophytes and emergent species, occurring in intermediate environments, are not influenced by alterations in the physical and chemical properties of water (Meyer and Franceschinelli 2011). This may justify their greater presence, since seasonal changes in the aquatic environments do not interfere with their establishment.

In addition to expanding our knowledge of the floristic composition of the aquatic environments in the Recôncavo basin of Bahia, our study will also facilitate a long-term monitoring of aquatic environments and help

**Table 1.** List of the aquatic and marsh plants and their life forms (LF) for the Recôncavo basin of Bahia. HE = helophytes; EM = emergent; FF = free floating; FS = free submerged; FFL = fixed floating; and FSU = fixed-submerged. \* ruderal species. ■ woody or subshrubby species.

Family/Species	LF	Voucher (HURB)
<b>Anemiaceae</b>		
<i>Anemia</i> sp. 1	EM	2588
<i>Anemia</i> sp. 2	EM	6644
<i>Anemia</i> sp. 3	EM	7967
<b>Lycopodiaceae</b>		
<i>Lycopodium</i> sp.	HE	8339
<b>Marsileaceae</b>		
<i>Marsilea aenigmatica</i> A.Braun	FFL	1410
<b>Pteridaceae</b>		
<i>Ceratopteris thalictroides</i> (L.) Brongn.	EM	1357
<b>Pteridaceae</b>		
<i>Pityrogramma calomelanos</i> (L.) Link	EM	10174
<b>Salviniaceae</b>		
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i> Lam.	FF	4394
<i>Salvinia auriculata</i> Aubl.*	FF	1344
<i>Salvinia oblongifolia</i> Mart.	FF	1418

Family/Species	LF	Voucher (HURB)
<b>Thelypteridaceae</b>		
<i>Thelypteris interrupta</i> (Willd.) K.Iwats.	EM	1237
<b>Acanthaceae</b>		
<i>Hygrophila costata</i> Nees	HE	1329
<i>Justicia laevinguis</i> (Nees) Lindau	EM	2472
<i>Justicia</i> sp.	EM	4988
<i>Nelsonia canescens</i> (Lam.) Spreng.	HE	1322
<i>Ruellia bahiensis</i> (Nees) Morong*	HE	2920
<i>Ruellia paniculata</i> L.	HE	1323
<b>Alismataceae</b>		
<i>Echinodorus macrophyllus</i> (Kunth) Micheli	EM	1502
<i>Echinodorus palaefolius</i> (Nees & Mart.) J.F. Macbr.	EM	3912
<i>Hydrocleys martii</i> Seub.	EM	2340
<i>Hydrocleys nymphoides</i> (Willd.) Buchenau	FFL	4996
<b>Amaranthaceae</b>		
<i>Alternanthera brasiliiana</i> (L.) Kuntze var. <i>villosa</i> (Moq.) Kuntze	HE	1576

*Continued*

**Table 1.** Continued.

<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>	<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i> (Mart.) Griseb.*	HE	3957	<b>Commelinaceae</b>		
<i>Alternanthera tenella</i> Colla*	HE	991	<i>Callisia filiformis</i> (M.Martens & Galeotti) D.R.Hunt	HE	435
<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.*	HE	4202	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L.*	HE	2955
<i>Gomphrena celosioides</i> Mart.*	HE	6589	<i>Commelina diffusa</i> Burm.f.*	HE	1349
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>			<i>Commelina obliqua</i> Vahl*	HE	3924
<i>Hymenocallis caribaea</i> (L.) Herb.	HE	4419	<i>Tinantia sprucei</i> C.B.Clarke	HE	4145
<i>Hymenocallis littoralis</i> (Jacq.) Salisb.	HE	4418	<b>Convolvulaceae</b>		
<b>Apiaceae</b>			<i>Evolvulus glomeratus</i> Nees & Mart.	HE	2476
<i>Eryngium</i> sp.	EM	1355	<i>Ipomoea asarifolia</i> (Desr.) Roem. & Schult.*	HE	4197
<i>Pimpinella anisum</i> L.	HE	430	<i>Ipomoea</i> sp.	HE	6613
<b>Apocynaceae</b>			<b>Cucurbitaceae</b>		
<i>Oxypetalum tubatum</i> Malme	EM	1496	<i>Melothria pendula</i> L.	HE	10411
<b>Araceae</b>			<b>Cyperaceae</b>		
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i> L.*	FF	2583	<i>Bulbostylis</i> sp.	HE	3930
<i>Lemna minuta</i> L.	FF	2573	<i>Cyperus articulatus</i> L.	EM	2734
<i>Montrichardia linifera</i> (Arruda) Schott	EM	10183	<i>Cyperus haspan</i> L.	HE/EM	2698
<b>Araliaceae</b>			<i>Cyperus hermaphroditus</i> (Jacq.) Standl.*	HE/EM	3474
<i>Hydrocotyle leucocephala</i> Cham. & Schltdl.	EM	4143	<i>Cyperus iria</i> L.*	EM	4159
<i>Hydrocotyle bonariensis</i> Lam.	EM	10032	<i>Cyperus ligularis</i> L.	EM	3940
<b>Asteraceae</b>			<i>Cyperus luzulae</i> (L) Retz.*	HE	4386
<i>Acmella paniculata</i> (Wall. ex DC.) R.K.Jansen	HE	1020	<i>Cyperus ochraceus</i> Vahl	HE	2695
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> L.*	HE	2010	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L.*	EM	2977
<i>Barrosoa betonicaeformis</i> (DC.) R.M.King & H.Rob.	EM	1489	<i>Cyperus surinamensis</i> Rottb.*	HE/EM	1440
<i>Blanchetia heterotricha</i> DC.	HE	1008	<i>Eleocharis acutangula</i> (Roxb.) Schult.*	EM	4389
<i>Centratherum punctatum</i> Cass.*	HE	1017	<i>Eleocharis atropurpurea</i> (Retz.) J.Presl & C.Presl	HE	1474
<i>Eclipta prostrata</i> (L.) L.*	HE	1549	<i>Eleocharis elegans</i> (Kunth) Roem. & Schult.*	EM	6591
<i>Emilia fosbergii</i> Nicolson*	EM	4153	<i>Eleocharis filiculmis</i> Kunth	HE/EM	1454
<i>Emilia sonchifolia</i> (L.) DC. ex Wight	HE	10849	<i>Eleocharis geniculata</i> (L.) Roem. & Schult.	EM	4161
<i>Enydra anagallis</i> Gardner	HE	4126	<i>Eleocharis interstincta</i> (Vahl) Roem. & Schult.*	EM	2585
<i>Erechtites hieracifolius</i> (L.) Raf. ex DC.*	HE	4117	<i>Eleocharis minima</i> Kunth	EM	1459
<i>Galinsoga parviflora</i> Cav.	HE	3942	<i>Eleocharis mutata</i> (L.) Roem. & Schult.	EM	3945
<i>Gamochaeta coarctata</i> (Willd.) Kerguélen*	HE	4121	<i>Eleocharis nudipes</i> (Kunth) Palla	EM	2464
<i>Melanthera latifolia</i> (Gardner) Cabrera	HE	4124	<i>Eleocharis sellowiana</i> Kunth*	HE	8392
<i>Mikania micrantha</i> Kunth	HE	4118	<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.	EM	2721
<i>Platypodanthera melissifolia</i> (DC.) R.M. King & H.Rob.	HE	4152	<i>Eleocharis</i> sp. nov.	HE	1430
<i>Pluchea sagittalis</i> (Lam.) Cabrera*	HE	2339	<i>Fimbristylis autumnalis</i> (L) Roem. & Schult.*	HE/EM	4384
<i>Praxelis pauciflora</i> (Kunth) R.M.King & H.Rob.	HE	1534	<i>Fimbristylis complanata</i> (Retz.) Link	HE	1449
<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i> (L.) Pruski*	HE	1015	<i>Fimbristylis cymosa</i> R.Br.	HE	4390
<i>Vernonanthera brasiliiana</i> (L.) H.Rob.	HE	1346	<i>Fuirena umbellata</i> Rottb.*	EM	1446
Asteraceae sp. 1	HE	1533	<i>Kyllinga brevifolia</i> Rottb.*	HE	2717
Asteraceae sp. 2	HE	1473	<i>Kyllinga vaginata</i> Lam.	HE	1481
Asteraceae sp. 4	HE	10248	<i>Oxycaryum cubense</i> (Poepp. & Kunth) Lye	EM	4395
<b>Begoniaceae</b>			<i>Pleurostachys sparsiflora</i> Kunth	HE	3917
<i>Begonia cucullata</i> Willd.*	HE	6657	<i>Pycreus polystachyos</i> (Rottb.) P.Beauv.*	EM	1450
<i>Begonia fischeri</i> Schrank*	HE		<i>Pycreus unioloides</i> (R.Br.) Urb.	HE	2696
<b>Boraginaceae</b>			<i>Rhynchospora gigantea</i> Link	EM	4206
<i>Cordia superba</i> Cham. ■	HE	3467	<i>Rhynchospora holoschoenoides</i> (Rich.) Herter	EM	1569
<i>Heliotropium indicum</i> L.*	HE	2593	<i>Rhynchospora nervosa</i> (Vahl) Boeckeler*	EM	2981
<i>Euploca procumbens</i> (Mill.) Diane & Hilger*	HE	4287	<i>Rhynchospora tenuis</i> Link	EM	2477
<i>Myriopus rubicundus</i> (Salzm. ex DC.) Luebert	HE	4178	<i>Rhynchospora</i> sp.	EM	1493
<i>Varronia curassavica</i> DC.*	HE	6629	<i>Scleria bracteata</i> Cav.	EM	6632
<i>Varronia multispicata</i> (Cham.) Borhidi	HE	10412	<i>Scleria gaertneri</i> Raddi*	HE	1106
<b>Cabombaceae</b>			<b>Eriocaulaceae</b>		
<i>Cabomba furcata</i> Schult. & Schult.f.	FF	1413	<i>Tonina fluviatilis</i> Aubl.	EM	1538
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>			<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>		
<i>Drymaria cordata</i> (L.) Willd. ex Roem. & Schult.*	HE	8977	<i>Acalypha brasiliensis</i> Müll.Arg.	HE	4149
<b>Cleomaceae</b>			<i>Astraea lobata</i> (L.) Klotsch*	HE	3452
<i>Physostemon guianense</i> (Aubl.) Malme	HE	1435	<i>Caperonia palustris</i> (L.) A.St.-Hil.	HE	2592
<i>Tarenaya spinosa</i> (Jacq.) Raf.*	HE	4293	<i>Cnidoscolus</i> sp.	HE	10813
			<i>Croton heliotropiifolius</i> Kunth	HE	1428

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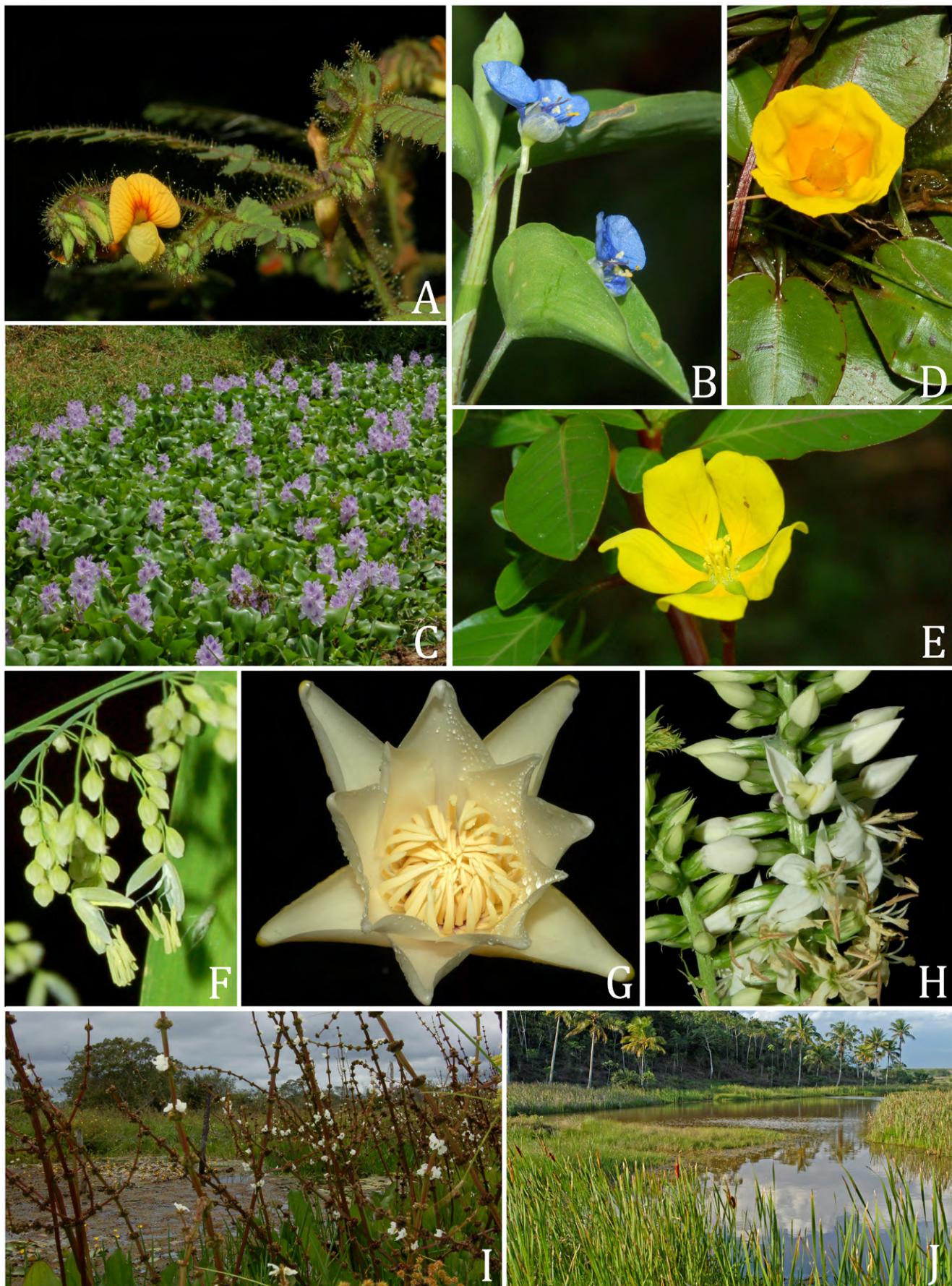
**Table 1.** Continued.

<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>	<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>
<i>Dalechampia coriacea</i> Klotzsch ex Müll.Arg.	HE	4199	<b>Lentibulariaceae</b>		
<i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i> L.*	HE	2936	<i>Utricularia foliosa</i> L.	FS	2006
<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.*	HE	432	<i>Utricularia gibba</i> L.	FS	10860
<i>Euphorbia hyssopifolia</i> L.*	HE	1105	<b>Linderniaceae</b>		
<i>Microstachys corniculata</i> (Vahl) Griseb.	HE	10179	<i>Lindernia crustacea</i> (L.) F.Muell.	HE	6646
<b>Fabaceae</b>			<i>Torenia thouarsii</i> (Cham. & Schldl.) Kuntze	EM	2575
<i>Aeschynomene</i> sp. ■	HE	11030	<b>Loganiaceae</b>		
<i>Aeschynomene filosa</i> Mart. ■	HE	1474	<i>Spigelia anthelmia</i> L.*	HE	1472
<i>Aeschynomene scabra</i> G.Don ■	HE	2490	<b>Lythraceae</b>		
<i>Aeschynomene sensitiva</i> Sw. ■	HE	6539	<i>Ammannia latifolia</i> L.	HE	1348
<i>Calopogonium</i> sp.	HE	7966	<i>Cuphea brachiata</i> Koehne	HE	2470
<i>Chamaecrista nictitans</i> (L.) Moench*	HE	10874	<i>Cuphea pascuorum</i> Koehne	HE	1425
<i>Chamaecrista repens</i> (Vogel) H.S.Irwin & Barneby	EM	2485	<i>Cuphea racemosa</i> (L.f.) Spreng*	HE	2007
<i>Crotalaria retusa</i> L.*	EM	4440	<i>Cuphea strigulosa</i> Kunth	HE	2919
<i>Desmodium adscendens</i> (Sw.) DC.*	HE	3451	<i>Pleurophora anomala</i> (A.St.-Hil.) Koehne	HE	4125
<i>Desmodium barbatum</i> (L.) Benth.	HE	10797	<i>Rotala ramosior</i> (L.) Koehne	HE	4396
<i>Desmodium incanum</i> (Sw.) DC.*	HE	6537	<b>Malvaceae</b>		
<i>Desmodium uncinatum</i> (Jacq.) DC.*	HE	6540	<i>Corchorus argutus</i> Kunth*	HE	2950
<i>Dioclea virgata</i> (Rich.) Amshoff	HE	7207	<i>Malachra</i> sp.	HE	10893
<i>Macroptilium lathyroides</i> (L.) Urb.*	HE	6587	<i>Pavonia</i> sp.	HE	10180
<i>Mimosa pigra</i> L.*	HE	3468	<i>Peltaea obsita</i> (Colla) Krapov. & Cristóbal	HE	10160
<i>Mimosa pudica</i> L.*	HE	1335	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> L.*	HE	4436
<i>Neptunia plena</i> (L.) Benth.*	HE	2465	<i>Sida ulei</i> Ulbr.	HE	6649
<i>Rhynchosia minima</i> (L.) DC.	HE	1100	<i>Sida</i> sp.	HE	1572
<i>Senna obtusifolia</i> (L.) H.S.Irwin & Barneby*	HE	4201	<i>Sidastrum micranthum</i> (A.St.-Hil.) Fryxell*	HE	7199
<i>Stylosanthes gracilis</i> Kunth*	HE	6611	<i>Triumfetta semitriloba</i> Jacq.* ■	HE	10250
<i>Stylosanthes guianensis</i> (Aubl.) Sw.*	HE	2478	<i>Urena lobata</i> L.*	EM	1333
<i>Stylosanthes macrocephala</i> M.B.Ferreira & Sousa Costa	HE	2489	<i>Waltheria</i> sp.	HE	10160
<i>Stylosanthes scabra</i> Vogel	EM	4192	<i>Wissadula amplissima</i> (L.) R.E.Fr.	HE	1107
<i>Vigna luteola</i> (Jacq.) Benth.	HE	10909	<i>Malvaceae</i> sp.	HE	2912
<i>Zornia latifolia</i> Sm.	HE	6538	<b>Marantaceae</b>		
<b>Gentianaceae</b>			<i>Calathea</i> sp.	HE	2895
<i>Coutoubea spicata</i> Aubl.	HE	7000	<b>Mayacaceae</b>		
<i>Schultesia gracilis</i> Mart.	HE	6604	<i>Mayaca fluviatilis</i> Aubl.	EM	8344
<i>Schultesia guianensis</i> (Aubl.) Malme	EM	1495	<i>Mayaca longipes</i> Mart. ex Seub.	FS/FSU	11035
<b>Haloragaceae</b>			<b>Melastomataceae</b>		
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> (Vell.) Verdc.*	FSU	7204	<i>Clidemia hirta</i> D.Don ■	HE	7205
<b>Heliconiaceae</b>			<i>Desmoscelis villosa</i> (Aubl.) Naudin	HE	10169
<i>Heliconia psittacorum</i> L.f.	HE	6636	<i>Leandra</i> sp.	EM	10167
<b>Hydrocharitaceae</b>			<i>Marcetia taxifolia</i> (A.St.-Hil.) DC.	HE	9381
<i>Najas conferta</i> (A.Braun) A.Braun	FF/FS	2908	<i>Pterolepis glomerata</i> (Rottb.) Miq.	HE	10794
<i>Apalanthe granatensis</i> (Bonpl.) Planch.	FSU	6584	<i>Tibouchina lhotzkyana</i> (C.Presl) Cogn.	HE	7206
<i>Egeria densa</i> Planch.*	FSU	4120	<i>Rhynchanthera dichotoma</i> (Desr.) DC.	HE	98
<i>Limnobium laevigatum</i> (Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd.) Heine	FF	10009	<b>Menyanthaceae</b>		
<b>Hydroleaceae</b>			<i>Nymphoides indica</i> (L.) Kuntze*	FFL	7197
<i>Hydrolea spinosa</i> L.*	HE	2344	<b>Molluginaceae</b>		
<b>Hypoxidaceae</b>			<i>Mollugo verticillata</i> L.*	EM	1441
<i>Hypoxis decumbens</i> L.*	HE	2657	<b>Nymphaeaceae</b>		
<b>Iridaceae</b>			<i>Nymphaea cf. amazonum</i> Mart. & Zucc.	FFL	2724
<i>Cipura paludosa</i> Aubl.	HE	10840	<i>Nymphaea lingulata</i> Wiersema	FFL	1443
<i>Trimezia martinicensis</i> (Jacq.) Herb.	HE	6638	<i>Nymphaea pulchella</i> DC.	FFL	1417
<b>Lamiaceae</b>			<i>Nymphaea rudgeana</i> G.Mey	FFL	1464
<i>Hyptis</i> sp. 1	HE	4127	<b>Ochnaceae</b>		
<i>Hyptis</i> sp. 2	HE	3453	<i>Sauvagesia erecta</i> L.	HE	1490
<i>Hyptis</i> sp. 3	HE	1338	<b>Onagraceae</b>		
<i>Leonotis nepetifolia</i> (L.) R.Br.*	HE	1577	<i>Ludwigia erecta</i> (L.) H.Hara	EM	4129
<i>Marsypianthes chamaedrys</i> (Vahl) Kuntze	HE	10850	<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i> (G.Don) Exell	HE	6612
<i>Mesosphaerum pectinatum</i> (L.) Kuntze	HE	6607	<i>Ludwigia leptocarpa</i> (Nutt.) H.Hara*	HE	2906
<i>Raphiodon echinus</i> Schauer*	HE	434	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i> (Kunth) P.H.Raven	HE	3913
<i>Lamiaceae</i> sp.	HE	2660			

*Continued*

**Table 1.** Continued.

<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>		<b>Family/Species</b>	<b>LF</b>	<b>Voucher (HURB)</b>
<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i> (Jacq.) P.H.Raven*	HE	1535		<b>Polygalaceae</b>		
<b>Orchidaceae</b>				<i>Polygala paniculata</i> L.*	HE	1471
<i>Pelexia</i> sp.	HE	10703		<i>Polygala</i> sp.	HE	1544
<b>Orobanchaceae</b>				<b>Polygonaceae</b>		
<i>Melasma melampyroides</i> (Rich.) Pennell	HE	10713		<i>Polygonum ferrugineum</i> Wedd.	HE	10243
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>				<i>Polygonum hispidum</i> Kunth	HE	1437
<i>Oxalis puberula</i> Nees & Mart.	HE	7968		<i>Polygonum punctatum</i> Elliott	EM	7210
<b>Passifloraceae</b>				<b>Pontederiaceae</b>		
<i>Passiflora foetida</i> L.*	HE	10419		<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> (Mart.) Solms	FF/EM	4291
<b>Phyllanthaceae</b>				<i>Eichhornia heterosperma</i> Alexander	EM	10861
<i>Phyllanthus stipulatus</i> (Raf.) G.L.Webster	EM	1478		<i>Eichhornia paniculata</i> (Spreng.) Solms*	EM	4163
<b>Phytolacaceae</b>				<i>Heteranthera multiflora</i> (Griseb.) C.N.Horn	EM	10864
<i>Microtea paniculata</i> Moq.*	HE	2897		<i>Heteranthera peduncularis</i> Benth.	EM	3955
<b>Piperaceae</b>				<i>Heteranthera reniformis</i> Ruiz & Pav.*	EM	2733
<i>Peperomia pellucida</i> (L.) Kunth	HE	2584		<i>Heteranthera rotundifolia</i> (Kunth) Griseb.	EM	10017
<i>Piper caldense</i> C.DC.	HE	3460		<b>Portulacaceae</b>		
<i>Piper</i> sp.■	HE	2927		<i>Portulaca umbraticola</i> Kunt	HE	3941
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>				<i>Talinum paniculatum</i> (Jacq.) Gaertn.*	HE	4443
<i>Achetaria ocyoides</i> (Cham. & Schltl.) Wettst.	HE	1142		<b>Rubiaceae</b>		
<i>Achetaria scutellarioides</i> (Benth.) Wettst.	HE	8349		<i>Borreria ocymifolia</i> (Roem. & Schult.) Bacigalupo & E.L.Cabral	HE	1494
<i>Angelonia salicariifolia</i> Bonpl.	HE	7211		<i>Borreria scabiosoides</i> Cham. & Schltl.	HE	2651
<i>Bacopa gratiolooides</i> (Cham.) Edwall	EM	1547		<i>Borreria verticillata</i> (L.) G.Mey.*	HE	2673
<i>Conobea scoparioides</i> (Cham. & Schltl.) Benth.	HE	8350		<i>Diodella apiculata</i> (Willd. ex Roem. & Schult.) Delprete	HE	2479
<i>Mecardonia procumbens</i> (Mill.) Small	HE	2591		<i>Diodia macrophylla</i> K.Schum.	HE	9641
<i>Scoparia dulcis</i> L.*	HE	425		<i>Diodia saponariifolia</i> (Cham. & Schltl.) K.Schum.	HE	9360
<i>Stemodia foliosa</i> Benth.	HE	2017		<i>Gonzalagunia dicocca</i> Cham. & Schltl.	HE	1086
<i>Stemodia maritima</i> L.	HE	2660		<i>Perama hirsuta</i> Aubl.	HE	9367
<i>Stemodia</i> sp.	HE	4198		<i>Richardia grandiflora</i> (Cham. & Schltl.) Steud.*	HE	2923
<b>Poaceae</b>				<i>Sabicea grisea</i> Cham. & Schltl. ■	HE	6647
<i>Andropogon bicornis</i> L.*	HE	2944		<i>Rubiaceae</i> sp.	HE	6649
<i>Chloris</i> cf. <i>barbata</i> Sw.*	HE	1475		<b>Sapindaceae</b>		
<i>Dichanthelium sciurotoides</i> (Zuloaga & Morrone) Davidse	HE	2018		<i>Serjania</i> sp. 1	HE	1108
<i>Digitaria</i> cf. <i>ciliaris</i> (Retz.) Koeler*	HE	437		<i>Serjania</i> sp. 2	HE	2898
<i>Echinochloa colona</i> (L.) Link*	HE	1476		<i>Serjania</i> sp. 3	HE	1108
<i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i> (L.) P.Beauv.	HE	2948		<b>Solanaceae</b>		
<i>Echinocloa</i> sp.	HE	2947		<i>Cestrum nocturnum</i> L. ■	HE	7195
<i>Eragrostis ciliaris</i> (L.) R.Br.*	HE	10035		<i>Physalis angulata</i> L.*	HE	1501
<i>Eragrostis hypnoides</i> (Lam.) Britton, Sterns & Poggenb.	HE	1480		<i>Schwenckia americana</i> Rooyer ex L.	HE	1001
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> (Rudge) Nees*	EM	2652		<i>Solanum palinacanthum</i> Dunal	HE	10846
<i>Hymenachne pernambucensis</i> (Spreng.) Zuloaga	HE	10415		<i>Solanum thomasiifolium</i> Sendtn. ■	HE	10237
<i>Leersia hexandra</i> Sw.*	HE	2589		<b>Typhaceae</b>		
<i>Leptochloa virgata</i> (L.) P.Beauv.*	HE	1421		<i>Typha latifolia</i> L.	HE	2727
<i>Luziola caespitosa</i> Swallen	HE	2943		<b>Urticaceae</b>		
<i>Megathyrsus maximus</i> (Jacq.) B.K.Simon & S.W.L.Jacobs	HE	2963		<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i> (L.) Sw.	HE	4148
<i>Panicum aquaticum</i> Poir.*	HE	10030		<i>Pilea pubescens</i> Liebm.	HE	6639
<i>Paspalidium geminatum</i> (Forssk.) Stapf	EM	3938		<b>Verbenaceae</b>		
<i>Paspalum paniculatum</i> L.*	HE	4146		<i>Lantana camara</i> L.*	HE	1112
<i>Paspalum millegrana</i> Schrad. ex Schult.	HE	4430		<i>Lippia</i> sp.	HE	3456
<i>Paspalum conjugatum</i> P.J.Bergius	HE	10249		<i>Priva lappulacea</i> (L.) Pers.	HE	4445
<i>Rugoloa pilosa</i> (Sw.) Zuloaga	HE	3454		<i>Stachytarpheta angustifolia</i> (Mill.) Vahl	HE	4188
<i>Sacciolepis myuros</i> (Lam.) Chase	HE	1556		<i>Stachytarpheta bicolor</i> Hook.f.	HE	2680
<i>Setaria parviflora</i> (Poir.) Kerguélen*	EM	2938		<b>Vitaceae</b>		
<i>Sporobolus indicus</i> (L.) R.Br.*	EM	2678		<i>Cissus albida</i> Cambess. ■	HE	3443
<i>Steinchiisma hians</i> (Elliott) Nash	HE	1431		<i>Cissus spinosa</i> Cambess. ■	HE	7203
<i>Steinchiisma laxum</i> (Sw.) Zuloaga	EM	1555		<b>Xyridaceae</b>		
<i>Steinchiisma decipiens</i> (Nees ex Trin.) W.V.Br.	EM	1340		<i>Xyris macrocephala</i> Vahl	EM	1498
<i>Trichanthericum cyanescens</i> (Nees ex Trin.) Zuloaga & Morrone	HE	9370		<i>Xyris</i> sp.	EM	1455
<i>Urochloa</i> sp.	HE	1110		<b>Zingiberaceae</b>		
				<i>Hedychium coronarium</i> J.Koenig*	EM	2916



**Figure 3.** Aquatic and marsh plants photographed at the Recôncavo basin. **A:** *Aeschynomene* sp. (Fabaceae). **B:** *Commelina diffusa* (Commelinaceae). **C:** *Eichhornia crassipes* (Pontederiaceae). **D:** *Hydrocleys nymphoides* (Alismataceae). **E:** *Ludwigia peploides* (Onagraceae). **F:** *Luziola caespitosa* (Poaceae). **G:** *Nymphaea lingulata* (Nymphaeaceae). **H:** *Coutoubea spicata* (Gentianaceae). **I:** Lake in Sapeaçu municipality. **J:** River in Muritiba municipality. (Figures A-F, H-I: L.Y.S. Aona; figures G, J: V. Bittrich).

researchers in dealing with their water management, essential for the conservation and maintenance of any body of water.

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