

Table 3 Occurrence and distribution of Mangrove Associates in 56 estuaries of Tamil Nadu during 2012–2014

S. No.	Species	West Coast (3)	Gulf of Mannar (10)	Palk Bay (13)	South Coromandel Coast (13)	North Coromandel Coast (17)	Total (56)
Pandanaaceae							
1	<i>Pandanus tectorius</i> Soland ex Park.	+	+	+	-	-	3
Pteridaceae							
2	<i>Catharanthus roses</i>	+	-	++	+	+	4
Polygonaceae							
3	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre	+	-	+	+++	++++	4
Chenopodiaceae							
4	<i>Suaeda maritima</i> L. (Dumort)	-	++	++	+	++	4
5	<i>Suaeda monoica</i> (Forsk.) ex J.F. Gmel.	-	++	+	+	++	4
6	<i>Suaeda nudiflora</i> (Willd.) Moq.	-	+	-	-	-	1
7	<i>Salicornia brachiata</i> Roxb.	-	++	+	+	+	4
8	<i>Arthrocnemum indicum</i> (Willd.) Moq.	-	-	+	-	-	1
Fabaceae							
9	<i>Derris trifoliata</i> Lour.	-	-	-	-	+	1
Malvaceae							
10	<i>Thespesia populnea</i> (L.) Sol. ex Corr.	+	+	+	++	++	5
11	<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> L.	+	+	-	-	+	3
Boraginaceae							
12	<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i> L.	-	+	+	++	+	3
Lamiaceae							
13	<i>Clerodentrum inerme</i> (L.) Gaertn.	+	+	-	++	+	4
Convolvulaceae							
14	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i> (L.)	+	++	-	++	++++	4
15	<i>Cressa cretica</i> L.	-	+	++	+	+	4
Guttiferae							
16	<i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i> (L.)	+	-	-	-	-	1
Aizoaceae							
17	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i> L.	+	++	+	+	+++	5
Asclepiadaceae							
18	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>	+	++	++	+++	++++	5
Poaceae							
19	<i>Spinifex littoreus</i>	+	++	+	-	+	4
Casuarinaceae							
20	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	+	+	+	-	++	4
Cucurbitaceae							
21	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> (L.) Schrad.	+	+	++	+	+++	5
Cyperaceae							
22	<i>Fimbristylis ferruginea</i>	+	-	-	-	-	1
Salvadoraceae							
23	<i>Salvadora persica</i> L.	-	+	-	+	-	2
Total		14	17	15	14	17	

Note: - Not recorded; +: present (1–3 sites); ++: Co abundant (4–6 sites); +++: Abundant (7–9 sites); ++++: Dominant (above 9 sites)