



Ficus costata

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Tracheophyta	Magnoliopsida	Rosales	Moraceae

Scientific Name: *Ficus costata* Aiton

Synonym(s):

- *Ficus caudiculata* Trim.
- *Ficus mooniana* King

Taxonomic Source(s):

WCVP. 2021. World Checklist of Vascular Plants, version 2.0. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Available at: <http://wcvp.science.kew.org/>. (Accessed: 28 January 2021).

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Vulnerable B2ab(i,ii,iii,iv) [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2023

Date Assessed: April 12, 2022

Justification:

Ficus costata is a small to medium-sized tree, sometimes epiphytic, seen in low to medium evergreen forest in South India, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. There are no authentic collection records from Andaman and Nicobar Islands and no report from Sri Lanka since 1883. There are 13 records from 10 locations at an altitude between 140 to 1,000 m. Flowering and fruiting were reported during November to January. The estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) is 3,336,540 km² and the area of occupancy (AOO) is 56 km². There is an estimated 14% decrease in the EOO and AOO may be reduced to 52 km² if the Sri Lanka locality is excluded. Six out of 10 locations are outside the protected areas and were subjected to continuous habitat degradation due to conversion for agro-industrial plantations, dams and infrastructure projects. Hence, the species assessed here as Vulnerable.

Geographic Range

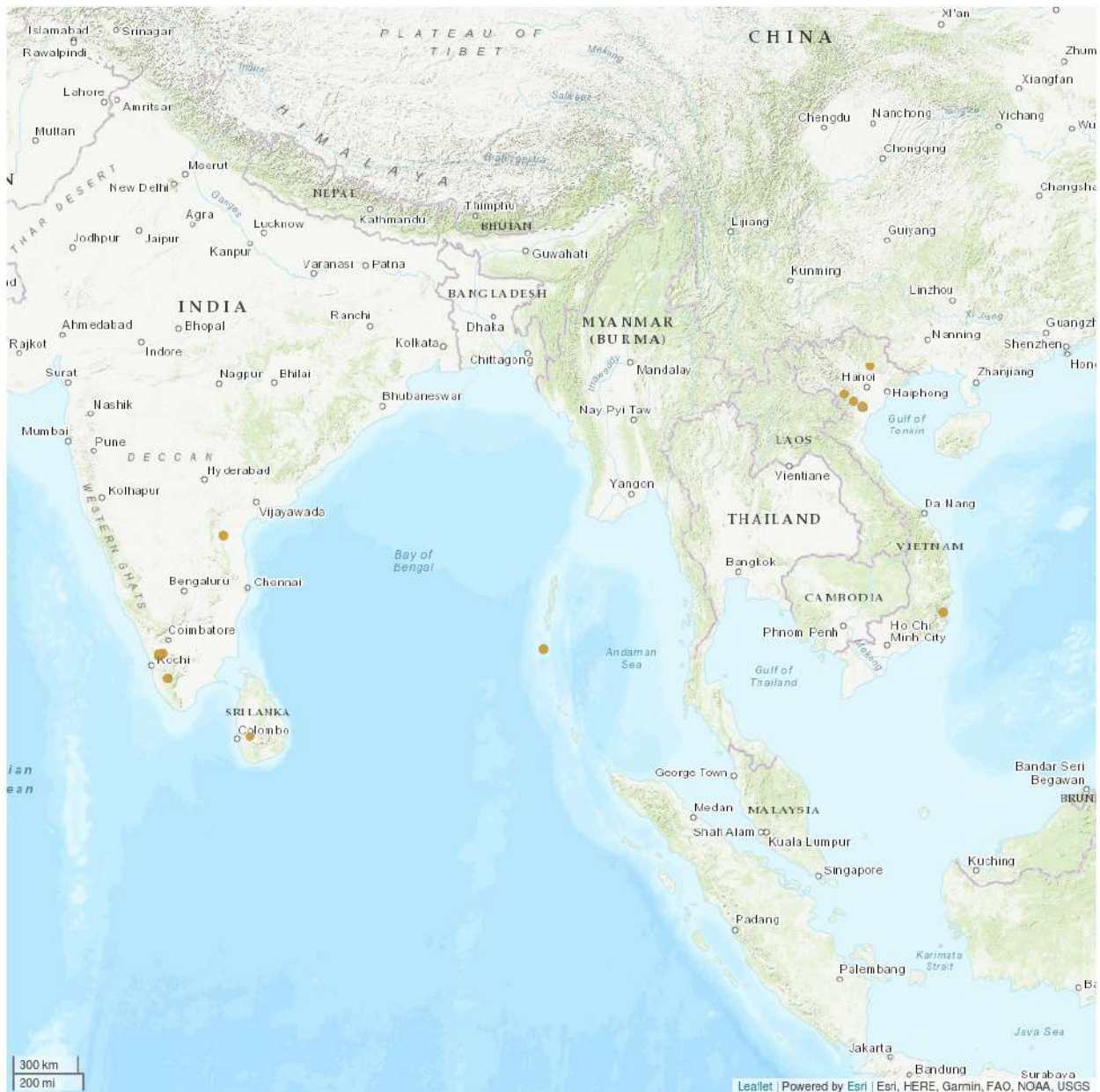
Range Description:

Ficus costata is distributed in Southern India, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Sri Lanka and Vietnam within the Indomalayan realm. The species is not reported from Sri Lanka since 1883 and there are no authentic collection records from Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): India; Sri Lanka; Viet Nam

Distribution Map



Legend

■ EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

GTA 2022



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

Population

The species is reported with 13 records from 10 subpopulations. There are no records from Sri Lanka since 1883 and hence a 14% extent of occurrence (EOO) reduction is estimated.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Ficus costata is a small to medium tree up to 15 m high, sometimes epiphytic and seen in evergreen forest at an elevation between 140–1,000 m. Flowering and fruiting were observed during November to January. The species is declining in abundance and the habitat is subjected to continuous degradation.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

No use and trade information is available.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

Ficus costata is distributed in low to medium elevation evergreen forests which are subject to continuous habitat degradation due to agro-industrial plantations, dams and infrastructural development projects in all of the 10 locations.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Subpopulations of *Ficus costata* are reported to consist of isolated trees. Areas have been subjected to habitat degradation for various developmental programs. Monitoring and protection of the habitat, population studies and species recovery are recommended.

Credits

Assessor(s): Amitha Bachan, K.H. & Devika, M.A.

Reviewer(s): Hills, R.

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External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and for [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	Resident	Suitable	No

Plant and Fungal growth forms

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Plant and Fungal growth forms
TS. Tree - small
E. Epiphyte

Threats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity
1. Residential & commercial development -> 1.3. Tourism & recreation areas	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, significant declines
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.2. Wood & pulp plantations -> 2.2.2. Agro-industry plantations	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, significant declines
7. Natural system modifications -> 7.2. Dams & water management/use -> 7.2.10. Large dams	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, significant declines

Conservation Actions Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Action Needed	Notes
1. Land/water protection -> 1.2. Resource & habitat protection	-
2. Land/water management -> 2.3. Habitat & natural process restoration	-
3. Species management -> 3.2. Species recovery	-

Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed	Notes
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends	-
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology	-
1. Research -> 1.4. Harvest, use & livelihoods	-
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends	-

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km ²): 52-56
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Yes
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 3336540
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Yes
Number of Locations: 10
Continuing decline in number of locations: Yes
Lower elevation limit (m): 140
Upper elevation limit (m): 1,000
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 75

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