Review of: "An Ecological Study of Alstonia Venenata R.Br. (Apocynaceae: Rauvolfioideae) and Cryptolepis Buchanani R.Br. ex Roem. & Schult. (Apocynaceae: Periplocoideae)"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article describes the morphology and pollination biology of two species under Apocynaceae. This work is very interesting, as these species produce a smaller number of fruits and seeds. Fruit production is very dependent on the pollinators, time of blooming, and maturity of the sex organs at the time of anthesis. The stigma remains nonreceptive while the anthers are ready to shed the pollen. The article is well written with suggestions for future studies on these species. Moreover, the pollinators may be different in various geographical locations due to coevolution. It is also important to add a few images of the pollinators identified, if any, to this paper. This article can be improved by deeper studies on several plants growing in different locations. The following suggestions may be incorporated:

1. The title may be changed to "A preliminary study of …" as it does not involve a deeper scientific study of the species mentioned.
2. It is necessary to improve the morphological description of the species, especially the floral organs, which have tremendous importance in pollination biology.
3. Even though the title is "ecological study," there wasn't any indication of ecological data—interaction between pollinators and the species, no statistical data regarding the number of visits, types of pollinators, etc.
4. The article can be improved by including the literature review, revising the introduction, and revising the conclusions. The morphological data of the two species may be incorporated into the introduction in a precise way, as it is already available.
5. All the recent works on these species or related species in Apocynaceae may be included in the literature review.
6. The biochemical study of the nectar and comparison with other related species provides clues for the possible pollinators.