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.

Review report

The work reported in this manuscript is very important to understand the ecological aspects of*Alstonia venenata* and *Cryptolepis buchanani*. It is quite interesting to note that the two species bloom at the same time but do not occur at the same locations. Since the flowers of *A. venenata* are white, they attract butterflies and honey bees, which facilitate the occurrence of pollination. In the case of *C. buchanani*, the flowers, being greenish-yellow, are unable to attract any insect foragers, and hence any fruit that is produced is a function of autonomous autogamy. In both species, the fruit is a paired follicle, which is characteristic of the Apocynaceae family. Anemochory is functional in both species.

The introduction is quite pertinent to the study carried out. Materials and methods are provided in brief, since the work reported is mostly based on fieldwork. The observations made on both plant species are interpreted with related publications. Since there is no previous information on these two species, the findings by the authors assume importance and form the basis for further studies in this direction.

I congratulate the authors for reporting on the ecological aspects of*A. venenata* and *C. buchanani.*