

Title : Comparative study of bird diversity in Pine-Eucalyptus mixed plantation plot and the edge of dry dipterocarp forest in Mae Taeng, Chiang Mai

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ABSTRACT

Bird diversity surveys are crucial for assessing ecosystem health, as birds serve as important indicators of environmental integrity. This study aimed to compare bird diversity between a Pine–Eucalyptus plantation plot and the edge of a natural dry dipterocarp forest at the Intakin Silvicultural Research Station in Chiang Mai province. Field surveys were conducted from July to October 2024 using the line transect method. A total of 53 bird species, representing 7 orders, 28 families, and 39 genera, were recorded. In the Pine–Eucalyptus plantation, 37 species were documented, with frequently observed species including the Asian Green Bee-eater (*Merops orientalis*), the Black-collared Starling (*Gracupica nigricollis*), and the Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*). While the dry dipterocarp forest site yielded 32 species, such as the Common Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sutorius*), the Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*), and the Greater Racket-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus paradiseus*). Diversity indices indicated that the plantation site had a higher Shannon–Wiener index (3.29) compared to the dry dipterocarp forest (3.07), which is attributed to a greater evenness in species distribution (0.91 and 0.88, respectively). Additionally, 16 species were common to both habitats, resulting in a similarity index of approximately 46.38%. Moreover, 51 species are protected under the Wild Animal Conservation and Protection Act of Thailand (2019), and according to the IUCN criteria (2024), one species, the Hill Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis banyumas*), is classified as Critically Endangered.