

## MORPHOLOGICAL VARIATION OF TENDU (*DIOSPYROS MELANOXYLON*) LEAVES IN DHAMTRI DISTRICT OF CHHATTISGARH, INDIA

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**Abstract:** In the present study, morphological variation of tendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*) leaves Dhamtari district were analyzed. The highest length of petiole was observed in year 2016 in site-2 (Nagri) (1.82 cm), followed by Site-1(Dugli) (1.8 cm) in year 2015. Minimum length of petiole was recorded in Site -1 (Dugli) (1.5 cm) in year 2016. The highest diameter of petiole was observed in year 2016 in site-1 (Dugli) (1.33 cm), followed by Site-2 (Nagri) (1.3 cm) in year 2015. Minimum diameter of petiole was recorded in Site -2 (Nagri) (1.2 cm) in year 2016. The highest length of leaf was observed in year 2016 in site-2 (Nagri) (14.27 cm), followed by Site-2 (Nagri) (13.57 cm) in year 2015. Minimum length of leaf was recorded in Site -1 (Dugli) (13.34 cm) in year 2016. The highest Width of leaf was observed in year 2016 in site-2 (Nagri) (7.97 cm), followed by Site-2 (Nagri) (7.02 cm) in year 2015. Minimum Width of leaf was recorded in Site -1 (Dugli) (6.62 cm) in year 2016. The highest leaf area was observed in year 2016 in site-1 (Dugli) (72.92 cm), followed by Site-2 (Nagri) (72.7 cm) in year 2015. Minimum leaf area was recorded in Site -1 (Dugli) (86.18 cm) in year 2015.

**Keywords:** *Diospyros melanoxylon*, Forest, Petiole, Tribes, Heterogeneity

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