

The first comprehensive inventory of the terrestrial vascular plants in Cherangani Hills has been compiled to help in the identification of plants of this region. The annotated checklist is to provide the basis for ecological research and conservation of this forest ecosystem facing escalating threats of forest loss caused by anthropogenic activities, and has similarly received little attention pertaining to its plant diversity.

A checklist of the vascular plants of Cherangani Hills obtained through exhaustive field investigations and matching of herbarium specimen has been collated. It contains over 1296 species, including 17 endemic species, belonging to 130 families and 608 genera.

Within the checklist, species are organized alphabetically in each family. The families are divided into lycophytes, monilophytes, gymnosperms, and angiosperms, whereby, lycophytes and monilophytes are organized based on the PPG I system (PPG I 2016), gymnosperms according to Christenhusz et al. (2011), and angiosperms as to the APG IV system (APG IV 2016). The habit, habitat, voucher specimens, and brief notes on the distribution of each taxon recorded are also presented herein. This flora represents 18.50%, 43.83% and 54.17% of the Kenyan species, genera, and families, respectively.

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## AN ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANTS OF CHERANGANI HILLS, WESTERN KENYA

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