Research Article

Dispersal modes and spatial patterns of tree species in a tropical forest in Arunachal Pradesh, northeast India

Aparajita Datta[1,2]* and G.S. Rawat[1]**

[1]Wildlife Institute of India, Post Bag # 18, Dehradun 248 001, Uttaranchal, India
[2] Nature Conservation Foundation, 3076/5, 4th Cross, Gokulam Park, Mysore, India – 570 002
* Email: aparajita@ncf-india.org; ** rawatg@wii.gov.in

Abstract

We characterized the dispersal modes and spatial patterns of 128 tree species in a tropical semi-evergreen forest of Arunachal Pradesh, northeastern India. A high percentage of species are animal-dispersed (78%), while about 22% (28) are dispersed abiotically (wind or gravity-dispersed). Of the animal-dispersed species, 54 species were primarily bird-dispersed, 25 were mammal-dispersed, and 21 were dispersed by both groups. We hypothesized that adult tree distribution patterns were related to dispersal mode and fruit size. We predicted that tree species with mechanisms for long-distance seed dispersal are likely to show more uniform or random spatial patterns than those with limited seed dispersal. Tree species with large fruits were also predicted to have greater levels of clumping than those that have small fruits. However, all tree species had a clumped distribution pattern. At the community level, we found no differences in spatial patterns based on dispersal mode for a subset of 50 tree species. Fruit size was, however, positively correlated with higher levels of spatial aggregation suggesting that tree species distributions are to an extent limited by dispersal. The importance of dispersal mode in determining adult tree distribution patterns at the community level may be obscured by interacting effects of other factors such as patchy habitat conditions and density-dependent mortality factors at different life-history stages that ultimately determine adult tree distributions.

Keywords: animal-dispersed, Eastern Himalaya, fruit types, seed dispersal, vertebrate frugivores, mechanically dispersed

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Introduction

Tropical forests harbor high tree species diversity and the mechanisms that promote such diversity have been debated extensively [1-4]. The Janzen & Connell hypothesis suggested that maintenance of tree species diversity is due to escape from seed predation near parent fruiting trees that results in recruitment away from parent trees thus preventing aggregations. However, a well-documented trait of tropical forests is the high degree of aggregation of conspecific trees at various scales, which has been attributed to patchy habitat conditions or limitations in seed dispersal [5-8]. Others have suggested that aggregation is a means of reducing competitive exclusion and promoting diversity [9, 10]. Although studies have shown that seeds and seedlings show spatial aggregation [11-15], determining whether aggregations persist up to the adult stage has been limited [16, 17] to anecdotal evidence or to a few species [3, 6, 18]. The ability of tree species to disperse seeds varies and is determined by their dispersal mode. Limited seed dispersal often results in aggregated patterns of recruitment for seeds and seedlings; however, whether these patterns persist up to the adult stage has not been well-established. Several other factors may ultimately determine the spatial patterns of adults of tree species, such as patchy habitat conditions [8] or density-dependent mortality factors at the seed and seedling stage [1,2]. While patchy habitats may result in reinforcing the spatial patterns generated by dispersal, post-dispersal seed predation may result in thinning out and modifying the spatial patterns of adult trees. While theories have emphasized the importance of dispersal mode in determining the long-term recruitment and spatial patterns of tree species, few studies have examined this at the community level [19]. Tree species with limited seed dispersal would be expected to have more aggregated spatial patterns than those that have mechanisms for long-distance seed dispersal. Earlier studies in Malaysia and the Neotropics have found that the spatial patterns of tree species were related to their dispersal modes, with mechanically dispersed species showing more aggregated patterns than vertebrate dispersed species. Bird-dispersed species had the most diffuse spatial patterns and this has been presumed to be due to greater levels of long-distance seed dispersal [3, 19]. Within animal-dispersed species, tree species with larger fruits also showed more aggregated patterns than those with small fruits [19].

In this paper, we first established the dispersal modes of tree species in a tropical semi-evergreen forest in northeastern India. We grouped these tree species based on their primary dispersal mode and established their spatial distribution using an index of clumping. We examined the hypotheses that 1) tree species with limited seed dispersal will have aggregated patterns, while those that have mechanisms for long-distance dispersal will show less aggregated patterns or random distributions, 2) tree species with large fruits and seeds will have more aggregated patterns than those with small fruits and seeds.

Methods

Study site

The study was conducted in Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary (862 km^2, 92°36' – 93°09'E and 26°54 – 27°16'N; Fig. 1) in the foothill forests of western Arunachal Pradesh, in the Eastern Himalaya in a global biodiversity hotspot [20]. The park is surrounded by contiguous forests on most sides and bounded by rivers in the east, west, and north. The terrain is undulating and hilly, with altitude ranging from 150 m to about 2000 m above sea level. The area has a tropical and subtropical climate, with cold weather from November to February. It receives rainfall from the southwest monsoon (May-September) and the northeast monsoon (December-April). October and November are relatively dry. May and June are the hottest months. The monsoon lasts till September, but occasional rains occur throughout the year. The southwest monsoon is responsible for more than three-quarters of the annual rainfall. Thunderstorms occasionally occur in March-April. The average annual rainfall is 2500 mm. The mean (± SD) maximum temperature was 29.3°C ± 4.2 and the mean minimum temperature was

18.3° ± 4.7, based on data from 1983 to 1995 recorded by the Tipi Orchid Research Centre. The vegetation of the reserve is classified as Assam Valley tropical semi-evergreen forest 2B/C1 [21]. The forests are multi-storied and rich in epiphytic flora, woody lianas and climbers. Major emergent species include *Tetrameles nudiflora, Ailanthus grandis* and *Altingia excelsa*. The lower elevation forests are dominated by *Polyalthia simiarum, Pterospermum acerifolium, Sterculia alata, Stereospermum chelonioides*, *Ailanthus grandis* and *Duabanga grandiflora*. Evergreen species include several middle-story trees in the Lauraceae and Myrtaceae. Subtropical broadleaved forests occur at higher elevations, while bamboo, cane and palms are common near perennial streams. Along larger streams and rivers, there are patches of tall grassland. The intensive study site (ca. 12 km^2) was located in the southeastern part of the park in the lower elevation moist deciduous and semi-evergreen forests (150 - 600 m).
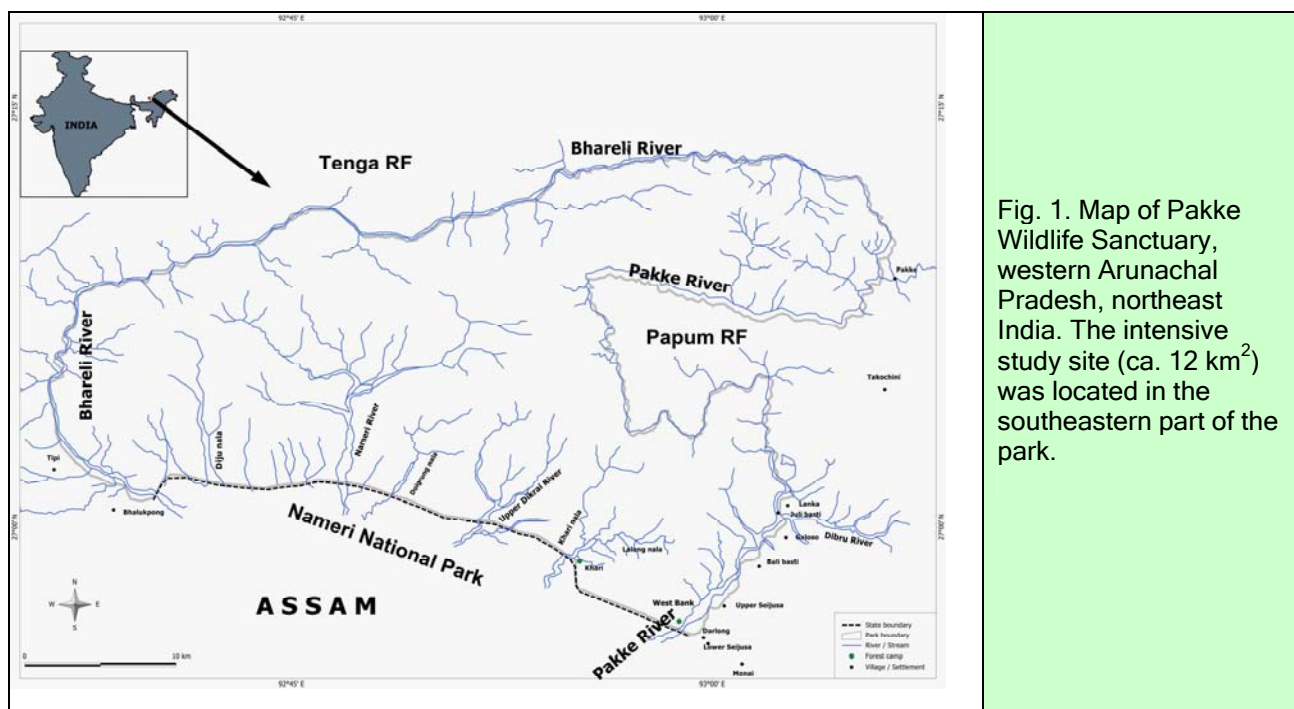

Fig. 1. Map of Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary, western Arunachal Pradesh, northeast India. The intensive study site (ca. 12 km^2) was located in the southeastern part of the park.

Fruit consumers and dispersal modes of tree species
This work was carried out as part of a four-year (1997-2000) study on hornbill ecology [21]. Detailed quantitative information on diet (observations at nests and fruiting trees, seed counts at middens (nest and roost trees), feeding records from trail walks) was available for three hornbill species [22, 23]. Opportunistic records on diets of other avian frugivores (*ad libitum* sightings > 100 records) and mammals were made on trail walks during a prior study in 1995-96 [24] and from 1997-2000 during the study on hornbill ecology. Of the 295 bird species recorded in the sanctuary [25, 26], there are about 35-40 fruit and seed-eating bird species in the study area. These include three species of hornbills (*Buceros*, *Aceros* and *Anthracoceros*), eight species of bulbuls (*Pycnonotus*), five species of mynas (*Acridotheres*), six species of green pigeons (*Treron*), two species of Imperial pigeons (*Ducula* sp.), four species of doves (*Streptopelia*, *Macropygia* and *Chalcophaps*), four barbet species (*Megalaima*), three parakeet species (*Psittacula* and *Loriculus*), two leaf bird (*Chloropsis*) species, fairy bluebird (*Irena puella*), and two oriole species (*Oriolus*). Several other forest birds that are nectarivores/insectivores (e.g., white-eyes, flowerpeckers, cuckoos and cuckoo-shrikes, babblers,

laughing thrushes, drongos, red-headed trogon [*Harpactes erythrocephalus*]) also occasionally include fruit in their diet [27, 28]. Green pigeons are known to specialise on fig fruits but are seed predators [29, 30]; parakeets are also seed predators [31]. Feeding records were available for the more frugivorous birds such as three species of hornbills, four barbets, hill myna, fairy bluebird, green pigeons and imperial pigeons, and some bulbul species. The important avian frugivores are hornbills, Mountain Imperial pigeon, barbets, hill myna, and the fairy bluebird.

Mammal species that include fruits in their diet in the area are three species of primates, seven species of viverrids and mustelids, Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), sambar (*Cervus unicolor*), barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), and Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*). There is no information on the number of bat species; however, six frugivorous bat species are known from Arunachal Pradesh [32]. Four species of diurnal arboreal squirrels and several species of terrestrial rodents (primarily seed predators) also occur in the study area. Information on the species and fruit types eaten by mammals were obtained from direct sighting records of mammals at fruiting trees and indirect evidence from seeds of tree species found in scats and droppings (small carnivores), seed caches (rodents), and regurgitated seed piles (ungulates). Small carnivore and bear droppings can be easily identified; seed caches were found on the ground or in tree hollows and clearly had been made by rodents based on incisor teeth marks (we did not assign these to species). Seed piles of tree species regurgitated by ungulates are found on the forest floor and it was possible to assign to species (sambar, common muntjac, and wild pig) because these piles are associated with tracks, bedding, and resting sites of the species. The dispersal modes of 28 tree species were established from published records on the diets of birds/mammals from several studies in other Asian forests [27, 33-36] and fruit characteristics [37-39], and from literature on plant seed dispersal [40-41]. The rest were assigned based on direct observations. Figure 2 depicts fruits of some animal-dispersed tree species, some major frugivores/dispersers, seeds and seedlings of animal-dispersed tree species, and the forests of the study area.

Fruits that had no edible fruit pulp/flesh and had fruit characteristics that were obviously adapted for abiotic dispersal were categorized as mechanically dispersed. This categorization was validated by examining taxonomic literature. The important abiotic dispersal modes include wind, gravity, gyration, and ballistic. All species could not be assigned to specific categories and as sample sizes were small for each individual category, we considered them together as mechanically dispersed species. We considered only the primary phase of dispersal, although seeds of several species may be secondarily dispersed by terrestrial rodents.

Tree species density and spatial patterns
Tree species were identified and enumerated in 21 vegetation plots of 0.25 ha each (5.25 ha) in the intensive study site. Plants with girth at breast height (GBH) $\geq$ 30cm were taken in the sample (considered as adult trees in tropical forests). Every tree was marked with aluminum tags indicating the tree species and number in the plot. Many common tree species were identified with the help of tribal field assistants. Herbarium specimens were also collected for further verification with field botanists at the State Forest Research Institute, Itanagar, and Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. All plants not identified in the field were collected and assigned a temporary code.

Density of tree species was calculated from the 21 vegetation plots. We used the variance/mean ratio (VMR) to examine spatial distribution patterns of tree species. VMR is often used to characterize the distribution of objects in space. If the distribution is random, then the VMR is 1.0. Larger values (VMR > 1.0) correspond to existence of "clumps" or spatial clusters. Smaller values (VMR < 1.0) correspond to an "even" or "uniform" distribution in space. These properties of VMR are based on

the fundamental property of the Poisson distribution that the variance and the mean are equal [42]. Variance to mean ratios was calculated for all tree species enumerated in the vegetation plots. However, we examined whether dispersal mode and fruit size was related to spatial pattern of a tree species for a subset of 50 tree species that had an adequate sample. We first examined whether there were differences in spatial patterns between species based on dispersal modes. We then tested whether fruit size was correlated with VMR for all 50 species and also examined the relationship separately for five dispersal categories: bird, mammal, wind, gravity and both (birds and mammals). Fruit diameter (mm) was used as a measure of fruit size. Data on fruit diameter were available for 12 tree species [28], while they were sourced from existing literature and floras for the remaining 38 species.

Results

A total of 1,899 trees belonging to 165 species were enumerated in 21 vegetation plots. Of these, a total of 128 species were identified belonging to 51 families. An additional 37 species could not be identified. The total number of species ranged from 17 to 42 per plot. The most common families were Lauraceae (16 species), Euphorbiaceae (11), Moraceae (10), and Meliaceae (9).

Dispersal Modes

Of the 128 species, 100 species (78%) were confirmed to be animal-dispersed. Twenty-eight species (22%) were mechanically dispersed (mainly wind- or gravity-dispersed). Plant families such as Lauraceae, Meliaceae, Myristicaceae, Anacardiaceae, Clusiaceae, Burseraceae, Moraceae, and Euphorbiaceae appear to have fruits adapted for animal dispersal and are species-rich in these forests, while most dominant wind-dispersed species belonged to families that were represented by a single genus. The list of plant species, tree density, fruit type, dispersal mode, and major consumers are given in Appendix 1.

Ornithochory (dispersal by birds) was the most prevalent among the tree species. Bird-dispersed species such as *Phoebe* sp. (Lauraceae), *Chisocheton paniculatus* (Meliaceae), and *Syzygium syzygioides* (Myrtaceae) were among the top five species in terms of tree density. The density of bird-dispersed tree species was highest (157 trees/ha), followed by mechanically dispersed species (Table 1). Mammal-dispersed species were relatively few both in terms of number of tree species and in terms of overall tree density.

Table 1. Number of species dispersed by various dispersal modes and their abundance. An additional 37 species could not be identified and were represented by 153 individuals (29 trees/ha)

Dispersal mode	Number (%)	Tree density (/ha)
Birds	54 (42.19)	157.14
Mammals	25 (19.53)	38.09
Both	21 (16.41)	53.52
Mechanical	28 (21.87)	83.81
Total	128	332.56

Mechanically dispersed species

The 28 mechanically dispersed species belonged to 16 families (Apocynaceae, Theaceae, Fagaceae, Juglandaceae, Simaroubaceae, Bignoniaceae, Datiscaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Mimosaceae, Lythraceae, Malvaceae, Papilionaceae, Sapindaceae, Sterculiaceae, Hamamelidaceae). Most of these families were represented by only 1-3 species in the area and several (*Altingia excelsa, Tetrameles nudiflora, Ailanthus grandis, Alstonia scholaris, Sterculia alata*) were emergents. Seventeen species were classified as wind-dispersed, four as gravity-dispersed, three as either wind- or gravity-dispersed, three as wind- or ballistic dispersed, and one as gravity- or water dispersed. The most common fruit type was a dry indehiscent capsule with winged seeds inside (18 species); other types were follicle, pod, acorn, and samara (Table 2). Apart from the species with fruits and seeds that are obviously adapted for wind dispersal, a few species have dry indehiscent fruits with no discernible edible fleshy part and were therefore considered to be gravity-dispersed. Seeds of some of these species (Juglandaceae, Fagaceae) are edible and consumed by pre-dispersal seed predators such as arboreal squirrels and macaques, and post-dispersal seed predators such as terrestrial rodents. Though there were 28 mechanically dispersed species (440 individuals), ten species were represented by only 1-2 individuals and fruiting was not recorded in these.

Table 2. Fruit types and their dispersal modes.

Fruit type	Bird	Mammal	Both	Mechanical	Total
Dry indehiscent/dehiscent capsule	-	-	3	18	21
Arillate dehiscent capsule	16	3	-	-	19
Berry	5	5	2	-	12
Drupe	27	13	8	-	48
Drupaceous carpel	-	-	2	-	2
Follicle	2	-	1	2	5
Aggregate of follicles	-	2	-	-	2
Pod	-	-	-	3	3
Samara	-	-	-	1	1
Acorn	-	-	-	3	3
Nutlet	-	-	-	1	1
Sorosis/compound berry	1	-	-	-	1
Syconium (fig)	2	2	4	-	8
Syncarp (aggregate or multiple fruit)	-	-	1	-	1
Achene	1	-	-	-	1
Total	54	25	21	28	128

Mammal-dispersed species
Of the 100 animal-dispersed species, mammals consumed the fruits of 44 species, while 25 species appear to be exclusively consumed by mammals (primates, ungulates, small carnivores, bats, bear, and elephant). Tree squirrels and terrestrial rodents are usually seed predators, although they may act as seed dispersers rarely. Of the 25 species categorized as mammal-dispersed, 17 were classified based on direct observations, while the rest were established from other studies. The tree species known to be consumed primarily by mammals and their specific consumers (where known) are listed in Appendix I.

The important plant families that had mammal-dispersed species were Anacardiaceae (4), Euphorbiaceae (3), Clusiaceae (2), Elaeocarpaceae (2), and Verbenaceae (2). The most common mammal-dispersed species were *Turpinia pomifera*, *Dillenia indica*, and *Terminalia bellerica*. A total of 200 individuals belonging to 25 species were enumerated. Eighteen species were represented by fewer than 10 individuals. The fruit types consumed by mammals were mainly drupes (13) (Table 2).

Bird-dispersed species
Of the 100 animal-dispersed species, 54 (42% of all species in the sample) were dispersed only by birds. The important families with fruits dispersed by birds were Lauraceae (16), Meliaceae (6), Euphorbiaceae (5), Rutaceae (3), Myrtaceae (2) and Myristicaceae (2). The most common bird-dispersed species were *Phoebe* sp. *Chisocheton paniculatus*, *Syzygium syzygioides*, *Amoora wallichi*, *Knema angustifolia* and *Livistona jenkinsiana*. A total of 825 individuals belonging to 54 species were enumerated. Thirteen species were represented by 1-2 individuals. The Lauraceae was the most species-rich family in the area; all species, except one had densities less than 5 trees/ha. The important genera of Lauraceae found in the area were *Phoebe* (4), *Litsea* (4), *Cryptocarya* (2), *Beilshmedia* (3), *Cinnamomum* (2), *Actinodaphne* (2), *Alseodaphne* (1), *Neolitsea* (1), *Persea* (1), and *Dodecadenia* (1). Fruit types consumed commonly by birds were single-seeded fleshy drupes, multi-seeded arillate capsules, single or multi-seeded berries, and figs (Table 2).

Bird- and mammal-dispersed species
Of the animal-dispersed species, 21 species were consumed by both birds and mammals. It is however likely that more detailed observations of fruit consumption will show that the species that are currently categorized as primarily bird-dispersed or mammal-dispersed could be dispersed by both groups. The important families were Moraceae (5), Annonaceae (2), Verbenaceae (2), Boraginaceae (2), and Burseraceae (2). A total of 281 individuals belonging to 21 species were enumerated. Six species were represented by 1-2 individuals.

Spatial patterns of tree species
All 128 species irrespective of dispersal mode showed a clumped distribution pattern. Most recent studies that examine spatial patterns use nearest neighbor distances obtained from mapping individual trees in very large plots (50 ha) [19]. We used multiple non-contiguous plots and calculated the variance/mean ratio for all tree species in the 21 plots of 0.25 ha. The problem with this method is that many species were not present in all plots, as plots may not be located in suitable habitat patches for particular species. Therefore, there were many "zeros" for some species, which leads to a high variance estimate. Consequently, further analysis of spatial patterns was carried out only for 50 tree species that were represented by 10 or more individuals. These were 13 mechanically dispersed species (395 individuals), 7 mammal-dispersed (136 individuals), 23 bird dispersed (717 individuals), and 7 (239 individuals) bird- and mammal-dispersed species.

Fig. 2. Fruits of animal-dispersed tree species, some frugivores/dispersers, seeds and seedlings of animal-dispersed species and the forests of the study area. Photo credits: SU Saravana Kumar (for barking deer, forest canopy and buttressed tree) and Aparajita Datta for all the rest.

Animal-dispersed fruits and seeds. Left to right: *Alseodaphne peduncularis* (Lauraceae), *Dysoxylum binectariferum* (Meliaceae), *Horsfieldia kingii* (Myristicaceae)
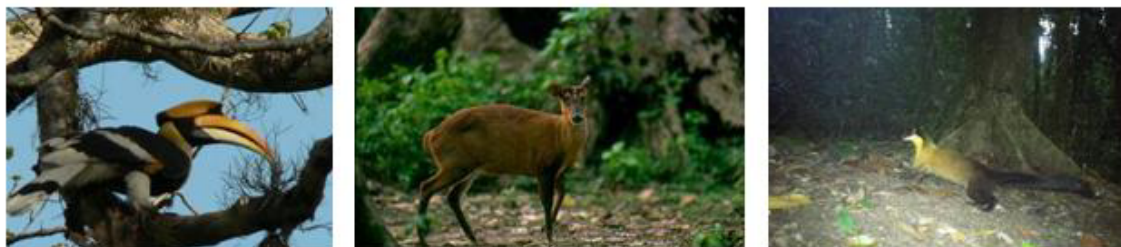
Some frugivores/dispersers found in these forests. Left to right: Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis*, Indian muntjac or barking deer *Muntiacus muntjac*, Yellow-throated marten *Martes flavigula*

Left to right: seedlings of *Cinnamommum cecidodaphne* germinating in dense clumps in bear droppings, seeds of various bird-dispersed tree species belonging to Lauraceae, Rosaceae, Annonaceae, germinating seeds of *Dysoxylum binectariferum*, (an important species in hornbill diet) below a hornbill nest tree

Left to right: forest canopy in Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary, buttressed tree of *Tetrameles nudiflora*, an emergent wind-dispersed species, ripe arillate capsular fruits of *Chisocheton paniculates*, a bird-dispersed tree species

The average VMR was highest (19.68, range: 3.90 to 61.28) for **bird-dispersed** species followed by **mechanically dispersed** species (16.39, range: 2.13 to 38), **bird- and mammal-dispersed** species (14.83, range: 3.94 to 38.68) and **mammal-dispersed** species (14.48, range: 6.76 to 34.21). A Kruskal-Wallis One-way ANOVA test between all four dispersal modes did not show any difference in VMR based on dispersal mode (H = 1.130, df = 3, p = 0.77, N = 50). We then categorized the species into broad types (mechanically dispersed and animal-dispersed) and a Mann-Whitney test (U = 235, p = 0.90) between 13 mechanically dispersed species and 37 animal-dispersed species also did not show any differences in VMR. We restricted the analysis to species represented by 20 or more individuals and again found no differences in VMR between 8 mechanically dispersed species and 17 animal-dispersed species (Mann-Whitney test, U = 58, p = 0.56).

Fig. 3. Scatterplot of log fruit size (fruit diameter, mm) with variance to mean ratio (a measure of clumping) for 50 tree species (Pearson's r = 0.34, p < 0.05), in Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary, a tropical semi-evergreen forest in western Arunachal Pradesh, northeast India. Fruit size was log-transformed (natural log, Ln) as distribution of fruit sizes was skewed.
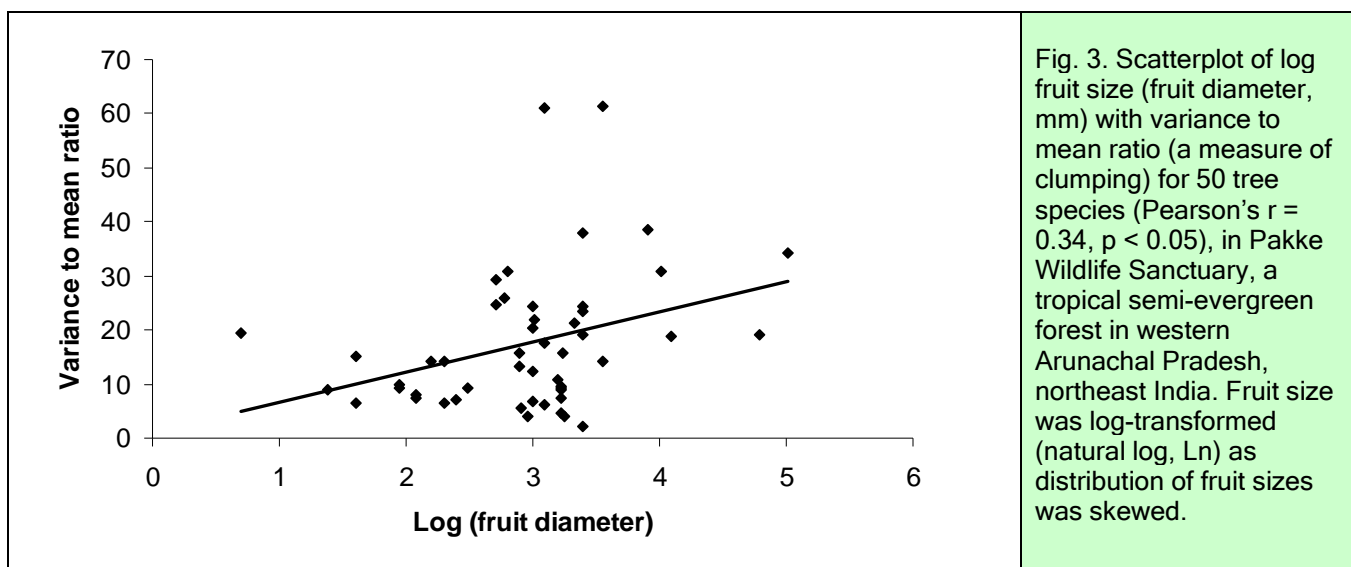
Fruit size was positively correlated with VMR when all 50 species were examined together (Pearson's r = 0.31, p < 0.05). However, fruit size was not correlated with VMR when the relationship was examined separately for bird-dispersed species (n = 23), wind-dispersed (n = 9), gravity-dispersed (n = 4), or for both bird- and mammal-dispersed species (n = 7). Fruit size showed a positive correlation with VMR only for mammal-dispersed species (Pearson's r = 0.88, n = 7, p < 0.05); however, this was mainly due to the effect of one species, *Dillenia indica*, that was an outlier with the largest fruit size and highest clumping. There was no correlation for mammal-dispersed species if this species was removed. As the distribution of fruit sizes was skewed towards smaller and medium-sized fruits, we log-transformed (LN) fruit size to re-examine the relationship. Log fruit size was positively correlated with VMR (Pearson's r = 0.34, p < 0.05, n = 50; Fig. 3). We removed two species (*Knema angustifolia* and *Livistona jenkinsiana*) from the analysis as they occur patchily in moist habitats. These two species were thus not represented in all plots and had very high values of clumping. There was greater correlation of log fruit size with VMR (Pearson's r = 0.38, p < 0.05, n = 48), after removal of these two species. Two other species, which had very large fruit sizes (*Dillenia indica* (150 mm) and *Pterygota alata* (120 mm) and may have affected the patterns, were also removed from the analysis. When all four species were removed, the relationship remained significant with fruit size (Pearson's r = 0.39, p < 0.05, n = 46) and with log fruit size (Pearson's r = 0.30, p < 0.05, n = 46).

Animal-dispersed species with medium and large fruits (> 2 cm) had a higher mean VMR (21.35, range: 6.2 to 61.28, n = 18) than those with small (≤ 2 cm) fruits (14.40, range: 3.9 to 30.94, n = 19), although the difference was not significant (Mann-Whitney test, U = 131.5, p = 0.23). Mechanically dispersed species with medium and large fruits had a higher mean VMR (19.76, range: 2.13 to 30.96, n = 7) than those with small fruits (12.47, range: 6.4 to 24.3, n = 6), although the difference was not significant (Mann-Whitney test, U = 15, p = 0.44) (Fig. 4).

Fig. 4. Boxplot showing the mean VMR (with SD, SE) values of tree species categorized based on their dispersal mode and fruit size. On the X-axis, the categories are 1 = Animal-dispersed large fruits (> 2 cm), 2 = Animal-dispersed small fruits (≤ 2 cm), 3 = Mechanically-dispersed small fruits (≤ 2 cm) and 4 = Mechanically dispersed large fruits (> 2 cm).
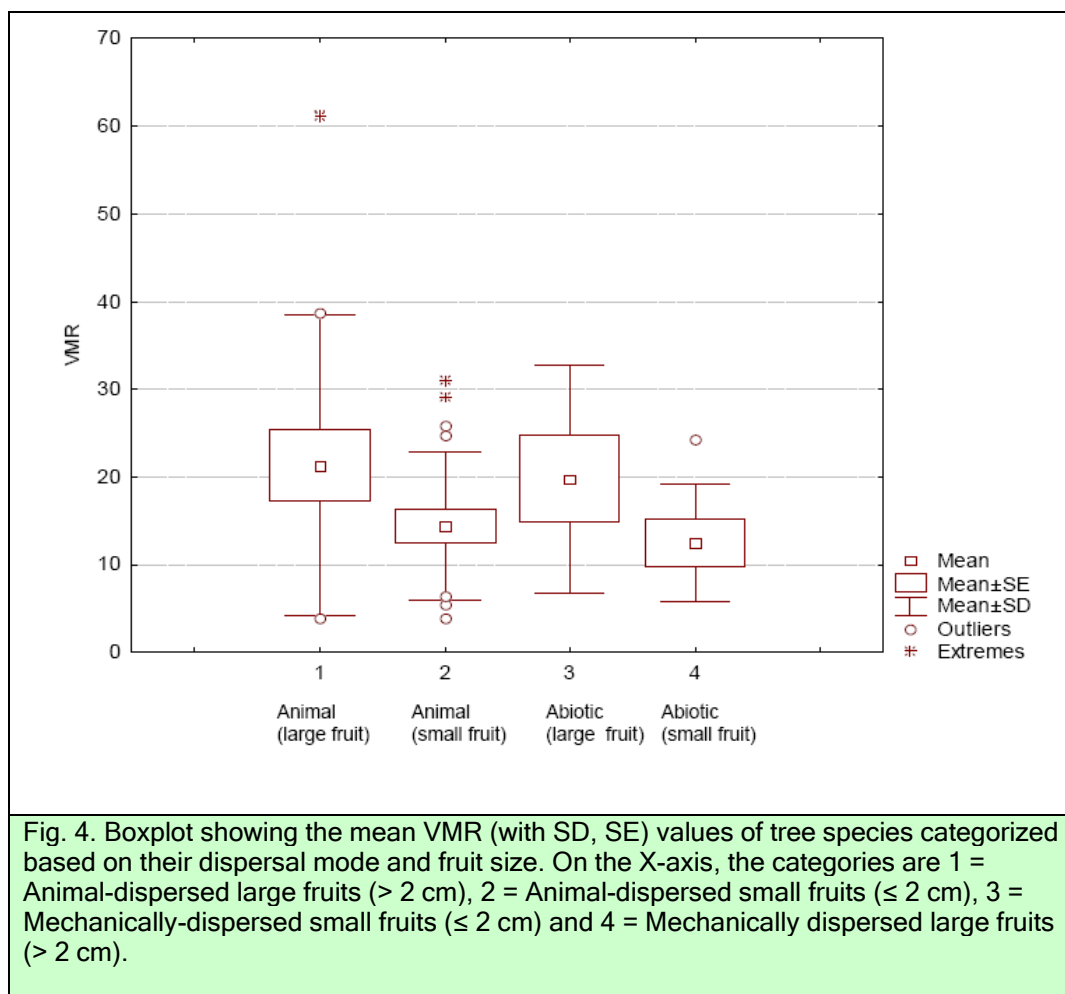
We also examined whether seed size had an effect on levels of clumping. Log fruit and seed diameters were positively correlated (Pearson's r = 0.655, p < 0.05, n = 50). Seed size was not correlated with VMR (Pearson's r = 0.26, n.s.) for all species, while log seed size was weakly correlated with VMR for all species (Pearson's r = 0.29, p < 0.05). However, there was no correlation of VMR with seed size for each dispersal category examined separately. Seed size may not be a good predictor as many large fruits are multi-seeded with small seeds. Seed size was positively correlated strongly with VMR, for single-seeded species (Pearson's r = 0.52, p < 0.05, n = 25). VMR was not correlated with seed size (Pearson's r = 0.15, ns, n = 24) for multi-seeded species. However, log seed size was not correlated with VMR for either single-seeded (Pearson's r = 0.35, ns, n = 25) or multi-seeded species (Pearson's r = 0.28, ns, n = 24).

Discussion

Dispersal modes of tree species

Most tree species in the study area were animal-dispersed and this was similar to estimates from other tropical forest regions [43,44] that range from 72-76% in Barro Colorado Island, Panama [45], and Hong Kong [46] to 85-90% in Thailand, Costa Rica, and Western Ghats, south India [28, 47, 48]. Dispersal by birds appears overwhelmingly important at this site, and this is evident both in terms of number and percentage of tree species dispersed by birds as well the higher density of bird-dispersed tree species. The number of avian frugivores is also high in comparison to mammalian frugivores, including several large obligate avian frugivores such as hornbills that are abundant in the study area [49].

Spatial patterns, dispersal mode and fruit size

Our analysis did not discern any relationship between spatial pattern and dispersal mode of tree species. All species showed clumping (VMR > 1), and there were no differences based on dispersal mode. While there were no significant differences in spatial pattern based on dispersal mode, we found that bird-dispersed species showed slightly higher aggregation levels, contrary to results from other studies [3, 19]. It has often been assumed that the greater diffused spatial pattern seen for bird-dispersed fruits is because of long-distance movements; however, large avian frugivores also often deposit seeds in a clumped manner. The higher aggregation seen for bird-dispersed species may be because a high proportion of these (17 of 23 species) are consumed/dispersed mainly by hornbills, which deposit seeds in a spatially contagious manner at nest and roost sites [29, 49]. Mammal-dispersed species in the area may show lower clumping because the main dispersers are large-bodied ungulates that carry and regurgitate seeds far away from parent fruit trees. However, even these ungulates and other mammalian frugivores such as civets often deposit seeds in small aggregated piles. Most primates are usually known to generate aggregated seed dispersal patterns; however, of the three species found here, the capped langur (*Tracypithecus pileatus*) is primarily a folivore and is known to break and digest seeds [50, 51]. Although macaques are more frugivorous and often swallow seeds whole and disperse them by spitting out after carrying them in cheek pouches [52, 53], their efficacy as important dispersers is debatable as they eat seeds and consume ripe fruits [51]. In addition, encounter rates of the three species of primates are low [24, Datta, unpubl. data].

The methods and measures used in this study are different and spatial patterns are highly scale-dependent. Our sampling was in multiple non-contiguous plots covering a total area of 5.25 ha, while other studies have been in large 50 ha plots where all individuals are mapped. A further problem could be the categorization of dispersal modes for tree species where detailed quantitative observations of fruit consumers were not made. Several species may be dispersed by a wider array of frugivores.

Fruit size appeared to show a positive relationship with spatial pattern of tree species, with large-sized fruit species showing greater aggregation. This was also noted by [19] with a larger sample of tree species. However, the relationship was not very strong, since when analyzed separately based on each dispersal category, spatial patterns of bird-dispersed species were not related to fruit size, while for mammal-dispersed species larger fruits showed greater clumping. But this was largely due to the effect of a single large-fruited species with high clumping. Wind- and gravity-dispersed species also did not show any significant relationship with fruit size, although we had limited sample sizes for these groups. Within animal-dispersed and mechanically dispersed species, although clumping was greater for tree species with large fruits, the difference was not significant. Animal-dispersed tree species with large fruits in fact showed wide variation in clumping values, indicating that other factors

are influencing spatial patterns. The diverse avian and mammalian frugivores handle fruits and deposit seeds in various ways; therefore clear relationships based on broad dispersal modes may be difficult to find.

Factors affecting recruitment, such as soil, light, moisture and topographic features leading to niche differentiation may be more important in determining ultimate spacing patterns of adult trees (8, 54). For example, tree species were found to show demographic responses to variation in soil types which appeared to influence adult tree distributions [55]. Although, we did not measure habitat characteristics, there were habitat differences between plots, with some species represented patchily in a few plots with suitable habitat. For example, two species, *Knema angustifolia* and *Livistona jenkinsiana* (a palm), appear to have specialized habitat niches with more moisture with certain topographic features and where bamboo and cane were abundant. Another species, *Dillenia indica*, was mainly restricted to lower areas near perennial streams and larger rivers. The lack of a relationship between dispersal mode and adult tree spatial patterns may be due to the fact that tree distributions are a result of a combination of abiotic interactions and intra and inter-specific interactions such as competition and pathogens [1,2], as well as dispersal limitation [19, 56]. Therefore, patterns at the community level may be obscured.

This study highlights the importance of vertebrate frugivores, especially birds, in dispersal of a majority of tree species in a tropical semi-evergreen forest. There was a high representation of families such as Lauraceae, Euphorbiaceae, Moraceae, and Meliaceae, most of which are dispersed by birds. Mammals dispersed relatively fewer species. All tree species showed high clumping. Dispersal mode did not seem important in determining adult tree spacing patterns; however, tree species with larger fruits generally had higher levels of clumping, suggesting that tree species distributions may be partly dispersal limited as fruit size can constrain dispersal ability. Larger fruits therefore show greater levels of clumping than smaller fruits. An analysis that takes into account habitat requirements and recruitment needs of individual plant species, and also uses a refined classification of dispersal modes based on detailed observations of fruit consumers/dispersers, may be needed to conclusively understand the importance of dispersal mode in determining spatial patterns of tree species at the community level.

Implications for conservation

Arunachal Pradesh, in northeast India is arguably the most biodiversity-rich region in the country [57]. Large forest areas still remain, in part due to its low human populations; official estimates report 81% of the area as being under forest cover [58]. However, recent studies have documented high rates of deforestation in the entire northeastern region, and in Arunachal Pradesh-Assam in recent years [59-61]. The state is populated by a diversity of indigenous tribes, who are largely agriculturalists dependent on shifting cultivation and hunting. Although population density is the lowest in India, the growth rate is high at almost 3% per year, increasing from 10 per km^2 in 1991 to 13 per km^2 in 2001. Fifty-six percent of forests are community-owned with an estimated area of 173,000 km^2 under shifting cultivation, which is a widespread practice. Poorly regulated logging has also resulted in loss of forest cover especially in the foothill forests. Other causes of forest loss have been expanding agriculture and settlements, tea estates, other development activities along with population increase, and rapid changes in lifestyle and the rural economy.

Though 12% of the geographical area has been brought under the Protected Area network, implementation of India's strong conservation laws is a challenge, especially because local tribes have a strong tradition of hunting, which has ritual significance and recreational value and remains

an important means of subsistence, catering to household consumption and providing supplementary cash incomes [62-64]. In many parts of Arunachal, large vertebrates are extremely rare or have become locally extinct due to both hunting and habitat loss. Although most hunting is for domestic consumption and sale, the extent of such hunting has resulted in population declines and empty forests [62, 65, 66]. However, despite the imperfections of law enforcement and the prevalence of hunting even in Protected Areas, these areas still afford a greater level of protection to wildlife than community and reserved forests. The primary targets of subsistence hunting are large vertebrate frugivores such as hornbills, ungulates, bears, and primates [62-64, 66]. Given the importance of these faunal groups as seed dispersers of almost 80% of tree species in the area, their decline is likely to have consequences for the dispersal and recruitment of many tree species in these forests, especially several rare large-seeded tree species. Three species of hornbills also play an important role as seed dispersers of over 80 rainforest tree species in the area, nearly one-fourth of the tree species recorded from the area [22].

Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary and its adjoining forests in western Arunachal Pradesh are located within a global biodiversity hotspot [67]. This is one of the few large remaining areas of reasonably intact foothill forest. However, between 1995 and 2000 there was large-scale deforestation (an estimated 232 km^2) due to logging, encroachments, and agricultural expansion and settlements in adjoining forests in Assam near the Assam-Arunachal border. These foothill forests are crucial habitat for hornbills and many large terrestrial vertebrates. Prior studies have shown reduced abundance of diurnal squirrels, primates, pheasants, and hornbills in logged forests [24, 68-70].

Although the area is thinly populated and pressures on the sanctuary are low, local communities (mostly belonging to the *Nishi* tribe), are dependent on the forests for hunting, fishing, and collection of non-timber forest products, mainly in the southeastern part. The *Nishi* are mainly dependent on subsistence agriculture; there are few employment opportunities and there are conflicts with the Forest Department over crop-raiding by elephants. The local community has mostly viewed the Forest Department and the presence of a sanctuary with resentment. From 2002 onwards, the Forest Department and national conservation organizations have attempted to address the problem faced by local communities, and this has generated greater support for the park. Hunting of wildlife such as hornbills, primates and ungulates in the park appears to have declined since 2002 due to better protection by park authorities and greater awareness and enforcement of hunting bans by the *Nishi* community [65]. Our preliminary results from long-term monitoring of faunal groups suggest increased abundance of large vertebrate groups such as primates and ungulates (Datta, unpubl. data).

Our results stress the ecological and social value of preserving ecological processes that are sustained by plant-animal interactions. The study has also generated information on the natural history and ecology of several important vertebrate species and improved our understanding of the forests in the area. This knowledge can be used to enhance conservation awareness among local communities in the area.

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Appendix 1. List of identified tree species, fruit type and color, dispersal mode, major consumers and tree density (trees per ha). A total of 158 tree species are listed, of which 128 were represented in 21 vegetation plots and classified based on dispersal mode, 30 additional species were not recorded in sample plots, but observed to be consumed by animals.

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers and/or dispersers	Tree density
1	*Actinidiaceae	*Saurauia nepalensis*	Berry	Greenish-yellow	Both	Birds & mammals	0.57
2	Anacardiaceae	*Choerospondias axillaris*	Drupe	Yellow	Mammals	Ungulates, elephant, Malayan giant squirrel	0.76
3	*Anacardiaceae	*Drimycarpus racemosus*	Drupe	Red	Mammals	Mammals	0.95
4	Anacardiaceae	*Lannea grandis*	Drupe	Red	Both	Primates, barbets	NR
5	Anacardiaceae	*Mangifera sylvatica*	Drupe	Green-yellow	Mammals	Primates, tree squirrels	0.76
6	Anacardiaceae	*Spondias pinnata*	Drupe	Orange-yellow	Mammals	Deer, wild pigs, primates (once by hornbills)	0.19
7	Annonaceae	*Miliusa roxburghiana*	Drupaceous carpel	Black	Birds	Birds	0.38
8	Annonaceae	*Polyalthia simiarum*	Drupaceous carpel	Black	Both	Hornbills, also bats	20.95
9	Annonaceae	*Polyalthia* sp. 2	Drupaceous carpel	Black	Both	Hornbills, bats	0.19
10	Apocynaceae	*Alstonia scholaris*	Follicle		Wind		0.38
11	Apocynaceae	*Wrightia tomentosa*	Follicle		Wind		0.38
12	Bignoniaceae	*Oroxylum indicum*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		0.19
13	Bignoniaceae	*Radermachera sinica*	Capsule	Greyish-yellow	Birds	Bar-tailed cuckoo dove	1.14
14	Bignoniaceae	*Stereospermum chelonoides*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		4.57
15	*Boraginaceae	*Ehretia acuminata*	Drupe	Red-orange	Both	Birds, mammals	0.38
16	*Boraginaceae	*Ehretia laevis*	Drupe	Yellow-orange	Birds	Birds	2.10
17	Burseraceae	*Canarium resiniferum*	Drupe	Greenish-yellow	Both	Deer, wild pig, birds	3.62
18	Burseraceae	*Canarium strictum*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	0.57
19	Burseraceae	*Garuga pinnata*	Drupe	Black	Both	Macaques, parakeets	2.67
20	Caesalpiniaceae	*Bauhinia purpurea*	Pod	Brown	Wind		9.71
21	*Capparidaceae	*Crataeva religiosa*	Berry	Red	Birds	Parakeets, mynas	2.10
22	Celastraceae	*Bhesa robusta*	Capsule	Yellow	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
23	*Clusiaceae	*Calophyllum polyanthum*	Capsule	Yellow	Mammals	Bats	0.19

Appendix 1 continued

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers and/or dispersers	Tree density
24	Clusiaceae	*Garcinia xanthochymus*	Berry	Yellow-brown	Mammals	Primates	0.76
25	Clusiaceae	*Kayea assamica*	Drupe		Gravity/water		0.19
26	Clusiaceae	*Mesua ferrea*	Drupe	Brown	Birds?		NR
27	Combretaceae	*Terminalia bellerica*	Drupe	Grey	Mammals	Deer, primates, tree squirrels	4.57
28	Combretaceae	*Terminalia chebula*	Drupe	Greenish-yellow	Mammals	Deer	NR
29	Datiscaceae	*Tetrameles nudiflora*	Capsule		Wind		1.90
30	Dilleniaceae	*Dillenia indica*	Pseudocarp	Yellow-green	Mammals/water	Elephants, water	4.95
31	Dilleniaceae	*Dillenia pentagyna*	Pseudocarp	Yellow	Birds, mammals	Civets	NR
32	*Ebenaceae	*Diospyros toposia*	Berry	Pale yellow	Mammals	Deer, primates	1.71
33	*Elaeocarpaceae	*Elaeocarpus aristatus*	Drupe	Brown	Mammals	Mammals	1.52
34	Elaeocarpaceae	*Elaeocarpus ganitrus*	Drupe	Dull blue	Mammals	Civets, (birds occasionally)	1.90
35	*Euphorbiaceae	*Aporusa octandra*	Capsule	Yellow	Both	Birds, primates	0.38
36	Euphorbiaceae	*Baccaurea ramiflora*	Capsule	Yellow	Mammals	Deer, wild pigs, primates	2.48
37	Euphorbiaceae	*Bischofia javanica*	Drupe	Yellow-green	Mammals, Birds	Barbets	NR
38	Euphorbiaceae	*Bridelia retusa*	Drupe	Yellow	Birds	Mynas, barbets	NR
39	Euphorbiaceae	*Croton roxburghii*	Capsule		Wind or ballistic		11.43
40	Euphorbiaceae	*Croton* sp.1	Capsule		Wind or ballistic		2.29
41	Euphorbiaceae	*Croton* sp.2	Capsule		Wind or ballistic		0.19
42	*Euphorbiaceae	*Endospermum chinense*	Capsule	Green-yellow	Mammals	Primates	0.95
43	*Euphorbiaceae	*Glochidion assamicum*	Capsule	Red	Birds	Birds	0.76
44	Euphorbiaceae	*Macaranga denticulata*	Capsule	Blackish-brown	Birds	Bulbuls	0.19
45	*Euphorbiaceae	*Mallotus philippensis*	Capsule	Red	Both	Birds, gravity-dispersed	2.10
46	Euphorbiaceae	*Ostodes paniculata*	Capsule	Grey	Wind		NR
47	*Euphorbiaceae	*Sapium baccatum*	Capsule	Purple-black	Birds	Birds	0.19
48	*Euphorbiaceae	*Sapium eugeniaefolium*	Capsule	Grey	Birds?	Birds?	3.81
49	Fagaceae	*Castanopsis hystrix*	Acorn	Brown	Gravity		3.24
50	Fagaceae	*Castanopsis indica*	Acorn	Brown	Gravity		4.38
51	Fagaceae	*Lithocarpus macrophylla*	Acorn		Gravity/wind		6.67
52	*Flacourtiaceae	*Flacourtia indica*	Berry	Dull red	Birds	Birds	0.38

Appendix 1 continued

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers and/or dispersers	Tree density
53	Flacourtiaceae	*Gynocardia odorata*	Berry	Yellow-brown	Mammals	Civets	1.52
54	Hamamelidaceae	*Altingia excelsa*	Capsule	Dark brown	Gravity		2.29
55	Hippocastanaceae	*Aesculus assamicus*	Capsule		Gravity		0.38
56	Icacinaceae	*Platea latifolia*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
57	Juglandaceae	*Engelhardtia spicata*	Samara		Wind		2.48
58	Lauraceae	*Actinodaphne angustifolia*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
59	Lauraceae	*Actinodaphne obovata*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	3.24
60	Lauraceae	*Alseodaphne peduncularis*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
61	Lauraceae	*Beilshmedia roxburghiana*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills	1.71
62	Lauraceae	*Beilshmedia* sp. 2	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
63	Lauraceae	*Beilshmedia* sp. 3	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
64	Lauraceae	*Cinnamommum tamala*	Drupe	Black	Birds		NR
65	Lauraceae	*Cinnamomum cecicodaphne*	Drupe	Greenish-black	Both	Hornbills, other birds, (also bears)	0.76
66	Lauraceae	*Cinnamomum obtusifolium*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Birds	0.57
67	Lauraceae	*Cryptocarya amygdalina*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills	2.29
68	Lauraceae	*Cryptocarya* sp. 2	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, hill myna, pigeons	0.76
69	Lauraceae	*Dodecadenia grandiflora*	Drupe	Reddish	Birds	Birds	1.90
70	Lauraceae	*Litsea chinensis*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	1.33
71	Lauraceae	*Litsea monopetala*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	0.19
72	Lauraceae	*Litsea panamonja*	Drupe	Yellow	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	0.19
73	Lauraceae	*Litsea* sp.	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
74	Lauraceae	*Neolitsea umbrosa*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	1.90
75	Lauraceae	*Persea/Phoebe* sp.	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	4.38
76	Lauraceae	*Phoebe attenuata*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	2.10
77	Lauraceae	*Phoebe cooperiana*	Drupe	Greenish-black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	1.33
78	Lauraceae	*Phoebe lanceolata*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	0.38
79	Lauraceae	*Phoebe* sp.	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	26.29
80	*Leeaceae	*Leea indica*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Birds	3.05
81	Lythraceae	*Duabanga grandiflora*	Capsule	Brown	Both	Birds, tree squirrels	0.76

Appendix 1 continued

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers/dispersers	Tree density
82	Lythraceae	*Lagerstroemia parviflora*	Capsule		Wind/gravity		0.76
83	Lythraceae	*Lagerstroemia speciosa*	Capsule		Wind/gravity		0.19
84	Magnoliaceae	*Michelia champaca*	Capsule	Grey	Birds?	Birds?	0.57
85	Magnoliaceae	*Talauma hodgsonii*	Aggregate Follicle	Grey (red seed)	Mammals	Tree squirrels	0.57
86	Magnoliaceae	*Talauma* sp. 2	Aggregate Follicle	Grey	Mammals	Tree squirrels	0.19
87	Malvaceae	*Kydia calycina*	Samara		Wind		0.19
88	Meliaceae	*Aglaia* sp. 1	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: maroon-red)	Birds	Hornbills	5.14
89	Meliaceae	*Aglaia* sp. 2	Arillate capsule	Orange-yellow	Mammals	Primates	2.48
90	Meliaceae	*Aglaia spectabilis*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: maroon)	Birds	Hornbills	7.43
91	Meliaceae	*Aphanamixis polystachya*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored	Birds	Hornbills	2.48
92	Meliaceae	*Chisocheton paniculatus*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: white-orange)	Birds	Hornbills, Mountain Imperial Pigeon	21.52
93	Meliaceae	*Chukrasia tabularis*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		1.33
94	Meliaceae	*Dysoxylum binectariferum*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: black)	Birds	Hornbills, Mountain Imperial Pigeon	4.19
95	*Meliaceae	*Dysoxylum hamiltonii*	Capsule	Orange	Birds	Birds	0.19
96	Meliaceae	*Toona ciliata*	Capsule		Wind		NR
97	Meliaceae	*Toona febrifuga*	Capsule		Wind		0.19
98	Mimosaceae	*Albizzia lucida*	Pod	Brown	Wind		0.76
99	Mimosaceae	*Albizzia procera*	Pod	Brown	Wind		NR
100	Moraceae	*Artocarpus chaplasha*	Syncarp	Green	Both	Hornbills, squirrels	0.95
101	Moraceae	*Ficus macclellandi*	Fig	Bright yellow	Both	Hornbills, other birds, civets, marten, tree squirrels	NR
102	Moraceae	*Ficus altissima*	Fig	Red	Both	Hornbills, other birds, mammals	NR
103	Moraceae	*Ficus cyrtophylla/clavata*	Fig	Orange	Both	Hornbills, other birds, mammals	NR
104	Moraceae	*Ficus elastica*	Fig	Red	Both	Birds, mammals	0.38
105	Moraceae	*Ficus hookeri*	Fig	Reddish-black	Both	Birds, mammals	0.57
106	Moraceae	*Ficus lamponga*	Fig	Reddish	Mammals	Civets, bats	0.19

Appendix 1 continued

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers/d ispersers	Tree density
107	Moraceae	*Ficus mysorensis*	Fig	Reddish-black	Both	Birds, mammals	0.19
108	Moraceae	*Ficus nervosa*	Fig	Orange	Both	Birds, mammals	1.33
109	Moraceae	*Ficus pomifera (oligodon)*	Fig	Reddish	Mammals	Civets, bats	0.19
110	Moraceae	*Ficus scandens*	Fig	Red	Birds	Birds	0.19
111	Moraceae	*Ficus* sp. 1	Fig	Red	Birds	Birds	0.19
112	Moraceae	*Ficus* sp. 2	Fig	Red	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	NR
113	Moraceae	*Morus laevigata*	Compound berry/sorosis	Purple-black	Birds	Birds	0.76
114	Myristicaceae	*Horsfieldia kingii*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: bright yellow)	Birds	Hornbills, Mountain Imperial pigeon	1.14
115	Myristicaceae	*Knema angustifolia*	Arillate capsule	Bi-colored (edible aril: red-orange)	Birds	Hornbills, pigeons	6.67
116	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium formosum*	Berry	White?	Birds		NR
117	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium megacarpum*	Berry	Pale yellow	Both	Birds, primates	11.62
118	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium* sp.	Berry	Purple-black	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	0.95
119	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium syzygioides*	Berry	Purple	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	16.57
120	*Oleaceae	*Linoceira macrophylla*	Drupe	Purple-black	Both	Civets, birds	0.76
121	Palmae	*Livistona jenkinsiana*	Drupe	Blue-black	Mainly birds	Hornbills, hill mynas (also wild pigs, bears?)	6.10
122	Papilionaceae	*Dalbergia paniculata*	Pod		Wind		0.19
123	Papilionaceae	*Erythrina stricta*	Pod		Birds?		NR
124	*Proteaceae	*Helicia nilagirica*	Drupe	Purple	Mammals?	Tree squirrels?	2.10
125	Rhamnaceae	*Hovenia acerba*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Barbets	NR
126	Rhamnaceae	*Zizyphus* sp.	Berry	Yellow	Both	Hornbills, other birds	NR
127	Rhizophoraceae	*Carallia brachiata*	Drupe	Red	Birds	Birds	1.90
128	Rosaceae	*Pygeum acuminatum*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills, hill myna, barbets	1.90
129	Rosaceae	*Pygeum* sp. 2	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills	NR
130	Rubiaceae	*Anthocephalus cadamba*	Compound Fruit	Reddish-brown	Mammals	Civets, tree squirrels	NR
131	Rubiaceae	*Hyptianthera stricta*	Drupe	White	Birds	Hornbills	0.95
132	Rubiaceae	*Tricalysia* sp.	Drupe	?	Both	Birds, civets	NR
133	*Rutaceae	*Evodia roxburghiana*	Berry	Red	Birds	Birds	0.38
134	Rutaceae	*Micromelum integerrimum*	Berry	Orange	Birds	Bulbuls	NR
135	Rutaceae	*Zanthoxylum oxyphyllum*	Capsule	Red	Birds	Birds	1.33

Appendix 1 continued

No.	Family	Tree species	Fruit type	Fruit color	Dispersal mode	Known consumers/dispersers	Tree density
136	Rutaceae	*Zanthoxylum rhetsa*	Capsule	Red	Birds	Hornbills, other birds	2.67
137	*Sabiaceae	*Meliosma dilleniaefolia*	Drupe	Yellow	Birds?	Birds?	0.57
138	*Sabiaceae	*Meliosma simplicifolia*	Drupe	Red	Birds?	Birds?	0.95
139	*Samydaceae	*Casearia graveolens*	Capsule	Orange-yellow	Birds	Birds?	1.14
140	Sapindaceae	*Xerospermum glabratum*	Drupe	Yellow-orange	Mammals	Tree squirrels	0.76
141	Simaroubaceae	*Ailanthus grandis*	Samara		Wind		1.52
142	Staphylaceae	*Turpinia pomifera*	Berry	Green-yellow	Mammals	Deer, wild pig	7.43
143	Sterculiaceae	*Echinocarpus assamicus*	Spiny Capsule	Brown	Gravity, rodents		NR
144	Sterculiaceae	*Pterospermum acerifolium*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		8.95
145	Sterculiaceae	*Pterospermum lanceifolium*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		5.71
146	Sterculiaceae	*Pterygota alata*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		11.62
147	*Sterculiaceae	*Sterculia hamiltonii*	Follicle	Red, pink	Birds	Birds	0.57
148	Sterculiaceae	*Sterculia villosa*	Follicle	Bi-colored (edible aril: black)	Both	Hornbills, mynas, macaques	0.19
149	Styracaceae	*Stryrax serrulatum*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Hornbills	4.57
150	Theaceae	*Schima wallichi*	Capsule	Brown	Wind		1.71
151	*Tiliaceae	*Grewia microcos*	Drupe	Blackish purple	Mammals	Primates, bats, ungulates	0.19
152	*Ulmaceae	*Trema orientalis*	Drupe	Black	Birds	Birds	0.38
153	Urticaceae	*Laportea crenulata*	Achenes	White	Birds	Hornbills (once), other birds	0.19
154	Verbenaceae	*Callicarpa macrophylla*	Berry	Black	Birds	Birds	4.38
155	Verbenaceae	*Gmelina arborea*	Drupe	Green-yellow	Mammals	Deer, wild pig, primates	0.57
156	*Verbenaceae	*Premna benghalensis*	Drupe	Black	Mammals	Ruminants	0.19
157	Verbenaceae	*Vitex penduncularis*	Drupe	Black	Both	Civets, birds	0.57
158	Verbenaceae	*Vitex pentaphylla*	Drupe	Black	Both	Civets, hornbills	2.48

* Tree species in which dispersal modes were assigned based on available literature.
NR: Tree species not recorded in sample plots, but observed to be consumed by animals.
Tree squirrels are mainly pre-dispersal seed predators, but occasionally may act as seed dispersers when seeds fall uneaten during foraging.