

## ABSTRACT

The species composition and community characteristics of mangrove forests in Daculan, Estancia, Iloilo were studied. Observation and sampling was done on February 9, 17 to 24, and March 2-8. A total of two sites with five plots each of 100m<sup>3</sup> in area were established on opposite sides of the village. Three species each from different families were identified to have been shared by the two sites, namely Avicenniaceae with *Avicennia marina*, Rhizophoraceae with *Rhizophora mucronata*, and Lythraceae with *Sonneratia alba*. In terms of relative dominance, relative density, and relative frequency for each site *Sonneratia alba* was found to have the highest importance value using stand basal area (SBA), plants per hectare (PPH), and count per plot. *Sonneratia alba* had the highest importance value of 188.63 in Site 1 and 179.36 in Site 2; *Avicennia marina* had the second highest importance value of 62.50 in Site 1 and 69.71 in Site 2; and *Rhizophora mucronata* had the third highest importance value of 48.88 in Site 1 and 50.93 in Site 2. Environmental parameters were recorded in terms of pore water temperature, salinity level, and pH. Site 1 was recorded with a temperature of 30.9°C, while Site 2 had a recorded temperature of 30.7°C. Both sites had a recorded salinity level of 5g/100g, and pH level of 7.809. Based on these findings, the coastal waters of Daculan, Estancia, Iloilo are well suited in the growth, survival, and continued thriving of mangrove species, especially the species *Avicennia marina*, *Sonneratia alba*, and *Rhizophora mucronata*. The impact of a nearby village to the mangrove forests should be looked into for the continued survival of both the forest and village.

Keywords: Mangrove, Community Structure, *Avicennia marina*, *Sonneratia alba*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, Environmental Parameters, Daculan, Estancia, Iloilo