TOPOGRAPHY OF THE SURVEYED AREA

Extensive and intensive surveys were made within the limits of Chandigarh and Haryana state between April 1991 and December 1994. Chandigarh is situated at 330 meters above sea level to the west of Shivalik foothills. Geographically, it lies at 76°, 54'E and 30°, 42' N (Map-I). Its land is sub-mountainous and undulating. Two seasonal rivulets, "Patiala-ki-Rao" on the North-West and "Sukhna Choe" on the North-East have influenced the climate of the area. In addition, there is one seasonal stream, which runs through the heart of the city. The North-East edge of the city is occupied by 'Sukhna Lake' which has been established by damming the Sukhna choe. The city was founded in 1953, after depopulating 82 villages. It is spread over an area of 114 sq. km. out of which 57.6 sq.km. is occupied by 47 sectors of the city main and 56.4 sq.km. is covered by 22 surrounding villages.

The climate of Chandigarh is typically tropical with extreme cold and hot weathers alternating with transitional mild periods and marked by fairly good monsoon. The winter is colder and summer milder than other plain areas due to its vicinity to hills.

Before the establishment of the city, the arable land was covered with thick canopy of trees like Ficus religiosa, F. bengalensis, Mangifera indica, Acacia spp., Albizzia spp., Azadirachta indica, Butea frondosa, Dalbergia sissoo, Syzygium cumini, etc. The present flora of the city mostly consists of exotic, quick growing and ornamental trees like Eucalyptus spp., Cassia spp., Granitea robusta, Albizzia spp., Delonix regia, Parkinsonia sp., Schleichera oleosa, Sweietena mahogani, Tamarinthus indicus, Kigelia sp., etc.

The various localities in Haryana state surveyed for collecting termite species are located at altitudes ranging between 200 meter (Hisar) and 1220 meter (Momi hills) above mean sea level. The average altitude is 300 meters above sea level. Haryana state is situated between latitudes 27° 39° to 30° 55'5" N and longitudes 74° 27'8" to 77° 36'5" E (Map II) and is a part of Indogangetic region. The region is mostly plain except some sub-mountainous areas. The river Yamuna marks the boundary of the state in North-East while the river Ghaggar passes through the Northern fringe of the state. The extreme North is bounded
Topography...

by foot hills of Himalayas falling in the state of Himachal Pradesh while the Southern end is bounded by the thar desert of Rajasthan. The total area of 44,212 sq.km. is divided into sixteen districts (Map-II).

The climate of Haryana is of a pronounced character, very hot in summer and markedly cold in winter. The maximum temperature is recorded in the months of May and June when it goes up to 46°C. The temperature falls to minimum during January. Rains during the monsoon period falling between June and September influence the condition of crops and facilitate spring sowing whereas erratic winter rains during December to February materially affect the production of spring harvest. Annual rainfall varies between 300 mm in the west of 1200 mm in the North-East, the average rainfall of the state being 575 mm.

The major crops cultivated in Haryana include wheat, paddy, maize, bajra, sugarcane, cotton and oilseeds. Forest area is covered mainly by a variety of tropical and deciduous trees which include Acacia spp., Eucalyptus spp., Dalbergia sissoo, Prunus persica, Psidium guava, Prosopis cineraria, Azadirachta indica, Ficus bengalensis, F. religiosa, Zizyphus spp., Mangifera indica, Morus alba etc., while the barren land is occupied by a variety of herbs and shrubs dominated by Calotropis procera, Capparis decidua, Zizyphus spp., Saccharum munnja, Lantana spp., Sonchus spp.
Map-II: HARYANA