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Fabaceae of Ghazipur District, Uttar Pradesh, India

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Abstract: ***This study presents a comprehensive enumeration of 42 species across 28 genera within the Fabaceae family, contributing to the Flora of Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh. It includes identification keys for genera, nomenclature, locality, and field numbers for each species collected from the Ghazipur district.***
Keywords: Fabaceae, Flora, Ghazipur.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Ghazipur district constitutes the eastern segment of the Varanasi division in Uttar Pradesh. Geographically, it is situated between 25º 19' and 25º 54' North latitude and 83º 4' and 83º 58' East longitude. It is bordered to the east and north by the Jaunpur and Varanasi districts, respectively, and to the southeast by the Shahabad district of Bihar, with the Karamnasa River serving as a natural boundary. The district encompasses an area of 3,381 km². Notable studies of the district have been conducted by Hooker, Singh, Duthie, Raizada, and Kanjilal, with adjacent areas examined by Haines. A review of the literature reveals an absence of published accounts concerning the flora of the Ghazipur district. During a floristic investigation, 42 species belonging to 28 genera of the Fabaceae family were identified within the district. These specimens have been documented with updated nomenclature, phenology, ecology, localities, and field numbers. All collected specimens have been deposited in the Duthie Herbarium, Botany Department, University of Allahabad, Allahabad.

II. METHODOLOGY

During the exploration phase, all areas of the district will be systematically surveyed across the three seasons to collect plant specimens in both flowering and fruiting stages and to document seasonal variations. Typically, 4-6 specimens of each plant species will be collected following observations on habit, habitat, frequency, occurrence, association, and flower color, which are not discernible from dried herbarium sheets. Information regarding medicinal or other uses, if any, as well as vernacular names, will be obtained from local inhabitants. All data will be meticulously recorded in field notebooks. Plants will be carefully collected using a knife, or in the case of small herbs, grasses, and sedges, the entire plant will be uprooted with caution. An appropriate field number will be assigned in the field book after the plant is placed in polythene bags to prevent desiccation and withering. For aquatic plants, specimens will be placed in a tray containing water and spread out. A wire press sieve plate with white paper or muslin cloth will be inserted beneath the specimen and then removed. The paper or cloth will be gently lifted with both hands and placed between dryers; the plant should be changed along with the paper or muslin cloth, which will ultimately be placed in blotting sheets. All blotting sheets containing the plants will be placed between herbarium papers. After drying the herbarium sheet under the sun, the specimen will be treated with preservatives and mounted on herbarium sheets for identification and study.

III. KEY TO GENERA

1a. Plant medium or large size trees……2
2b. Plants herb or shrubs……..5
2a. Leaves 3-foliate; flowers large, more than 2 cm……*Butea*
2b. Leaves more than 3; flowers small, less than 2 cm……3
3a. Leaflets alternate……..*Dalbergia*
3b. Leaflets opposite……4
4a. Pod woody, turgid, 1 or rarely 2-seeded……..*Pongamia*
4b. Pod thick, narrow, 4-12 seeded……*Gliricidia*

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5a. Habit twining or climbing……..6
5b. Habit not twining or climbing……..14
6a. Leaves gland dotted……...*Rhynchosia*
6b. Leaves not gland dotted……7
7a. Pod flat……...8
7b. Pod compressed……...12
8a. Staments diadelphous……9
8b. Stamens Monadelphous……...11
9a. Pods covered with irritating bristles……*Mucuna*
9b. Pods not covered with irritating bristles……...10
10a. Style divided into a thin basal and thick upper part……*Vigna*
10b. Style uniformly thick or thin or tapering not divided into two parts……*Lablab*
11a. Stipules and bracts large and persistent……*Clitoria*
11b. Stipules and bracts minute and caducous……...*Teramnus*
12a. Staminal tube oblique at mouth……*Vicia*
12b. Staminal tube truncate at mouth……13
13a. Style bearded longitudinally and not recurved at margins……...*Lathyrus*
13b. Style bearded below the stigma and recurved at margins……*Pisum*
14a. Leaflets usually toothed……15
14b. Leaflets entire……18
15a. Leaves 3-foliate; flowers in condensed or subspicate racemes……..*Trifolium*
15b. Leaves pinnately 3-foliate; flowers in lax racemes……16
16a. Racemes long; pod short, round or oblong……*Melilotus*
16b. Racemes short; pod recurved or spiral……...17
17a.Pods elongated, straight or recurved……..*Trigonella*
17b. Pods not elongated, falcate or spiral……..*Medicago*
18a. Pods not jointed……..19
18b. Pods jointed……27
19a. Leaves odd pinnate……20
19b. Leaves even pinnate……...23
20a. Anthers apiculate or gland tipped, hairs medifixed……...*Indigofera*
20b. Anthers obtuse or muticous, hairs basifixed……..21
21a. Flowers usually in leaf opposed racemes……...*Tephrosia*
21b. Flowers in axillary and terminal racemes……..22
22a. Pods 3-12 seeded……23
22b. Pods many seeded……..26
23a. Style hairy……...*Lens*
23b. Style glabrous……24
24a. Plant shrubs……...*Cajanus*
24b. Plant herbs……..25
25a. Stigma terminal……..*Cicer*
25b. Stigma oblique……...*Phaseolus*
26a. Keel beaked……...*Crotalaria*
26b. Keel obtuse or subrostrate……...*Sesbania*
27a. Stipule absent; leaflets numerous……...*Aeschynomene*
27b. Stipule present; leaflets 1-5 foliate……28
28a. Pod compressed……..*Desmodium*
28b. Pod terete……*Alysicarpus*

IV. SYSTEMATIC ENUMERATION

AeschynomeneL.
Aeschynomene aspera L., Sp. Pl. 713. 1753; Baker in Hook, *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 152. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 271. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: August-January.
Common- near pools and puddles.
Bara, 24319.
Aeschynomene indica L., Sp. Pl. 713. 1753; Baker in Hook, *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 151. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 270. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: August-December.
Common- in cultivated fields and along ditches.
Bara, 24320.

AlysicarpusDesv.
Alysicarpus monilifer (L.) DC., Prodr. **2:** 353.1825; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 157. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 276. 1903. *Hedysarum moniliferum* L., Mant. Pl. **1:** 102.1767.
Fl. & Fr.: August-November.
Common- in lawns, agricultural fields and along roads and railway tracks.
Rasada, 24987.
Alysicarpus vaginalis (L.) DC., Prodr. **2:** 353.1825; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 158. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 277. 1903. Hedysarum vaginalis L., Sp. Pl. 746.1753.
Fl. & Fr.: August-November.
Common- in agricultural fields, protected lawns and on ridges.
Rasada, 24608.

Butea (Lam.) Taub.
Butea monosperma (Lam.) Taub. in Engler & Prantl, Pflanzenfam. **3 (3):** 366. 1894. *Erythrina monosperma* Lam., Encycl. **2:** 391.1786. *Butea frondosa* Koenig ex Roxb. in Asiat. Res. **3:** 469. 1792; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 194. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 240. 1903.
Fl.: March-April; Fr.: April-May.
Occasional - in scanty forest.
Shadiabad, 24842.

Cajanus (L.) E. Huth
Cajanus cajan (L.) E. Huth in Helios **11:** 133. 1893. *Cytisus cajan* L., Sp. Pl. **2:** 739. 1753. *Cajanus indicus* Spreng., Syst. Veg. **3:** 248. 1826; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 217. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 213. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: August-March.
Common- cultivated as kharif crop for its seeds used as pulses.
Alavalpur, 24059.
Cicer L.
Cicer arietinum L., Sp. Pl. 738. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 176.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 256. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-March.
Common- cultivated as a cold weather crop for its seeds used as a pulse and vegetable.
Hasonpur Gora, 24002.
Clitoria L.
Clitoria biflora Dalz. In Kew Journ. 2: 35. 1850; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 208.1876.
Fl. & Fr.: August-October.
Common- in wastelands.
Naripondaura, 24464.
Clitoria ternatea L., Sp. Pl. 753. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 208.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 230. 1903.

Fl. & Fr.: July-March.
Common- planted in gardens.
Gahmar, 24508.

Crotalaria L.
Crotalaria juncea L., Sp. Pl. 714. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 79.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 206. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: October-November.
Common- cultivated as fiber yielding plants.
Nasratpur, 24487.
Crotalaria medicaginea Lam., Encycl. 2: 201. 1786; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 81.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 207. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: August-December.
Common- in gardens, lawns agricultural fields and waste places.
Basupur, 24410.
Dalbergia L.
Dalbergia sissoo Roxb. Ex DC., Prodr. 2: 416.1826; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 231.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 264. 1903.
Fl.: March-June; Fr.: July-August.
Very Common- planted along roadsides, gardens or squares; also, frequently as self-grown.
Qasimabad, 24133.
Desmodium (L.) DC.
Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC., Prodr. 2: 334.1825, *excl. syn. D. biflorum*; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 173.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 285. 1903. *Hedysarum triflorum* L., Sp. Pl. 749. 1753. *Desmodium triflorum* var. *minus* Wight & Arn., Prodr. 229. 1834.
Fl. & Fr.: Major part of the year.
Common- along streams and moist places.
Alavalpur, 24070.
Gliricidia H.B.K.
Gliricidia sepium (Jacq.) Kunth ex Walp., Repert. 1: 679.1842. *Robinia sepium* Jacq., Enum. Pl. Carib. 28. 1760. *Gliricidia maculata* (Steud.) Kunth, Nov. Gen. Sp. 6: 393. 1824.
Fl. & Fr.: February-September.
Common- planted in gardens.
Gausepur, 24643.

Indigofera L.
Indigofera linifolia (L. *f.*) Retz., Obs. Bot. 4: 29. 1786; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 92.1876, *p.p.*; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 249. 1903. *Hedysarum linifolia* L. *f.*, Suppl. 331. 1781.
Fl. & Fr.: Greater part of the year.
Very Common- in lawns, fields, ridges; along the ponds and ditches.
Deokali, 24355.
Indigofera tinctoria L., Sp. Pl. 751. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 99.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 254. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: Greater part of the year.
Ocassional- on ridges, near pond and ditches, along the roads and railway tracts.
Rajapur, 24285.
Lablab Adans.
Lablab purpureus (L.) Sweet, Hort. Brit. Ed. 1: 481.1927. *Dolichus purpureus* L., Sp. Pl. ed. **2:** 1021. 1761. *D. lablab* L., Sp. Pl. 725.1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:**209.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 228. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-April.
Common- cultivated for its pods used as vegetable.
Alavalpur, 24063.

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Lathyrus L.
Lathyrus aphaca L., Sp. Pl. 729. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 179.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 260. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: January-April.
Common- in agricultural fields, gardens and waste places.
Hasonpurgora, 24005.
Lathyrus odoratus L., Sp. Pl. 732. 1753; Bailey, Man. Cult. Pl. ed. 2: 551. 1949.
Fl. & Fr.: January-March.
Ocassional in the gardens as an ornamental plant.
Jakhania, 24221.
Lathyrus sativus L., Sp. Pl. 730. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 179. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 260. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: January-May.
Common in agricultural fields, garden and moist grassy places.
Alavalpur, 24044.
Lens Mill.
Lens culinaris Medic. in Vorles Churf. Phys. Ges. **2:** 361. 1787. Ervum lens L., Sp. Pl. 738. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 179. 1876. *Lens esculenta* Moench., Meth. 131. 1794; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 257. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-April.
Common cultivated as cold weather crop for its seeds, cooked as a pulse.
Alavalpur, 24044.

Medicago L.
Medicago lupulina L., Sp. Pl. 779. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 90.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 210. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-May.
Common in lawns, fields and waste places.
Jakhania, 24238.
Medicago polymorpha L., Sp. Pl. 779. 1753; M. denticulate Willd., Sp. Pl. 3: 1414. 1802; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 90.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 211. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: October-May.
Common in agricultural fields, lawns, gardens and waste places.
Alavalpur, 24054.
Melilotus Mill.
Melilotus indica (L.) All., Fl. Pedem. **1:** 308.1785; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 208. 1903. *Trifolium melilotus* L., Sp. Pl. 764. 1753. *T. indicum* L., Sp. Pl. 765. 1753. *Melilotus parviflora* Desf., Fl. Atl. **2:** 192. 1800; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 89. 1876.
Fl. & Fr.: December-May.
Common in flower beds, agricultural fields, roadsides and waste places.
Hasonpurgora, 24014.

Mucuna Adans.
Mucuna pruriens (L.) DC., Prodr. **2:** 405. 1825; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 184.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 237. 1903. *Dolichos pruriens* L. in Stickman, Herb. Amb. **23:** 1754. *Mucuna prurita* Hook., Bot. Misc. **2:** 348. 1831.
Fl. & Fr.: January-April.
Occasional upon shrubs and trees.
Gahmar, 24510.
Phaseolus L.
Phaseolus vulgaris L., Sp. Pl. 723. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 200.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 224. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: September-November.
Common cultivated for its edible pods.
Bahadurganj, 24287.

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Pisum L.
Pisum sativum L., Sp. Pl. 727. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 181.1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 261. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: December-April.
Common cultivated as cold weather crop for seeds used as pulse.
Hasonpurgora, 24010.
Pongamia Vent.
Pongamia pinnata (L.) Pierre, Fl. For. Cochinch. Sub. t. 385. 1899. *Cytisus pinnatus* L., Sp. Pl. 741. 1753. *Pongamia glabra* Vent., Jard. Malm. l. t. 28. 1803; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 240. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 267. 1903.
Fl.: March-May; Fr.: July-September.
Occasional planted in gardens.
Kundesar, 24606.
Rhynchosia Lour.
Rhynchosia minima (L.) Prodr. **2:** 385. 1825; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 223. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 222. 1903. *Dolochos minimum* L., Sp. Pl. 726. 1753. *Rhynchosia minima* var. *laxiflora* (Camb.) Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 223. 1876.
Fl. & Fr.: August-November.
Common upon hedges and in lawns or gardens
Nonahara, 24537.
Sesbania Scop.
Sesbania bispinosa (Jacq.) Wight in U. S. Deptt. Agr. Bur. Pl. Indust. Bull. No. 137. 15. 1909. *Aeschynomene bispinosa* Jacq., lc. Pl. Rar. **3:** t. 564. 1795. *A. aculeate* Scherb. in Nov. Act. Cur. **4:** 134. 1770. *Sesbania aculeate* (Scherb.) Poir. in Lam., Encycl. **7:** 128. 1806 as *Sesban aculeatus, nom. Illegit.*; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 114. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 243. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: August-October.
Common in moist depressions and cultivated fields.
Basupur, 24407.
Sesbania sesban (L.) Merr. in Philip. Journ. Sci. Bot. **7:** 235. 1912. *Aeschynomene sesban* L., Sp. Pl. 714. 1753. *Sesbania aegyptiaca* Poir. in Lam., Encycl. **7:** 128. 1806; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 114. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 242. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-March.
Common cultivated as fast-growing hedge in gardens, also planted along roadsides and in house premises.
Muhammadabad, 24193.
TephrosiaPers.
Tephrosia purpurea (Lam.) Pers., Syn. Pl. **2:** 329. 1807; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 112. 1876, *incl.* var. *pubescens*; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 245. 1903. *Cracca purpurea* L., Sp. Pl. 752. 1753. *Tephrosia hamiltonii* Drumm. *ex*-Gamble, Fl. Madras **1:** 320. 1918.
Fl. & Fr.: Major part of the year.
Very common- along roads, railway tracks and in waste places.
Nandganj, 24418.
Teramnus(L. *f.*) Spreng
Teramnus labialis (L. *f.*) Spreng., Syst. **3:** 235. 1826; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 184. 1876,*p. p.*; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 233. 1903. *Glycine labialis* L. *f.*, Suppl. 325. 1781.
Fl. & Fr.: August-April.
Common- as climber on roadside bushes.
Yusufpur, 24169.
Trifolium L.
Trifolium alexandrium L., Cent. Pl. **1:** 25. 1755.
Fl. & Fr.: April-June.
Common- cultivated as fodder crop and for green manure.
Hasonpurgora, 24030.
Trifolium pratense L., Sp. Pl. 768. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **2:** 86. 1876

Fl. & Fr.: April-September.
Common- cultivated as a fodder crop, flowers yield a yellow dye.
Jakhania, 24240.
TrigonellaL.
Trigonella foenum-graecum L., Sp. Pl. 777.1753; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 70. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 209. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: February-March.
Common- cultivated as a cold weather leafy vegetable; seeds used as a spice.
Jakhania, 24228.
ViciaL.
Vicia faba L., Sp. Pl. 737. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 179. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 259. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: February-March.
Common cultivated for pods, used as vegetables.
Basupur, 24408.
Vicia hirsuta (L.) Gray in Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. **2:** 614. 1821; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 177. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 258. 1903. *Ervum hirsutum* L., Sp. Pl. 738.1753.
Fl. & Fr.: November-April.
Occasional in gardens, agricultural fields.
Hasonpurgora, 24011.
*Vicia sativa*L., Sp. Pl. 736. 1753; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 178. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 258. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: November-April.
Common in gardens, agricultural fields and moist places.
Yusufpur, 24149.
Vigna Savi
Vigna radiata (L.) Wilczek in Fl. Congo Belge et Ruanda-urundi, 6: 386. 1954.*Phaseolus radiatus* L., Sp. Pl. 736. 1753.*P. mungo* L. var. *radiatus* (L.)Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 203. 1876.*P. mungo* Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 226. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: September-December.
Common cultivated as kharif crop.
Medanipur, 24344.
Vigna sublobata (Roxb.) Babu & Sharma in Bull. Bot. Surv. Ind. **27:** 21. 1987. *Phaseolus sublobatus* Roxb., Fl. Ind. **3:** 288. 1832; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 226. 1903. *P. setulosus* Dalz. in Hook. J. Bot. **2:** 33. 1850. *P. sublobatus* Roxb., var. *setulosus* (Dalz.) Prain in J. Asiat. Soc. Beng. **66:** 423. 1897. *P. trinervis* Wight & Arn., Prodr. 245. 1834; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 203. 1876.
Fl. & Fr.: September-December.
Occasional- near agricultural fields.
Bahadurganj, 24289.
Vigna trilobata (L.) Verdc., Taxon **17:** 172. 1968. *Dolichos trilobatus* L., Mant. Pl. **1:** 101. 1767. *Phaseolus trilobatus auct. non* (L.) Ait. 1789; Baker in Hook. *f*., Fl. Brit. India **2:** 201. 1876; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Plain **1:** 224. 1903.
Fl. & Fr.: September-November.
Occasional- along railway tracts, on ridges.
Gahmar, 24507.

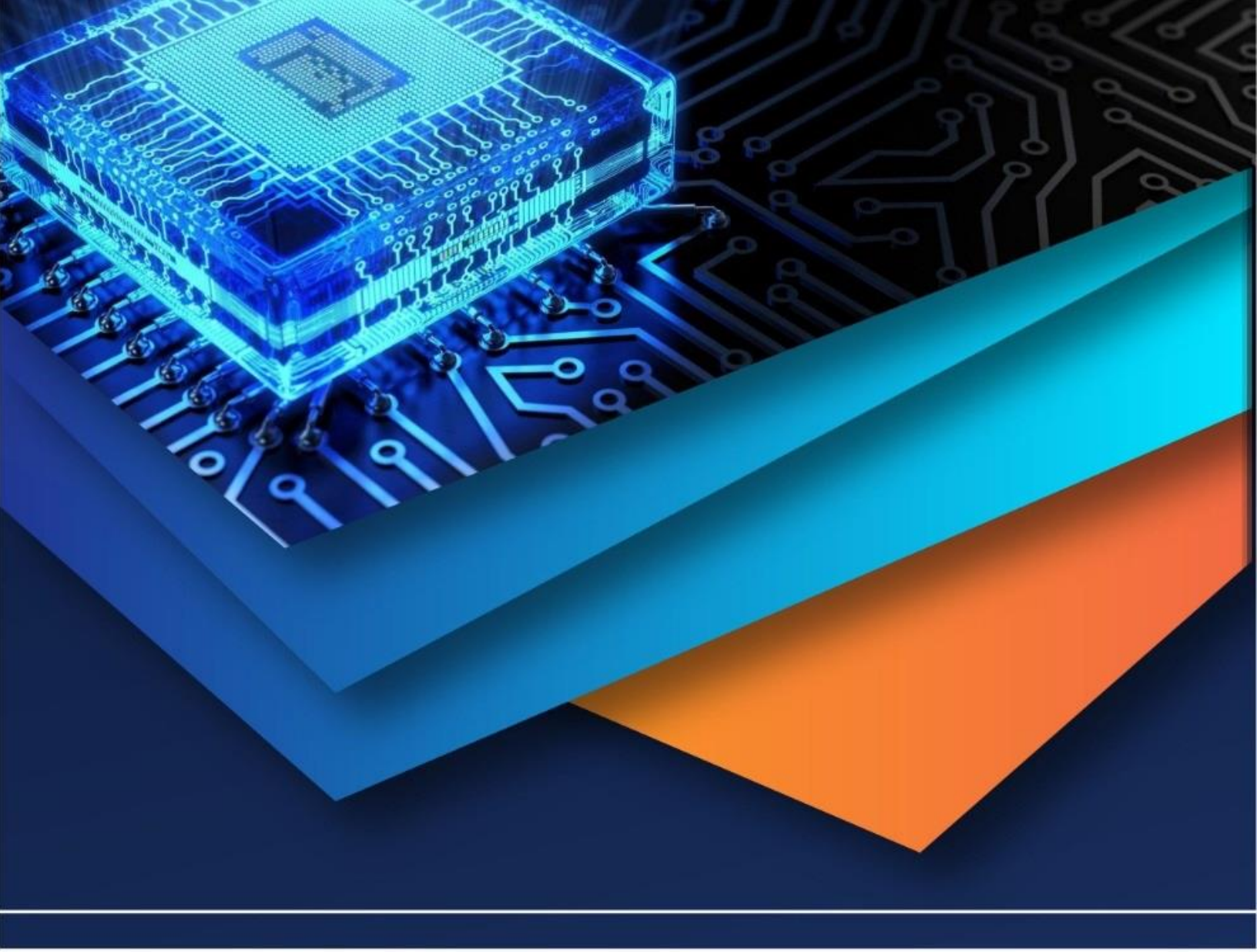
V. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This paper provides a qualitative analysis of various plant species within the Fabaceae family, focusing on 28 genera to comprehensively examine their significant characteristics. The study, conducted in the Ghazipur district, categorizes these 28 genera into four primary groups based on their utility: six ornamental genera (*Butea, Clitoria, Gliricidia, Pongamia, Sesbania, Lathyrus*), nine food genera (*Pisum, Lens, Cicer, Cajanus, Phaseolus, Vigna, Lablab, Trigonella, Mucuna*), six fodder and green manure genera (*Medicago, Trifolium, Melilotus, Vicia, Crotalaria, Indigofera*), and seven wild weed genera (*Rhyncosia, Desmodium, Alysicarpus, Tephrosia, Aeschynomene, Teramnus, Dalbergia*).

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