



## Greengoldowainfoline: A bamboo database of Kokrajhar BTAD, Assam

<sup>1</sup> Anusriti Basumatary, <sup>2</sup> Birendra Kumar Brahma, <sup>3</sup> Sanjib Brahma, <sup>\*4</sup> Amit Kumar Basumatary

<sup>1, 2, 4</sup> Department of Biotechnology, Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, BTAD, Assam, India

<sup>3</sup> Department of Botany, Science College, Kokrajhar, BTAD, Assam, India

### Abstract

The “wonder plant”, bamboo, is one of the world’s fastest growing non-timber plants. It plays an important role in our ecosystem by mitigating the climate change and curbing deforestation. Moreover, bamboo serves as an important raw material for industrial sectors. Also, the shoots of bamboo can be utilized positively for feeding human population due to its nutritional and therapeutic values as well. For the further enlightenment, here we have set out to develop “Greengoldowainfoline”, a bamboo database, that will be providing the information regarding the morphological characteristics, identification and utilization of different species of bamboos found in Kokrajhar district, BTAD, Assam.

**Keywords:** bamboo, Kokrajhar, greengoldowainfoline, HTML, database

### Introduction

The bamboo, ‘*Celestial gift*’ of nature is so intricately interwoven with the daily life of the people of many cultures worldwide. The extremely versatile and fast growth of this evergreen tall grass itself is a ‘*legendary*’. Craving for renewable biomass and the pressure of burgeoning human population all over the world has posed the challenge of maintaining natural resources to meet the present and the future needs where this group of plant comes as a ‘*boon*’ in various forms. The impact of globalization uplifted the significance of bamboo as one of the most important renewable natural resource of India at present. Vegetative growth phase among bamboo species usually ranges from 1 to 120 years. Its trade has gained importance in upliftment of socio-economic status in rural communities (Sundriyal *et al.*, 2011). Spread across 36 genera, there are almost 136 exotic and indigenous species, which are found naturally under cultivation in India. Assam is endowed with 40 species, one variety and one forma of bamboos belonging to 10 genera. Surrounded by International borders of Bhutan and Bangladesh in addition to the interstate boundaries with West Bengal, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, Assam is regarded as the gateway to Northeast India. The district Kokrajhar is one of the 27 districts of Assam which is inhabited by both tribal and non-tribal communities. (Sharma, 1987). To name a few Bodos, Ravas, Koch Rajbangshis, Bengalis, Muslims, Nepalais etc. are among them. Some of the important and versatile ‘Greengold

housing’ in the Kokrajhar district involve/include genera such as *Bambusa*, *Dendrocalamus*, *Melocanna* and *Phyllostachys* having varied types of varieties, species and subspecies. Atleast one third of human race utilize bamboos for several purposes having around more than fifteen hundred documented uses. But still availability of academic domain on bamboo is found very negligible as compared to commercial ones. Thus, this database is an utmost effort to have an insight into the habit, habitat and the diversity of the bamboos etc. in addition to its morphological features, edible shoots etc. It also will produce compiled facts on various bamboo species encountered in the Kokrajhar district which in turn will serve as a resource for researchers who will venture into this field of study. Furthermore, it will provide an in-depth idea about each species that will prove useful for diverse problems related to identification.

### Methodology

Designing of Greengoldowainfoline:

Greengoldowainfoline is built by using HTML and it can be searched at URL: <http://www.greengoldowainfoline.in> website. The data regarding bamboos were gathered from different literature sources like Diversity and Distribution of Bamboos in Assam, Science Direct, Bamboo Information Center, India etc. The database is designed with the help of technical experts. The diversity of bamboo of Kokrajhar district is shown in [www.greengoldowainfoline.in](http://www.greengoldowainfoline.in). The snapshot of database is given in Figure 1.

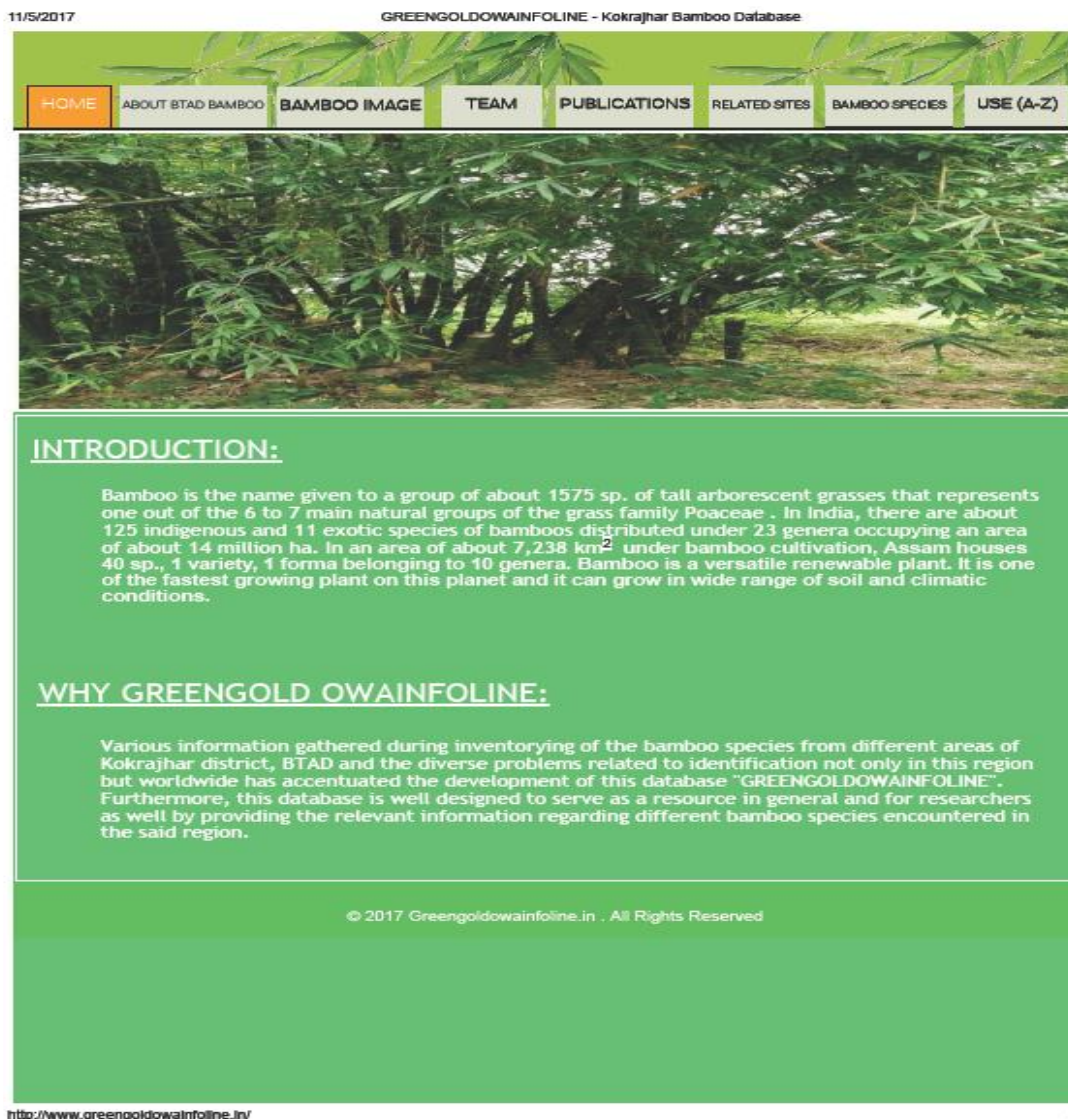


Fig 1: Snapshot of greengoldowainfoline

### Discussion and Future Build out

This database is open source system. Our database provides the information on the morphological identification of bamboos and its uses. The pictures of bamboos given in this database are original and taken from the different regions of Kokrajhar district. It has been constructed as an important platform for study and basic research. Moreover, our database will be updated periodically to present the most up-to-date information regarding bamboo research works.

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