

UPSC Preparation

Littoral and Swamp Forests

Littoral forests and Swamp forests are also called the wetland forests. India has a rich variety of these types of forests. They are mainly found in reservoirs of Deccan Plateau, saline coast of Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Gulf of Kutch, Eastern Coast Deltas, lakes and Rivers of Kashmir and Ladakh, Swamps in North East India. They are part of [natural vegetation in India](#).



Classification of Littoral Forests:

The Littoral forests can be classified into the following types:

1. Beach forests: In the Beach forests, the rainfall varies from 75 cm to 500 cm depending upon the area. The temperature in these forests is moderate. The common plants found in these forests are Manilkara Littoralis, Thespesia, Spinifex Littoreus, Casuarina Equisetifolia, Pandanus, Borassus, Cocos Nucifera, Phoenix, Callophyllum Littoralis, Barringtonia, Pongamia. A number of twiners and climbers are also found in these forests.
2. Tidal forests: The Tidal forests are also popularly known as the or Mangrove forests. Mangrove forests grow along the coast in the salt marshes, tidal creeks, and estuaries. It is home to a large variety of birds. The Tidal forests are further broadly classified into the following four types:

- (i) Tree mangrove forests
- (ii) Low mangrove forests
- (iii) Saltwater forests and
- (iv) Brackish water forests.

3. Freshwater swamp forests: Important plants found here are Salix Tetrasperma, Acer, Putranjiva, Holoptelia, Cephalanthus, Barringtonia, Olea, Phoebe, Ficus, Murraya, Adhatoda, Canna and a variety of grasses.

Frequently Asked Questions related to Littoral & Swamp Forests

What is the other name of Littoral forests?

Littoral Forests are also called Littoral and Swamp Forests and also Wetlands Forests.

What are the characteristics of Littoral and Swamp Forests?

The following are the characteristics of Littoral forests:

- They are found along the coast and cays.
- Twiners and climbers are significant features of littoral forests.
- They occur in patches and narrow strips along the coastlines.

Where are littoral forests found in India?

In India, littoral forests are found in the saline coast of Rajasthan and Gujarat, along the rivers of Ladakh and Kashmir, Swamps of Northeast India, etc.