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From the desk of

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indicator for UG sem-6

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(5) Indicator of Soil type and other soil characteristics - Luxuriant growth of some taller and deeply rooted grasses indicates a sandy loam like soil, whereas the presence of grasses *Anelropogon* indicates heavy soil. Plants like *Chrozophora rotleri*, *Polygonum plebeium* grow better in dry lands. *Shorea robusta*, *Geranium* sps and *gmpatiens* sps indicates proper aeration of soil. Grasses like *Succharum spontaneum* prefer to grow in poorly drained soil. Plants as *Artemisia tridentata*, *Salicornia utahensis* etc. indicates saline soils. Where as *Capparis spinosa* and *Cariaca spinarum* indicate intense soil erosion.

(6) Indicators of petroleum deposits - Some protozoans as *Fusiforms* indicate petroleum deposits in the area.

(7) Indicators of adequate oxygen in water

Plants like Utricularia, Chara, Volvox prefer to grow in polluted water. Bacteria like Escherichia coli also indicates water pollution. Presence of Diatoms in water indicates its pollution by sewage. Movement of fish like Callinectes sapidus, Labo bata, Leuciscus, Notopterus notopterus away from the water indicates industrial pollution of water.

(8) Indicators of overgrazing - Annual weeds and shrub like Amaranthus, chenopodium and Polygonum etc. growing better in overgrazed areas. Horse, sheep, goat etc. also indicates that the area is under intense grazing.

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From the above discussion, it is clear that biological indicators, thus enhanced the usefulness of ecology to mankind.

Their knowledge is useful in protection and reclamation along coasts, water purification, military purposes, nature conservation, public control, utilization of waste lands and management of grass lands and in medical sciences. Forests serve as good indicators of land productivity. The term Bio indicators covers a wide spectrum of organisms serving as indicators of environment. Temp. is not a good indicator of environmental conditions.