



Diversity of *Pithophora* species from Tarai region of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract

Total of 14 genera 16 species and 3 varieties of *Pithophora* species were reported. Of these *Pithophora roetelleri* Agardh, *Pithophora sumatrana* Mart, *Pithophora varia* Willie, *Pithophora cleveana* Wittrock and *Pithophora aequalis* Zonard are first time reported from the Tarai region. They constitute new record for the area.

Keywords – Phycology, *Pithophora*Tarai region, U.P.

Introduction

A good deal of work has been done concerning the diversity of *Pithophora* species in India. Ramanathan (1939) Randhawa and Venkataraman (1961) Patel (1962) Kale (1966) Noor (1968) Sinha and Verma (1969) Singh (1973) Prasad and Vijaykumari (1978) Gajaria (1979) Chada and Pandey (1982) Tiwari and Pandey (1984) Patel and Gajaria (1985) Prasad and Mehrotra (1990) Sharma and Keshri (1993) Mahto (2000) Dwivedi (2001) Kargupta and Jha (2002) Khare and Suseela (2004) Rath and Adhikari (2005). District Bahraich and Balrampur lies under Tarai region. District Bahraich lies between latitude 27° - 04' North and Longitude 81° - 03' East. Geographical area of Bahraich district is 4000 sq. Km. district Balrampur lies 26° - 47' and 27° - 51' North latitude and 16° - 40' East longitude. Geographical area of Balrampur is 2500 sq. Km.

Materials and Method

Algal sample were collected from different localities of Bahraich and Balrampur from Sep 2015 to March 2016. Algal sample were collected from ponds, lakes, canals and tals. Supporting plants of *Hydrilla*, *Utricularia* and *Ceratophyllum* are used for collection of *Pithophora* species. Sample were preserved in 4% formalin with little amount of glycerine. Photomicrography is done with the help of Nikon lavofot II with attached camera. Identification based on Prasad and Jain (1978) Tiwari and Pandey (1981) Mishra and Mehrotra (1998) and

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Krishnamurthy (2002).

Results and Discussion

Total of 14 genera 16 species and 3 varieties of *Pithophora* species were reported from Balrampur and Bharaich district. Tiffany and Briton (1952) have described 2 species of *Pithophora* namely *Pithophora varia* Wille and *Pithophora oedogonia montagane* Wittrock on the basis of size of akinetes. Prasad and Vijaykumari (1980) have reported 3 species of *Pithophora* from Lucknow. Suseela (2003) has described 2 species of *Pithophora* from Bundelkhand region. Sirvastava and Mishra (2004) have reported 4 species of *Pithophora* from Basti. Shankaran (2007) has described 5 species of *Pithophora* from Chennai Tamilnadu. *Pithophora roetelleri* Agardh *Pithophora sumatrana* Mart have been reported first time from Balrampur. *Pithophora varia* Willie *Pithophora cleveana* Wittrock and *Pithophora aequalis* Zanard have been reported first time from Bharaich.

List of *Pithophora* species collected from Tarai region of U.P.

1. *Pithophora cleveana* Wittrock
2. *Pithophora mooreana* Collins
3. *Pithophora ployomorpha* Wittrock
4. *Pithophora agardh* vari. Roettleri
5. *Pithophora kevensis* Kutzing



6. *Pithophora oedogonia* Wittrock vari. Montagane
7. *Pithophora varia* Fritsch
8. *Pithophora sumatrana* (Witr) Mart
9. *Pithophora aequalis* Wittrock
10. *Pithophora wittrock* Monot
11. *Pithophora varia* Willie
12. *Pithophora oedogonia* vari. calcarata
13. *Pithophora aequalis* Zanard
14. *Pithophora oedogonia* vari. polyspora

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