



Ichthyofaunal diversity of Wardha river and Nirguda river in selected stretch of Wani, Dist. Yeotmal, (M.S.), India

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Abstract

Wani area, being a part of the Wardha river basin having rich fish fauna and blessed with vast inland water in the form of rivers with an excellent ecological condition for the propagation of fishes. Different types of small indigenous fishes are abundant in the water bodies in Wani area. These fishes are favorite and popular for their taste having an importance of their food value. The attempt has been made to study ichthyofaunal diversity of Wardhariver and Nirguda river in selected stretch of Wani during November 2008 to October 2009. During study, survey, collection and identification up to species level has been done with standard keys and books. In total 37 species of 24 different genera, 14 families and 7 orders were recorded from the Wani area.

Keywords: Ichthyofauna, river, diversity

Introduction

India is an agro-based country and blessed with vast inland water. This provides excellent ecological condition for the propagation of fish. Lake, reservoir and riverine fishery is important in India from socio-economical point of view, as it has potential of providing employment to large number of people and also plays an important role in augmenting food supply and raising nutritional level. But, still potential of capture and culture fishery is yet to be fully explored and exploited.

Biodiversity is essential for stabilization of ecosystem, protection of overall environmental quality for understanding intrinsic worth of all species on the earth (Ehrlich, and Wilson, 1991). Hence it is a need of hour to conserve the fish biodiversity. But due to rampant mining activities, cement and thermal power project and urbanization there is every possibility of severe decline in fresh water fish fauna. Therefore an attempt has been made to investigate fish diversity and to prepare check list of local fishes from two water bodies, in

particular Wardha river and Nirguda river in Wani area, District Yeotmal (M.S.). The relevant studies on fish diversity in fresh water bodies of India are made by Pawaret *al.*, (2003), Sakhare and Joshi, (2003), Meshram and Meshram, (2005), Jayabhayeet *al.*, (2006), Kadam and Gayakwad, (2006), Krishna and Piska, (2006), Muley and Patil, (2006), Battulet *al.*, (2007), Kamble and Mudkhede, (2009), Shindeet *al.*, (2009) and Thirupathaihet *al.*, (2010) Atkareet *al.*, (2011).

Material and Methods

For the study firstly survey of water bodies in Wani area was done. The two spots on Wardhariver and two spots on Nirguda river were selected, where fishing activities were frequently carried out. Fishes were collected from these selected spots with the help of local fishermen and also from local fish markets. Fish collection was done during the period from November 2008 to October 2009, twice in every month. Fishes were identified up to the species level with the help of standard keys and book, (Day, 1967; Qureshi and Qureshi, 1983; Jhingran, 1997; Daniels, 2002 and Gupta and Gupta, 2006). Immediately after fish collection, photographs were taken with the help of digital camera, on graph paper to know the measurement

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of fish. Fishes were brought to laboratory and preserved in 10% formalin solution.

Result and Discussion

In the present survey, 37 species of 24 different genera, 14 families and 7 orders were recorded from the Wani area. The members of the order cypriniformes were dominated by 18 species

followed by siluriformes and perciformes with 8 species each and osteofromes, anguilliformes and cyprinodontiformes with 1 species each (Table-I). Out of 37 species, 10 species are most abundant, 17 species are abundant, 8 species are less abundant and 2 species are rare. To avoid the species loss and restore habitat these river systems should be given an urgent priority in the management planning.

Table-I: Fish diversity in Wani area (Wardh river and Nirguda river)

S.N	Order	Family	Scientific Name	Local Name	Common Name	Status
	Osteoglossiformes	Notopteridae				
1			<i>Notopterusnotopterus</i>	Patola	Feather backnife fish	++
	Anguilliformes	Anguillidae				
2			<i>Anguilla bengalensis</i>	Tambu	Indian long-fin Eel	-
	Cypriniformes	Cyprinidae				
3			<i>Salmotomabacaila</i>	Chal	Large razor belly minnow (Silver fish)	++
4			<i>Bariliusbarna</i>	Batri	River carp baril	+++
5			<i>Cyprinusbendelisis</i>	Zora	Hamilton's baril	+
6			<i>Rasboradaniconius</i>	Gana	Black line Rasbora	+
7			<i>Cyprinusmola</i>	Nawari	Mola	+++
8			<i>Osteobramacotio</i>	Bhondu	Cotio	++
9			<i>Punctiusdorsalis</i>	Kodsi	Long snouted barb	++
10			<i>Punctiussarana</i>	Karwadi	Olive barb	++
11			<i>Punctiussophore</i>	Karwadi	Spot fin barb	++
12			<i>Punctiusticto</i>	Tepri	Fire fin barb	++
13			<i>Punctiusscurmuca</i>	Bhurungi	Kolas (Buchanan's carp)	++
14			<i>Punctiusamphibius</i>	Ghuruti	Scarlet-banded barb	++
15			<i>Garramullaya</i>	Mahir	Stone sucker	++
16			<i>Cirrhinusmrigala</i>	Mrigal	Mrigal	+++
17			<i>Catlacatla</i>	Katla	Catla	+++
18			<i>Labeocalbasu</i>	Karoti	Kalbasu	+
19			<i>Labeorohita</i>	Rohu	Rohu	+++
20			<i>Cyprinuscarpio</i>	Cipla	Cipla	+++
	Siluriformes	Bagridae				
21			<i>Rita rita</i>	Bhokhi	Rita	+
22			<i>Mystuscavasius</i>	Katwa	Gangaticmystus	++
23			<i>Mystusseenghala</i>	Singat	Giant River Cat fish	+



S.N	Order	Family	Scientific Name	Local Name	Common Name	Status
	Siluriformes	Siluridae				
24			<i>Ompokbimaculatus</i>	Barangi	Indian butter cat- fish	++
25			<i>Ompokpobo</i>	Waddi	Pabda	+
26			<i>Wallagoattu</i>	Sawda	Shark cat-fish	++
		Claridae				
27			<i>Clariusbatrachus</i>	Mangur	Magur	++
		heteropneustidae				
28			<i>Heteropneustesfossilis</i>	Ingur	Stinging cat-fish	-
	Cyprinodontiformes	Belonidae				
29			<i>Xenentodoncancilla</i>	Chocha	Needle fish	+
	Perciformes	Ambassidae				
30			<i>Ambasisnama</i>	Zanjad	Indian glassy fish	++
31			<i>Ambasisranga</i>	Zanjad	Indian glassy fish	++
		Nandidae				
32			<i>Nandusnandus</i>	Dukkar	Leaf fish	+++
		Cichlidae				
33			<i>Tilapia mossambicus</i>	Telabi	Egyptian mouth breeder	+++
		Gobidae				
34			<i>Glossogobiusgirus</i>	Kaddu	Tank gobi	+
		Channidae				
35			<i>Channapunctatus</i>	Mallar	Spotted snake head	+++
36			<i>Channastriatu</i>	Dhadak	Banded snake head	+++
37	Synbranchiformes	Mastacembelidae				
			<i>Mastacembelusarmatus</i>	Bamb	Spiny Eel	++

+++ : Most abundant, ++ : Abundant, + : Less abundant, - : Rare

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Ichthyofaunal diversity of Wardhariver and Narguda river

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