

ICHTHYOFAUNA FROM WAGHE BABHALGAON TANK IN BEED DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT :

Biodiversity is a key element in the health and protection of environment. Fish diversity of any water body is related to its parent river or water source. Present study was undertaken to study the fish diversity of Waghe Babhalgaon tank located near village Waghe Babhalgaon, in Beed district Maharashtra. Identification of fishes was done with the help of standard scientific literature. After identification the fishes were systematically arranged into respective orders and families. Total of 19 species of fishes were recorded from the Waghe Babhalgaon tank belonging to 5 orders and 8 families.

INTRODUCTION

India is one of the mega diversity countries with respect to freshwater fish species (Molur and Walker, 1998). Biodiversity is a key element in the health and protection of environment. Fish diversity of any water body is related to its parent river or water source. Present study was undertaken to study the fish diversity of Waghe Babhalgaon tank located near village Waghe Babhalgaon, in Beed district Maharashtra. It is located about 35km away from Kaij tehsil. Waghe Babhalgaon tank is a prime source of water for nearby villages. The water is mainly used for domestic, agriculture and fisheries purpose.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

For the present study fishes were collected with the help of local fisher folk. After noting their original colour and capturing photos the fishes were transferred to laboratory for further study. Identification of fishes was done with the help of standard scientific literature (Day, 1878; Jayaram, 1981 and Talwar and Jhingran, 1991). After identification the fishes were systematically arranged into respective orders and families.



RESULTS

Fish Diversity of Wghe Babhalgaon Tank (Year 2017-2018)

Order: Cypriniformes

• Family: Cyprinidae

1. *Catlacatla* (Hamilton-Buchanan)
2. *Labeorohita* (Hamilton-Buchanan)
3. *Cirrhinus mrigala* (Hamilton-Buchanan)
4. *Ctenopharyngodon idella* (Val.)

5. *Cyprinus carpio communis* (Linnaeus)
6. *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton-Buchanan)
7. *Labeo boggut* (Sykes)
8. *Osteobrama bakeri* (Sykes)
9. *Chela phulo* (Hamilton)

Order: Siluriformes

- **Family: Siluridae**

1. *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch)
2. *Wallago attu* (Schneider)

- **Family: Bagridae**

1. *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

- **Family: Clariidae**

1. *Clarius batrachus* (Linnaeus)

Order: Perciformes

- **Family: Channidae**

1. *Channa striatus* (Bloch)
2. *Channa gachua* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

- **Family: Ambassidae**

1. *Chandanama* (Hamilton-Buchanan)
2. *Chandaranga* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

Order: Cyprinodontiformes

- **Family: Poeciliidae**

1. *Gambusia affinis* (Baird and Girard)

Order: Osteoglossiformes

- **Family: Notopteridae**

1. *Notopterus chitala* (Hamilton-Buchanan)

DISCUSSION

During present investigation a total of 19 species of fishes were recorded from the Waghe Babhalgaon tank belonging to 5 orders and 8 families. Among these 5 orders and 8 families Cypriniformes was the dominating order with a total of 9 species belonging to family Cyprinidae. Second dominant orders were Siluriformes and Perciformes each with 4 species. Family Siluridae was represented by 2 species while family Bagridae and Clariidae with 1 species each. Family Channidae and Ambassidae were represented by two species each. Order Cyprinodontiformes showed the existence of a single species belonging to family Poeciliidae.

Many workers from Maharashtra as well as from other states of India carried such type of work. Rao et.al.(1988) reported 24 fish species belonging to 18 genera belonging to 4 orders from freshwater ponds of Amalapuram, Andhra Pradesh. Telkhade (2007) reported 39 fish species belonging to 6 orders and 17 families from Tadoba Lake of Chandrapur, Maharashtra. Hiware (2006) described 66 fish species belonging to 33 genera, 16 families and 8 orders from four districts of Marathwada region of Maharashtra. The fish fauna was dominated by carps which corroborates with present findings.

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