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Research Article

Study on Fish Fauna Diversity of Bhusara maun under Muzaaffarpur district of Bihar

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ABSTRACT

The present study has been carried from Bhusara maun under Muzaaffarpur district of Bihar. Fish diversity on this lentic water body has been studied in detail with its food value and commercial status. Twenty eight Fish species of fishes were recorded, which belonged to 20 genera and 14 families. A classified list of fishes has been given. The Indian major carps and few fresh species are commercially important groups in the Bhusara maun

Keywords: Fish species, diversity, food value. Commercially important.

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INTRODUCTION

Fishes constitute the most diverse and Protean group of vertebrates. They are aquatic gill-breathing and fin-bearing cold-blooded organism going back to the Devonian Period. Bhusara maun is one of the most important wetland for the capture fishery of the district. Very little information is available on the fish species diversity of this very maun and in order to fill up this lacuna, an intensive survey was made to draw a picture of fish biodiversity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Research work was carried out between Jan 2010 to Dec. 2011. Fish samples were collected through experimental fishing using caste nets (dia 3.7m and 1.0m) gill nets, drag nets and variety of traps. Fishes

have been preserved at first in concentrated formaldehyde in the field itself and then 40% formalin. Fishes have been identified after standard literature (Day, 1878; Menon 1999; Talwar and Jhingram 1991; and Jayram (1999).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Each aquatic habitat has a variety of species, which differ in their relatives abundance. No community consists of species of equal abundance.

A total of 28 species belonging to 14 Families were observed in Mahendranath pond, siwan. *Catla catla*, *cirrhinus mrigala*, *labeo rohita*, *Puntius sarana* *Heteropneustes fossilis*, *xenentodon cancila* and *Chana striatus* (Table – 1)

Table 1: List of Fishes occurred in Bhusara maun during Jan 2010 – Dec. 2011

S.N.	Family Status	Fish Species	Status
1.	Notopteridae	<i>Notoptrus notopterus (Pallas)</i>	+0
2.	Clupeidae	<i>Gudusia chapra (Ham.)</i>	+
3.	Cyprinidae	<i>Rasbora doniconius (Ham.)</i>	-
		<i>Osteobrama cotio (Ham.)</i>	-
		<i>Punticis sarana (Ham.)</i>	-
		<i>Puntius ticto (Ham.)</i>	
		<i>Catla catla (Ham.)</i>	+0
		<i>Labeo rohita (Ham.)</i>	+0
		<i>Labeo gonius (Ham.)</i>	-
		<i>Labeo calbasu (Ham.)</i>	+0
		<i>Cirrhinus mrigala (Ham.)</i>	+0
4.	Bagridae	<i>Mystus seenghala (Sykes)</i>	+0
		<i>Mystus cavasius (Ham-Buch)</i>	-
5.	Siluridae	<i>Wallago attu (Bloch and schneider)</i>	-0
6.	Poecillidae	<i>Gambusia affinis (Baird and Girad)</i>	-
7.	Heteropneustidae	<i>H. fossilis (Bloch)</i>	+0
8.	Clariidae	<i>Clarias batrachus (Linn.)</i>	+0
9.	Nandidae	<i>Nandus nand us (Ham.)</i>	□
10.	Ambarsidae	<i>Chanda ranga (Ham.)</i>	□
		<i>Chanda nama (Ham.)</i>	□
11.	Gobidae	<i>Glossogobius gluris (Ham.)</i>	
12.	Belonidae	<i>Xenentodon cancila (Ham-Buch)</i>	X
13.	Ophiocephalidae	<i>Chana punctatus (Ham.)</i>	+0
		<i>Chana striatus (Ham.)</i>	+
		<i>Chana marulius (Ham.)</i>	+
14.	Masta Cembalidae	<i>Mastacembalus armatus (Lec.)</i>	-
		<i>Mustacembalus puncalus (Lec.)</i>	-

Note: + = Food fish □ = Ornamental fish O = Commercially important * = Exotic species

Food Value

Almost all fish species found in the Bhusara maun exhibit food value except *xenentodon cancila*. However, out of 28 fish species only 10 species are commercially

important. (Table – I). Among them *Catla catla*, *H. fossilis*, *C. batrachus* are the most prized ones.

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