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Fish faunal diversity of hooghly river near diamond harbor

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Abstract

In today's scenario fish diversity is an important factor for nutrition of human life. Protein source coverage by most of the Bengali's is through fish consumption in daily diet. Even in all leading hospitals & hotels fish requirement per day is unthinkable. River Hooghly is very rich in fish faunal diversity. Almost 260 varieties of fish species and 20 families and 7 orders are available in Diamond harbor. For 7 orders important orders are: Cypriniformes, Perciformes, Osteoglossiformes, Siluriformes etc. Even commercially important shell fish variety has export quality production in that zone. (Tarun Kumar Singh *et al.* 2014).

Keywords: Fish diversity, protein, Cypriniformes, Perciformes, Osteoglossiformes, Siluriformes

Introduction

Fish variety in river Hooghly is interesting because so many fresh water and estuarine (salt tolerant) fish species are available in that belt. Coastal population nearby are very fond of fish. Major population eat fish in their lunch. Many families depend upon fish catch from Hooghly river. Only capture fishery from fresh water as well as brackish water are there. Fishermen depends upon fish fauna available there throughout the seasons to fulfill their families income. Many people engage themselves in early age to capture fish from riverine water and get money to sell them in local markets as well as in nearby metro city Kolkata and industrial hub Haldia and in district Howrah. Many hotels and restaurants are depending on fish supply from Diamond Harbor fisherman. Three major carps i.e. *Labeo rohita*, *Catla catla*, *Cirrhinus mrigala* get good profit. Whereas one brackish water fish *Lates calcarifer* has good demand in market (local as well as export variety).

Materials and Method

Collection of samples from local markets and from fisherman's catch in Hooghly stretch (D.H.) is remarkable. Good species varieties are available in local market. Like *Hilsa ilisha*, *Tenuolosa ilisha*, *Lates calcarifer*, *Ompok bimaculatus*, *Chitala chitala*, *Notopterus notopterus*.

Among cat fish *Mystus vittatus*, *Mystus aur*, *Mystus striatus* another fish *Wallago attu* are also available there. Table size fish (i.e 20g. to 2 kgs.) collected from market and preserved in 5% Formaldehyde and bring to the laboratory for further classification.

In January, February, March and April fish variety are less than other months. In May, June, July and August availability is in increasing order. Whereas in September, October, November and December again it is in decreasing order. Most prevalent seasons in India are Pre-monsoon, Monsoon and Post-monsoon. List of fishes under different orders are as follows:

Result:

Above mentioned fishes are available throughout the year but percentage varies. Fisherman of that area getting money and do business by selling them in nearby markets as well as in hotel and restaurants. Export quality fishes are sorted out in laboratory and send for getting more profit in the nearby countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Bangkok, Nepal, Bhutan, China and Russia. Overfishing must be avoided because now availability is in decreasing order from previous years catch. (Mitra *et al.* 2002).

List of fishes under different orders are as follows

Order		Name of Fish	
	1	<i>Labeo rohita</i> (Ham.)	
	2	<i>Catla catla</i> (Ham.)	
Cypriniformes	3	<i>Cirrhinus mrigala</i> (Ham.)	
	4	<i>Cirrhinus reba</i> (Ham.)	
	5	<i>Labeo calbasu</i> (Ham.)	
	6	<i>Labeo bata</i> (Ham.)	
	7	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i> (Val.)	
	8	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>	(Val.)
	9	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i> (Linn.)	
	10	<i>Carassius carassius</i> (Linn.)	
	11	<i>Puntius sarana</i> (Ham. Buch.)	
	12	<i>Puntius ticto</i> (Ham.)	
	1	<i>Channa marulius</i> (am.)	
Perciformes	2	<i>Channa punctatus</i> (Bloch).	
	3	<i>Channa striatus</i> (Bloch)	
	4	<i>Anabas testudineus</i> (Bloch)	
	5	<i>Oreochromis mossambicus</i> (Peters)	
	6	<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> (Linn.)	
	7	<i>Nandus nandus</i> (Linn.)	
Siluriformes	1	<i>Clarias batrachus</i> (Linn.)	
	2	<i>Heteropneustes fossilis</i> (Bloch)	
	3	<i>Wallago attu</i> (Bl. & Scho.)	
	4	<i>Mystus vittatus</i> (Bloch.)	
	5	<i>Mystus aor</i> (Ham.)	
	6	<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (...)	
Osteoglossiformes	1	<i>Chitala chitala</i> (Ham.)	
	2	<i>Notopterus notopterus</i>	(Pallas)
Clupeiformes	1	<i>Hilsa ilisha</i>	
	2	<i>Tenuulosa ilisha</i>	

Discussion

Fisherman of Diamond harbor are rich due to steady market demand of good quality riverine fishes. Estuarine fishes like *L. parsia* & *L. Tade* are also has lucrative demand in local market. People of Kokata, Haldia and Howrah requires fish for their diet everyday. Table size fishes are getting ample money. People has money to spend on fishes as it's their favorite as protein supplement in daily diet. Requirement of steady experts to monitor quality of water time to time for healthy and better fish from Hooghly river.

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