



Fauna Diversity of Zooplankton of various Ponds of Patna, Bihar

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Abstract : A study was carried out to find the fauna diversity of zooplankton in three ponds of Patna, Bihar in the months of May, June and July. Various physico-chemical parameters of water samples supporting diversity were studied. A total of 33 species were identified in all the three ponds. Patna Zoo Pond showed greater Zooplankton species. A total of 21 species of zooplankton were identified from PWC Pond, belonging to 4 species of Rotifer, 11 species to Copepoda and 6 species to Cladocera. A total of 16 species were identified in BMP Pond, 9 species belonging to Rotifera, 6 species to Copepoda and only

1 species to Cladocera. A total of 26 species were identified in Patna Zoo Pond, 12 species belonging to Rotifera, 8 species to Copepoda and 6 species to Cladocera. The record of various pollution indicator species in all the three ponds infers eutrophic nature of ponds.

Keywords : Zooplankton, Biodiversity, Rotifera, Cladocera, Copepoda.

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Introduction :

Zooplanktons are the free floating and microscopic organisms found in aquatic ecosystem. They represents a major part of aquatic fauna and are known to be an indispensable link between the primary producers and consumers of Pond Ecosystem. Their diversity and abundance plays a major role in management of aquaculture (Panwar and Malik, 2015). Their food mainly includes bacterioplanktons, phytoplanktons and other zooplanktons. They play a vital role in the energy transfer and occupy the second trophic level of aquatic food web. Zooplanktons diversity is one of the most important ecological parameters in water quality assessment. They serve as bio-monitoring of the pond ecosystem and also help in understanding pollution