

# Fishes of Darna region of Nashik District (Maharashtra)

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## ABSTRACT

Present study is deals with the fish diversity of Darna region, Nashik district, Maharashtra. A total of 19 species belongs to 4 orders and 10 families were recorded. A classified list of fishes has been observed in the present study. Major Indian carps and few cat fishes are commercially important groups in the Darna region are discussed in this paper.

**Key words:** fauna, Darna region, fishery.

## INTRODUCTION

Freshwater resources are very important for the life on earth. It harbors many forms of life specially fishes which has great food & economic value. Fish diversity is decreasing day by day due to various man made activities. Fish diversity is not the wealth but it also has some serious implications on fishery. Fish diversity is intensively studied from various parts of Maharashtra (Wagh & Ghate (2003); Singh & Kamble (1987); Ubarhande et al.,(2016))

River Darna is one of the important rivers in Nashik district. It is main river of south region of Nashik district which flows from west to east. Waldevi river join to Darna river at Chehadi place then Darna river join to Godavari. Darna river is one of the most important river for the capture fishery of the Nashik district. From fisheries point of view Darna river occupies an important position, apart from being original habitat of most prized carp species like Catla catla, Labeo rohita, Labeo calbasu and Cirrhinus mrigala.

An intensive survey was made from the local market. The climate of this region is marked by mild cold during winter and intensive heat during summer. The monsoon season in July to September and rainfall fluctuated year to year and during winter month regular occurrence of fog is found. Though river water is used for many purposes like household, agriculture, industrial etc.

Studying fish diversity is very important as it provides the database of particular region. Fish diversity is reported from various regions of the country but least reported from Nashik region. Present study is the aim to obtain the fish diversity from Nashik region.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The collection was made at quarterly intervals extending over period for 2 years (January 2009 to December 2010) from different local markets. Collection of fishes was made with the assistance of local fisherman and farmers operating cast net, gill net, hooks and line collection nets. Collections were also made from tanks, lakes and irrigation channels. Besides collection from the above water resources few

were purchased from local fish markets for collection. Fishes identified in the laboratory using the standard references on the basis of their morphological characters such as body size, types of scales, structure of fins etc.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Each natural habitat has a variety of species which differ in their relative abundance. No community consists of species of equal abundance. Some species are rare, others are common and still others may be abundant. In the present study nineteen fishes were reported such as *Gudusia chapra*, *Notopterus notopterus*, *Aspidoparia morar*, *Puntius chrysopterus*, *Labeo calbasu*, *Labeo fimbriatus*, *Labeo rohita*, *Labeo angra*, *Cirrhinus mrigala*, *Catla catla*, *Aorichthys seenghala*, *Rita rita*, *Bagarius bagarius*, *Chanda ranga*, *Anabas testudineus*, *Channa gachua*, *Channa punctatus*, *Heteropneustes fossilis*, *Clarias batrachus*. This result is also supported by the findings of Shivaji Uberhane et al.,(2016); Lodhe Sheetal & Sathe (2015); Pawara Ravindra et al., (2014) .

A detailed classified list of major captured fishes in order of importance and abundance of Darna region in Nashik district are as follows.

**Major carps (Indigenous) :-** *Catla catla*, *Labeo rohita*, *Cirrhinus mrigala*, *Labeo calbasu*.

**Exotic carp :-** *Cyprinus carpio*

**Cat fishes :-** *Rita rita* ,*Bagarius bagarius*

**Other fishes :-** *Heteropneustes fossilis*, *Channa punctatus*, *Mastacembelus armatus*

### Classified list of fishes in Darna region of Nashik district :-

**Order :-** Clupeiformes

**Family :-** Clupeidae

- 1) *Gudusia chapra* (ham.)

**Family :-** Notoperidae

- 2) *Notopterus notopterus* (ham.)

**Order :-** Cypriniformes

**Family :-** Cyprinidae

- 3) *Aspidoparia morar* (ham.)
- 4) *Puntius chrysopterus* (mccl.)
- 5) *Labeo calbasu*(ham.)
- 6) *Labeo fimbriatus*(bloch.)

7) *Labeo rohita*(ham.)

8) *Labeo angra*(ham.)

9) *Cirrhinus mrigala* (ham.)

10) *Catla catla* (ham.)

**Family :-** Bagridae

11) *Aorichthys seenghala*(sykes)

12) *Rita rita* (ham.)

**Family :-** Sisoridae

13) *Bagarius bagarius*(ham.)

**Order :-** Perciforms

**Family :-** Centropomidae

14) *Chanda ranga*(ham.)

**Family :-** Anabantidae

15) *Anabas testudineus* (bloch.)

**Order :-** Ophicephaliformes

**Family :-** Channidae

16) *Channa gachua*(ham)

17) *Channa punctatus* (bloch.)

**Family :-** Saccobranchidae

18) *Heteropneustes fossilis* (bloch.)

**Family :-** Clariidae

19) *Clarias batrachus* (linn.)

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