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Research Article

Study of Plankton diversity status of local habitat in eastern Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract

The studies included the local habitat of Lake River and ponds, which are most important, share the habitat in local flora and fauna in eastern Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) India. The study was conducted to assess the mainly phytoplankton and zooplankton status of the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal, and Rapti river in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh, India by examining the biological parameters. The most important planktonic group encountered in the present study was cyanophyceae and Zygnematophyceae Nostocale and Desimidiale encountered as other genera which existed in the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal, and Rapti river water of the habitat. The study found that the members of protozoans group animal contribute 50 percent of the total zooplankton population during the year of the study period.

Introduction

Water is one of the most important and most precious of natural resources and a regular plentiful supply of clean water is essential for the survival and health of most living organisms. Freshwater ecosystem is considered as one of the most essential natural resources for all the living organisms on the earth. The freshwater ecosystem include rivers, ponds etc.

The freshwater ecosystem is considered one of the most essential natural resources for all the living organisms on the earth. The various freshwater ecosystems include rivers, ponds, lakes etc. Nowadays, the significant increase in population as a result of the amount of disposal has created a major problem for its disposal. As a result, it has increased the level of water pollution and as a result the ponds have been given euteutrophication. Among, further risks to the development of ponds under the present study are the process and the increase in a human settlement near the pond. It has deteriorated the health of those ponds owing to the discharge of untreated sewage water from the nearby settlements into them [1]. Many studies have found that phytoplankton and zooplankton can be used as indicators of water pollution [2-4].

The rate of growth and development of plankton depends on various biological as well as biological factors such as light, temperature, available nutrients, oxygen concentration, pH, etc [5,6]. The phytoplanktons from the basic trophic level and are succeeded by the zooplankton as the next level [7]. The population of zooplankton is influenced by the physicochemical characteristics of the body of water and it also changes according to the changes of the variation in the seasons [8,9].

The Ramgarh Lake embodies an impressive landmark for the city of Gorakhpur (eastern Uttar Pradesh, India) and has great potential for development as a center for fisheries development, recreational activities and many other beneficial purposes [10]. The maheshra tal is situated in the South-East of the Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh in a rich diversity of phytoplankton and zooplankton. Rapti River is the major tributary of Ghaghara river eastern Uttar Pradesh is located in the west of Gorakhpur region.

The study was conducted to assess the water quality and phytoplankton and zooplankton status of the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh, India by examining the physicochemical and biological parameters.

Materials and methods

Study area

Water samples of Ramgarh Lake, Rapti river and Maheshra tal were collected monthly in the mid month \pm 1day at three sampling sites from March 2020 to June 2020. Samples from the surface and bottom layers were collected at each site using one liter water sampler bottle. All the glass wares were rinsed with 10 % HCl, deionized water and double distilled water Figure 1.

Water analysis for various physicochemical parameters the parameters were within the following range in the study total alkalinity 43–62 ppm, pH 6.8–7.7, dissolved oxygen 6.3–7.3 mg/L, total ammonia 0.29–1.59 µg at N /I [11].

Qualitative and quantitative estimation of Plankton

The plankton samples were collected from the surface only from the same spots and at the same time when and where from the water samples were taken. Each sample was collected by filtering 50 liters of surface water through a bolting silk net made of 20 µm mesh size means of a bucket of 10 liters capacity. The plankton concentrate thus obtained was immediately preserved in 5% formaldehyde solution. This sample was thoroughly mixed before further analysis. The samples were then brought to the laboratory, Department of Zoology, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University Gorakhpur for qualitative and quantitative analysis of plankton. The water samples containing the plankton were dropped on the slides and were then observed under a microscope for the assessment of plankton diversity. Identification was done up to the genus level with the help of published literature [12,13] A sub sample of 1 ml was transferred to Sedgwick-Rafter plankton counting cell for differential numerical analysis. The organisms were identified up to species wherever possible and up to genera in other cases. The quantity of each species or genus was then calculated as numbers per liter in the lake water by Welch's (1935) formula [14]:

n = (a. 1000) c /l

Where n = number of plankton per liter of original water.

a = average number of plankton in all counts in Sedgwick Rafter Cell.

C = volume of original concentration in ml.

1 = volume of original water expressed in liters.

Results

In the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river have hydrophytic vegetation is quite rich and includes several macrophytes and aquatic fauna. The water level of the lake, tal and river varied significantly in different parts of the year. However, the minimum value (40 cm) was recorded invariably in April during the years of study. With the onset of the monsoon, a gradual rise in water level was observed till touching the maximum level in the mid-month of September.

Physical parameters

Depending upon the climatic and biological conditions of the RamgarhLake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river the water changed from light grey to deep green during different months of the year. During the rainy season i.e. August to September, it



Figure 1: Map showing the study area.

was light to deep gray, while during April to May and November to December it was deep green due to abundant growth of planktonic algae.

The temperature of the surface and bottom water was recorded every month (on15th 1day) for one year. In 2020 month of March to June, the average surface temperature during the summer season was 30°C and that of the bottom was 20°C.

The lake water remained turbid during the summer and monsoon months. The transparency was low in summer (20.3 cm in 2020) and monsoon (19.0 cm in 2020), and did not differ much at various sampling stations.

Plankton

Phytoplankton: The member of the families Melosiraceae, Aphanizomenonaceae, Tabellariaceae, Microcystaceae, Cyanophyceae, Bracillariophyceae, Ulophyceae, Zygnematophyceae, Xanthophyceae, Volocaceae and Naviculaceae represented the phytoplankton community of Ramgarh Lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river constituted the dominant groups of phytoplankton. A list of phytoplankton collected from the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river and their monthly occurrence has been given in the Table 1.

During the year 2020, the phytoplankton population exhibited two clear cut phases one running from March to June called the 'summer phase', while another running from July to December called post monsoon or 'winter phase'. The phytoplankton of the summer phase chiefly included members of by cyanophyceae and supported by bacillariophyceae. The members of cynophyceae made their maximum appearance from March to June. In the rest of the months either they were absent or if present they were scanty in numbers and poor in forms.

The members of families cyanophyceae, bacillariophyceae represented the phytoplankton community of Ramgarh Lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river. Among these families Melosiraceae, Aphanizomenonaceae, Tabellariaceae, Microcystaceae, Cyanophyceae, Bracillariophyceae, Ulophyceae, Zygnematophyceae, Xanthophyceae, Volocaceae and Naviculaceae were observed predominant throughout the year and were comprised of 18 genera (Melosiraceae-01 genera, Aphanizomenonaceae-01 genera, Tabellariaceae-01 genera, Microcystaceae-02 genera, Cyanophyceae-03 genera, Bracillariophyceae-02 genera, Ulophyceae-02 genera, Zygnematophyceae-03 genera, Xanthophyceae-01 genera, Volocaceae-01 genera and Naviculaceae-01 genera), chiefly including Melosira varians, Nodularia pumigena, Asterionellopsis Formosa, Microcystis aeruginosa, Aphanizomenon flosaquae, Nostocale srivularia, Nostocales nostoc, Nostocales anabena, Naviculales pinnularia, Naviculales stauroneis, Ulotrichale sulothrix, Ulotrichales protest, Desimidiales closterium, Desimidiales desmidium, Spirogyra, Mischoccales opiocytium, Volvox and Pennales alchetron (Table 1).

The most important planktonic group encountered in the present study was cyanophyceae and Zygnematophyceae. *Nostocale* and *Desimidiale* encountered as other genera which existed in the lake, tal and river water of the habitat.

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 Table 1: Seasonal fluctuations in phytoplankton diversity in Ramgarh Lake, Rapti

 River and Maheshra tal during March 2020 to June 2020.

S.	Family	Phytonlanktons	River/lake/	Sample	Sample	Sample			
No.		in topicinations	Tal	1.	2.	3.			
			Rapti	+	+	+			
1	Melosiraceae	Melosira varians	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
		Nadulariaa	Rapti	+	+	+			
2	Aphanizomenonaceae	nodularias	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
		punngena	Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Tabellariaceae	Asterionellopsis formosa	Rapti	-	-	+			
3			Ramgarh	-	-	-			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Microcystaceae	Microcystis	Rapti	+	+	+			
4			Ramgarh	+	+	+			
		aeruginosa	Maheshra	+	+	+			
			Ranti	_	-	-			
5	Cvanophyceae	Aphanizomenon	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
5	Cyanophyceae	flos-aquae	Mahachra	-	-	-			
			Dopti	-	-	-			
6	Cuananhuaaaa	Nostocale	Demaark	т	т .	т			
0	Cyanophyceae	srivularia	Ramgam	+	+	+			
			Maneshra	+	+	+			
		Nostocales	Rapti	+	+	+			
/	Cyanophyceae	nostoc	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
		Nostocales	Rapti	+	+	+			
8	Cyanophyceae	anabena	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Bracillariophyceae	Naviculales	Rapti	+	+	+			
9		ninnularia	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
		pinnalana	Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Bracillariophyceae	Novioulalaa	Rapti	+	+	+			
10		stauroneis	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
			Rapti	+	+	+			
11	Ulophyceae	Ulotrichale	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
		sulothrix	Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Ulophyceae		Rapti	+	+	+			
12		Ulotrichales protist	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
			Rapti						
		Desimidiales		+	+	+			
13	Zygnematophyceae	closterium	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
			Ranti	+	+	+			
14	Zygnematophyceae	Desimidiales	Ramgarh	+	+	+			
		desmidium	Maheshro	-	-	-			
			Ranti	-	-	+			
15	Zygnematophyceae	Spiregura	Domgork	г	г ,	۲ ر			
15		Spirogyra	Moheahr	+	+	+			
			Iviariesnra	+	+	+			
16	Xanthophyceae	Mischoccales opiocytium	Rapti	+	+	+			
			Kamgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
	Chlorophyceae	Volvox	Rapti	-	-	+			
17			Ramgarh	+	+	+			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
18	Bacillariophyceae	Pennalesal chetron	Rapti	+	+	+			
			Ramgarh	-	-	-			
			Maheshra	+	+	+			
(+), Present (-), Absent									

In Bacillariophyceae group represented by two genera i.e. *Naviculate spinnularia* and *Naviculales stauroneis*. Members of this group exhibited luxuriant growth from March to June. The data reveals that diatoms preferred to colonize during the

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warmer part of the year and they had a lean population during winter.

Zooplankton

The various groups of zooplankton recorded during the period of investigation were, (a) Protozoa (b) Nematoda (c) Ectoprocta (d) Arthropoda. Besides, insect nymphs, larvae and protozoans.

The data pertaining to the population dynamics of zooplankton and its different components like Protozoa, Nematoda, Ectoprocta and Arthropoda are given in Table 2. These data reveal that the population density of zooplankton in the Ramgarh lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river recorded a cyclic pattern, being lowest in the rainy season, then rising through early part of winter and gradually reaching to its peak in the early part of summer in the month of April. Protozoans and aquatic insects though appeared occasionally but in negligible numbers, hence, have not been considered in the present study.

The protozoans contribute 50 percent of the total zooplankton population during the year of 2020. The period from March to June was observed to be conducive for its growth whereas the period from June to August recorded its lean population (Table 2). Eighteen genera represented this group Amoeba verrucosa, Amoeba proteus, Amoeba vespertilio, Amoeba vulgaris, Amoeba gibbosa, Pelonyxa palustris, Diffligia muriformes, Acanthocystis, Lionotus fasciola, Nassula ornate, Glaucoma pyriformis, Monochilum ovale, Ophryoglena flava, Paramaecium Caudatum, Paradoxorhabditis paradoxus, and Arcella.

The nematode contributed 20 percent to the total zooplankton population in the year, recording their presence

S.N. Tanonic group Family Cooplanktons Rever law (1) Sample 1 Sample 2 Sample 2 1 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba verueosa Rangarh + + + 2 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba verueosa Rangarh + + + 3 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba verueosa Rangarh + + + + 3 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba vergerilio Rangarh + <	Table 2: Seasonal fluctuations in Zooplankton diversity in Ramgarh Lake, Rapti River and Maheshra tal during March 2020 to June 2020.							
Protoza Amoebidae	S.N.	Taxnomic group	Family	Zooplanktons	River/lake/Tal	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
1 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba verucosa Maneshra + + + 2 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba proteus Rapii + 4 3 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba proteus Rapii + 4 3 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba vespertilo Rapii + 4 4 Maleshra + Hamoshi + + 4 4 Maleshra + Hamoshi Hamoshi + 4 5 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba vespertilo Ramoshi + + 6 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba vespertilo Rapii + + <	1				Rapti	+	+	+
Image Image <thimage< th=""> Image <thi< td=""><td>Protoza</td><td>Amoebidae</td><td>Amoeba verrucosa</td><td>Ramgarh</td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>+</td></thi<></thimage<>		Protoza	Amoebidae	Amoeba verrucosa	Ramgarh	+	+	+
Rapti (+) (+) (+) (+) 2 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba protus Rapti (+) (+) 3 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba esperti/o Rapti (+) (+) 4 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba esperti/o Rapti (+) (+) 4 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba esperti/o Rapti (+) (+) 4 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba usparia Rapti (+) (+) 5 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba gibbosa (+) (+) (+) 6 Protoza Amoebidae Amoeba gibbosa (+) (+) (+) 6 Protoza Amoebidae Pelonyza palustris Rapti (+) (+) 7 Protoza Pelonyzidae Pelonyza palustris Rapti (+) (+) 7 Protoza Diffugidae Diffigia nurformes Rapti (+) (+) 7					Maheshra	+	+	+
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Image: book in the section i	2				Ramgarh	+	+	+
Rapri Rapri <th< td=""><td></td><td>Maheshra</td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>+</td></th<>					Maheshra	+	+	+
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Image: base in the section of the section o	3				Ramgarh	+	+	+
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11 ProtozaProtozaNassulidaeNassulia ornataRangarh+++11 Maheshra		Protoza	Nassulidae	Nassula ornata	Rapti	+	+	+
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$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c } \hline 13 & \ Protoza & \ Ophryoglenidae & \ Ophryoglena flava & \ Protoza & \ Ophryoglenidae & \ Ophryoglena flava & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Protoza & \ Parameecium Caudatum & \ Protoza & \ Proto$		Protoza		Monochilum ovale	Rapti	+	+	+
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	13				Ramgarh	+	+	+
$ \begin{array}{c} 14 \\ 14 \\ 15 \\ 15 \end{array} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ $					Maheshra	+	+	+
14 Protoza Ophryoglenidae Ophryoglena flava Ramgarh + + 14 Protoza Ophryoglenidae Ophryoglena flava Ramgarh + + 15 Protozoa Parameciidae Paramaecium Caudatum Ramgarh + + 15 Protozoa Parameciidae Paramaecium Caudatum Ramgarh + +	14	Protoza	Ophryoglenidae	Ophryoglena flava	Rapti	+	+	+
Image: height state Image: height st					Ramgarh	+	+	+
15 Protozoa Parameciidae Paramaecium Caudatum Ramgarh - + Maheshra + +					Maheshra	+	+	+
Protozoa Parameciidae Paramaecium Caudatum Ramgarh - + Maheshra + + + +	15	Protozoa	Protozoa Parameciidae	Paramaecium Caudatum	Rapti	+	+	+
Maheshra + + +					Ramgarh	-	-	+
					Maheshra	+	+	+

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			Paradoxorhabditis Paradoxus	Rapti	+	+	+
16	Protozoa	Parameciidae		Ramgarh	+	+	+
	1101020a	i didinoonado		Mabaabra			
				Ividitestita	т	т	т
			Arcella	Rapti	+	+	+
17	Protozoa	Arcellidae		Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	-	+	-
19	Nomotodo	Doromogiidag	Paradoxorhabditis cranganorensis	Domgorh	1		1
10	Nentatoua	Falameciluae		Kailigaili	т	т	т
				Maheshra	+	+	+
19	Nematoda		Paradoxorhabditis jodhpurensis	Rapti	-	-	-
		Parameciidae		Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Denti			
	Nematoda		Gobindonema filicaudatum	кари	+	Ŧ	+
20		Cylindrocorporidae		Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
21	Nematoda	Haplolamidae	Helicotylenchus crenacauda	Ramgarh	+	+	+
	Tomatoda	Taplotattiuae	i leneetylenenae ereinaeaaaa	Mabaabra			
				Ividitestita	-	-	т
				Rapti	+	+	+
22	Nematoda	Picarilaimidae	Picarilaimus caudatus	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Ranti	+	+	+
22	Nematoda		Albunema indiaum	Pamoarh			_
23	INCITIOLUUD		Albunema mulcum	Nangan	- T	- τ	-
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
24	Nematoda		Monohystera pseudomacrura	Ramgarh	+	+	+
			- ·	Maheshra	+	+	+
				Panti	÷	-	
05	Eatoward 1		Coloristotati	napu Demenu	т	т	т
25	Ectoprocta		Colony of statoblast	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
26	Ectoprocta		Statoblast	Ramgarh	+	+	+
20	Letoproctu		otatobiast	Mahaahra			
				ivianesnra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
27	Ectoprocta		Glossiphoonia webri	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
20	Entoprosto		Herpohdelle hexeculate	Domgorh			
20	Ectoprocia		Herpobuella llexaculata	Raingain	т	т	т
				Maheshra	+	+	+
				Rapti	+	+	+
29	Arthropoda	Streptocephalidae	Streptocephalus dichotomus	Ramgarh	+	+	+
	-			Maheshra	+	+	+
				Dopti			
		Thamnocephalidae		Карц	т	т	т
30	Arthropoda		Branchinella kugenumaensis	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	-	-	-
				Rapti	-	-	-
31	Arthropoda	la Triopsidae	Trions longcaudatus	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheebra	_	+	+
				Ivialicollia	-	F	Г
		Arthropoda	Eocyzius plumosus	карті	-	-	-
32	Arthropoda			Ramgarh	+	+	-
				Maheshra	-	-	-
				Rapti	+	+	+
33	Arthropoda	Dophniiadae	Dophnia carinata	Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Mahaahra	•	•	•
				IviditeStilla	-	-	-
34	Arthropoda	Dophniiadae		Rapti	-	-	-
			Dophnia lumholtzisars	Ramgarh	+	+	+
			-	Maheshra	-	-	+
	Arthropoda	Dophniiadae	Ceriodophina	Rapti	+	+	+
35				Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Mahaahr-			
				ivianesnra	+	+	+
36	Arthropoda	Dophniiadae	Scapholebris	Rapti	-	-	-
				Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	+	+	+
	Arthropoda	Arthropoda Daphniidae	Moina (female)	Ranti	-	-	-
37				Demaark			
				Kamgarn	+	+	+
				Maheshra	-	-	-
		a Daphniidae	Moina (Male)	Rapti	-	-	-
38	Arthropoda			Ramgarh	+	+	+
				Maheshra	_	-	-
				Panti			
39		Arthropoda Cyprididae	Ostracod	napu	-	-	-
	Arthropoda			Kamgarh	-	-	-
				Maheshra	+	+	+

(+), Present (-), Absent

throughout the year. The nematode was represented by the families - Cyclindrocorporidae and haplodamidae.

The member of the phylum arthropoda belongs to the family streptocephalidae, tropsidae, arcellidae it belongs to the genera viz. Streptocephalus dichotomus, Branchinella kugenumaensis, Arcella, Eocyzius pulmosus, Triops longcaudatus.

Monitoring the physico-chemical parameters is very important for studying the influence of parameters on the distribution of various components of diversity in water. Water quality is influenced by geological, hydrological, climatic and anthropogenic factors Water temperature is considered as one of the important factors that controls aquatic life.

Discussion

Temperature plays an important role in the physical environment of the organism. It universally regulates the distribution and activities of plants and animals. According to Allen [15] and Prasad [16] temperature is a determining factor in the seasonal distribution of plankton. In the Ramgarh Lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river plankton population was observed to flourish during the period of temperature range between 30°C and 28°C.

The observed dissolved oxygen content was directly correlated with the plankton population in RamgarhLake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river during the course of the study. The low level of dissolved oxygen content observed during summer months was associated with lesser number of plankton whereas increase in dissolved oxygen level was accompanied with by an increase in the plankton population. The free carbon dioxide readily dissolves in water and combines with other substances. It plays an important role in the photosynthetic activities of both terrestrial as well as aquatic plants. Pahwa and Meherotra 966) [17] and Ray, et al. [18] have observed the plankton population directly correlated with chloride concentration.

The members of cyanophyceae exhibited their maximum appearance during the summer month till the onset of the monsoon. The possible reason seems to be the availability of enough nutrients due to the increased decomposition rate. The variations of plankton population with respect to their number space and time may be due to the high rate of sewage pollution and affinity for different climatic conditions.

The taxonomy of zooplankton and their seasonal fluctuation in relation to different physico-chemical factors have been variously discussed by Michael [19], Nandy, et al. [20], Balmurugan, et al. [21,22]. The zooplankton population of Ramgarh Lake, Maheshra tal and Rapti river showed a direct correlation with dissolved oxygen. It is generally assumed that the zooplankton depends upon the phytoplankton abundance and as such the peak of the latter follows the fall of the farmer.

Conclusion

The aquatic environment is an area controlled by the changes in factors such as light, heat, humidity and contamination of various effluents in the water body. The results from this study indicated the status of plankton, followed by rich nutrients and an elevated level of zooplankton abundance in the lake, tal and river during the summer season. The study provides the role of phytoplankton and zooplanktons as bioindicators in detecting the health and trophic status of aquatic bodies. Some species withstand the extreme conditions and survive well in the polluted environment indicating high tolerance level while sensitive species were absent representing their low tolerance.

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