

Full length Article A Preliminary Study on Algal Biodiversity of Ujani Reservoir (MS) India

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ABSTRACT

Ujani reservoir is one of the most important reservoirs of Maharashtra. It occupies a geographical area of Pune, Solapur and Nagar district of Maharashtra. In order to study the algal biodiversity of Ujani reservoir seven different sites of backwater located in Indapur Tehsil area of Pune district have been selected for algal collection. Algal samples were collected at monthly intervals from November 2012 to October 2013. Acid washed collection bottles were used for the collection of algal samples. Floating, planktonic, submerged and attached epiphytic algal samples were collected. In present study 75 species under 42 genera have been identified and recorded. Algal members belonged to Chlorophyceae, Charophyceae, Bacillariophyceae and Cyanophyceae were recorded. Cholorophyceae group was found dominant which is followed by Cyanophyceae, Bicillariophyceae and Charophyceae. Algal genera such as *Spirogyra, Scenedesmus, Cosmarium, Cladophora, Gloeocystis, Chlorella, Fragilaria, Nitzschia, Gyrosigma, Aphanothece. Phormidium, Oscillatoria, Microcoleus, Spirulina. Lyngbya, Gloeothece and Synchococcus were found dominant. Algal flora of seven different sites of Ujani reservoir is rich and it is found in diverse form.*

Key words: Ujani reservoir, algal biodiversity.

INTRODUCTION

Algae is a diverse group of plant kingdom. Rivers, streams, pools, puddles, ponds, lakes and dams are the different types of fresh water habitats where algae grows abundantly and found in diverse form. Ujani reservoir is one of most important reservoirs of maharashtra. It occupies a area of Pune, Solapur and Nagar districts of maharashtra. Geographically it is situated at 18° 4¹ 26^{!!} N latitude and 75° 7¹ 12^{!!} E longitude. Review of literature reveals that, so far, this reservoir has not been explored as its biodiversity of algae is concerned. Therefore to fulfil this lacuna it has been decided to work on algal biodiversity of Ujani reservoir.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

To study algal biodiversity of Ujani reservoir, seven different sites of backwater located in Indapur tehsil area of Pune district have been selected. These sites are Taratgaon, Kandalgaon, Malwadi, Kalthan, Palasdev, Dalaj and Takrarwadi: Algal samples were collected from these sites at monthly intervals from November 2012 to October 2013. Acid washed collection bottles were used for collection of algal samples. Floating, Planktonic Submerged and attached epiphytic algal samples were collected separately in collection bottles. Collected samples preserved in 4% formalin for further taxnomic study. Fresh as well as preserved algal forms were observed thoroughly under research microscope and idenfified with the help of standard literature on algae.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The biodiversity of algae from seven different sites of Ujani reservoir is remarkable. In present study a total of 75 species of algae under 42 genera have been identified and recorded. Of these 35 species under 20 genera belonged to Chlorophyceae, 1 species under 1 genus belonged to Charophyceae, 11 species under 7 genera belonged to Bacillariophyceae and 28 species under 14 genera belonged to Cyanophyceae (Table 1). Ashtekar (1980) studied algal biodiversity of fresh water habitats of Aurangabad district. Pingle (1981) worked on ecobiodiversity of algae from Poona. Kumawat and Jawale (2004) extensitely studied phytoplanktons of some fish ponds. Magar (2008) worked on diversity of algae of Girna reservoir of Maharashtra. Talekar (2009) Studied algal biodiversity of Manjara River and its reservoirs in Beed district of Maharashtra. During present study Chlorophycean algae were dominant followed by Cyanophyceae, Bacillariophyceae and Charophyceae. Among Chlorophyceae Spirogyra, Scenedesmus, Cosmarium, Cladophora, Gloeocystis and Chlorella were found dominant. Similar kind of results were obtained by Somani and Pejaver (2003), Mahajan and Nandan (2005) and Nandan and Mahajan (2007).

Charophyceae is represented by *Chara fragilis.* Ashtekar (1980) Talekar (2009) and yadav (2010) recorded different species of *Chara* from Marthwada region of Maharashtra. Diatoms such

as Fragilaria, Nitzschia and Gyrosigma were dominant. Talekar and Jadhav (2010) reported 21 species of pinnate diatoms from Manjara river of Beed district of Maharashtra. Among Cyanophyceae Phormidium, Oscillatoria, Aphanothece, Microcoleus, Plectonema, Spirulina, Lyngbya, Gloeothece and Synechococcus were found dominant similar kind of results were recorded by Whitton (1969), Sirasat et. al. Magar (2008) and Yadav (2010). Algal biodiversity study of Ujani reservoir shows interesting seasonal variations throughout the period of study. Chlorophyceae members were found dominant in winter and monsoon season. Cyanophyceae members were maximum in summer season. Bacillariophyceae members were found maximum in summer and winter seasons. Charophyte recorded in winter season.

Unicellular, colonial and filamentous algal forms were recorded throughout the period of study. The composition of Chlorophyceae was greater in species compostion as compared to other groups of algae Biodiversity of algae in terms of quantity and quality were observed at all the selected sites of Ujani reservoir.

Table 1 : Algal taxa recorded from Ujani reservoir.

Chlorophyceae

Gloeocystis gigas, Gloeocystis major, Tetraspora lamellosa, Ulothrix tenuissima, Coleochete scutata, Cladophora callicoma, Cladophora crispata, Oedogonium formosum, Chlorococcum humicola, Trebouxia Sp, Trochiscia aspera, Trochiscia obtusa, Pediastrum boryanum, Pediastrum duplex, Htydrodictyon reticulatum, Chlorella vulgaris, Crucigenia tetrapedia, Scenedesmus bijugatus, Scenedesmus, longus, Scenedusmus quadricauda var. longispina, Mougeotia varians, Zygnema gangeticum, Zygnema melanosporum, Zygnema mucigenum, Spirogyra aequinoctialis, Spirogyro, inconstans, Spirogyra jugdis, Spirogyra subsalsa, Spirogyra triplicata, Closterium leiblenni Euastrum irregulare, Euastrum Spinulosum, Cosmarium moniliforme, Cosmarium perifissum, Cosmarium Subtumidum var. minutum

Charophyceae *Chara fragilis*

Bacillariophyceae

Fragilaria brevistriata, Fragilaria construens, Mastigloia sp. Gyrosigma baikalensis, Gyrosigma bhusavalensis, Pinnularia sp. Cymbella aspera, Rhopalodia gibba, Nitzschia closterium, Nitzschia intermedia, Nitzschia Palea.

Cyanophyceae

Gloeothece palea, Aphanocapsa pulchera, Aphanothece nidulans, Aphanothece saxicola, Synechoccus aeruginosus, Merismopedia punctata, Spirulina gigantea, Spirulina labyrinthiformis, Spirulina major, Oscillatoria animalis, Oscillatoria chlorina, Oscillatoria principes, Lyngbya birgei, Lyngbya magnifica, Lyngbya major, Microcoleus acutissimus, Microcoleus subtorulosus, Nostoc microscopicum, Nostoc pareliodes, Plectonema gracillimum, Plectonema nostocorum, Scytonema cincinnatum, Calothrix sp. Phormidium beseri, Phormidium bohneri, Phormidium jenkelianum, Phormidium molle, Phorimidium Subincrustatum.

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