

The continuous consumption of leaves of *Dalbea* also often leads to defoliation. The most interesting aspect of their feeding habits is that they are frugivorous, taking all varieties of fruits. Fruits like mangoes, guava and sapota are severely attacked. When threatened they jump from one branch to another at high speed which makes the immature fruits fall down, causing a great loss to the orchardists. Sometimes during food scarcity, the monkeys also take jackfruits. They also damage the coconut flowers.

The people made several trials to grow some other crops in the main crop field which are not palatable to these animals but the langurs are intelligent enough to change their food habits and become well adapted to live on presently available food in the field. The farmers try to cultivate the non-preferred crops like chilly and bitter gourd, etc. in place of potatoes and brinjal. After some time, however, the same non-preferred vegetables become preferred by the langurs. It has been experienced by the local people that the change of unpalatable crops to palatable food cause a great loss to them. At last farmers cultivated pine apple in the field which has never been recorded as food of the monkeys and now it is found that the same also is finished. This hide and seek behaviour of these primates affected the poor farmers to a great extent. The loss ultimately affects the standard of living and quality of life of man and finally to the state economy. Therefore initiatives should be taken to solve this problem. In this regard the authors suggest some useful solutions

Afforestation of wastelands with food plants of Indian origin will be the best way to reduce the monkey's dependency on crops. Translocation of monkeys from over populated areas to suitable places could reduce stress on crop damage. Kill-

ing them by tribal groups who are monkey-eaters could be allowed to restrict the population only when the other two methods fail to check their population. In addition, the farmers and orchardists can take steps to safeguard their crops by being vigilant especially during day time.

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## SNAILS OF MADHAV NATIONAL PARK

Pradeep Shrivastava & Rajiv Saxena

Snails form the largest group among molluscs and vary widely in structure and habits. They are mainly categorized as lung breathing land snails, freshwater snails and sea snails. A faunal study of snails was conducted during 1994 on the banks of Sakhya Sagar (25°26' N - 77°42'E) which is situated in the central zone of Madhav National Park (77°15' - 78°30'E and 24°50'-25° 55'N). The shoreline of the Lake is mostly muddy marshy gradually slopping down to shallow and then deep water. The submerged vegetation includes *Hydrilla verticillata*, *Vallisneria spiralis*, *Chara*

sp. and *Potamogeton* sp. Floating vegetation is dominated by *Nymphaea nuchalis*, *Nymphoides* sp. and emergent vegetation by *Scirpus*, *Typha* and *Phragmites*.

The snails recorded during the study period are as follows.

1. *Indoplanorbis exustus* (Deshayes 1834)
2. *Lymnaea acuminata* (Lamarck 1822)
3. *L. luteola* (Lamarck 1822)
4. *Gyraulus convexiusculus* (Hutton 1849)
5. *Bellamya bengalensis* (Lamarck 1822)
6. *Shaira tuberculata crebra* (Lee 1850)
7. *Passeysia fevidens viridula* (Benson 1862)
8. *Lamellidens jenkinsianus* (Benson 1862)
9. *Corbicula peninsularis* (Prashad 1928)

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MIG - 853, Darpan Colony, Thatipur, Gwalior - 474 011, M. P.

