

OCCURRENCE OF FRESHWATER BIVALVES (BIVALVIA: UNIONIDA) IN PUSAD, YAVATMAL DISTRICT, MAHARASTRA

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The phylum Mollusca includes soft-bodied animals which are protected by a hard shell. They occupy different habitats from deep waters of the sea to high altitudes. They are divided into freshwater, marine and terrestrial forms. Of the seven classes of Mollusca, Gastropoda and Bivalvia are the only freshwater forms and 210 species belonging to 52 genera under 21 families have already been recorded from India (Rao, 1993).

Annandale (1919), Annandale and Prasad (1919), Tonapi and Mulherkar (1963), Tonapi (1971), and, Rao and Mitra (1979) had given accounts of molluscan fauna of Western Maharashtra, *i.e.*, Pune District and Bombay areas. Information about this important group from other parts of Maharashtra is not yet fully known. The present collections were received from Prof. B.D. Deshmukh for identification. This material was collected on 11 May 1996 by him from Pusad, District Yavatmal. Confirmation of identification was made from the Mollusca Division of the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata. Occurrence of five bivalves in Yavatmal District of Maharashtra is reported here as first record.

Class: Bivalvia

Order: Unionoida

Family: Unionidae

***Lamellidens consorbrinus* (Lea, 1859)**

Common name: Freshwater Mussle.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India and Ceylon, also occurs in Burma and China.

Family: Amblemidae

Sub-family: Parreysiinae

***Parreysia (P) coruguta* Muller**

Distribution: Common with wide range of distribution: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Punjab and Maharashtra (Chandrapur, Yavatmal districts).

***Parreysia (P) coruguta loevirostris* (Benson)**

Material examined: Three exs., Pusad, 11.v.1996, coll. P.N. Deshmukh.

Distribution: India: Andhra Pradesh (Hyderabad), Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra (Pusad, Yavatmal); Bangladesh: Chittagong Hills.

***Parreysia (P) favidens ssp. deltae* (Benson)**

Distribution: India: West Bengal (Calcutta); Maharashtra (Hazrapur, Pusad, Yavatmal).

***Parreysis (Radiatula) caerulea* (Lea)**

Distribution: Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra (Pusad, Yavatmal), Orissa, Uttar Pradesh; Pakistan: Punjab: Sindh.

Intensive surveys are required to understand the molluscan fauna of the region.

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