

A CHECKLIST OF FRESHWATER OSTRACODS (OSTRACODA: CRUSTACEA) OF MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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The subclass Ostracoda inhabits in both marine and freshwater environment. The freshwater ostracods are mainly benthonic while some of them occur among aquatic vegetation and algal mats, and a few are planktonic. They look like seed, hence called seed shrimps.

Indian freshwater species range between 0.5mm to 2mm in length. They are bivalve shell which opens dorsally and posteriorly. Some ostracods are also reported from intestinal tracts of fish and amphibia. However, parasitism is not known. Ostracod fauna of Maharashtra is not studied extensively and our knowledge is rather poor. They are a good source of fisheries besides paleo-ecological study. The collection of ostracods are made with the help of plankton net and also by "Tyler" sieves of different mesh sizes for separation of benthonic forms. 70% methanol is useful for preservation. After dissection the soft part of ostracods can be studied under 10x X 10x magnification for identification. For identification carapace, appendages are important besides internal organs.

Venkatraman and Krishnamoorthy (1998) stated that there are 5448 marine and freshwater ostracod species in the world and further they have reported there are nearly 120+ species of Indian ostracods from freshwater and marine habitats. Baird (1859) described three species from Maharashtra, namely, *Cypris subglobosa*, *Stenocypris major* and *Heterocypris dentatomarginalis* from Nagpur. Hartmann (1964) added 25 species to the list of ostracods of Indian region. Deb (1972, 1983) described a total of 16 new species from Maharashtra. Victor and Fernando (1979) listed 56 freshwater valid species and five doubtful species from India. Patil (2002a,b) studied seven ostracod species from Ujani wetland and Western Ghats part of Maharashtra. Patil and Talmale (in press) studied nine Ostracod species from Nathasagar Wetland of Aurangabad district.

A classified checklist on ostracod fauna of Maharashtra is given below on the basis of past and present records which reveals the existence of 38 species belonging to 15 genera over 4 families. This checklist may serve as base line information for those who carryout research on ostracod fauna. Localities indicate the occurrence in Maharashtra. Localities outside of Maharashtra not included in the checklist.

Phylum : Arthropoda
Class : Crustacea
Subclass : Ostracoda
Order : Podocopida
Suborder : Podocopa
Family : Cyprididae Baird, 1845
Subfamily : Cypridinae Baird, 1845

Genus *Cypris* O.F. Muller, 1776

1. *Cypris subglobosa* Sowerby, 1840
Nagpur, Bombay, Pandharpur, Ujani and Nathasagar wetlands.
2. *Cypris dravidensis* Victor and Michael, 1975
Ujani wetland, Pandharpur, Solapur district.
3. *Cypris debi* Deb, 1983
Rainwater pond 6km from Karad on Karad Satara road.
4. *Cypris elongata* Deb, 1983
Pond inside Satara fort.
5. *Cypris globosa* Deb, 1983
Pond near irrigation bungalow, Satara.

Genus *Sataracypris* Deb, 1983

6. *Sataracypris gibbosa* (Baird, 1837)
Pond near inspection bungalow, Satara.

Genus *Eucypris* Vavra, 1891

7. *Eucypris sonia* Deb, 1983
Pond at inspection bungalow, Satara district.
8. *Eucypris compressa* Deb, 1983
Pond at Panhgani near Mahabaleshwar.
9. *Eucypris gomati* Deb, 1983
Pond near inspection bungalow, Satara.
10. *Eucypris munia* Deb, 1983
Pond near inspection bungalow, Satara.
11. *Eucypris indica* Deb, 1983
Pond at Pachgani.
12. *Eucypris inequalis* Deb, 1983
Pachgani unused well.
13. *Eucypris himani* Deb, 1983
Duttawadi, 0.7km. from Pune on way to Sinhgad.

Genus *Strandesia* Stuhlmann, 1888

14. *Strandesia labiata* Hartmann, 1964
Bombay, Nathasagar wetland.
15. *Sterandesia parva* Hartmann, 1964
Bombay, Ujani, Solapur district and Nathasagar wetland, Aurangabad district.
16. *Strandesia saetosa* Hartmann, 1964
Barsi.
17. *Strandesia rotunda* Hartmann, 1964
Bombay.

Genus *Cyprinotus* Brady, 1886

18. *Cyprinotus cingalensis* Brady, 1886
Pune, Ujani and Nathasagar wetland.
19. *Cyprinotus incongruens* (Ramdohr, 1808)
Aurangabad.
20. *Cyprinotus malini* Deb, 1983
Duttawadi 0.7km from Pune on way to Sinhgad.

Genus *Cypricerus* Sars, 1894

21. *Cypricerus indrani* Deb, 1983
From rainwater pond on Mahabaleswar Pachgani road, 0.5km. from Mahabaleshwar.

Genus *Heterocypris* Claus, 1892

22. *Heterocypris dentatomarginatus* (Baird, 1859)
From Nagpur, Vidharba.

Genus *Hemicypris* Sars, 1903

23. *Hemicypris anomala* (Klie, 1938)

South Bombay.

Subfamily Cyprinetinae Hartmann, 1964

Genus *Cyprretta* Vavra, 1895

24. *Cyprretta fontinalis* Hartmann, 1964

Mountainous terrains of the Western Ghats.

25. *Cyprretta gargi* Deb, 1983

Temporary pond at Karla, 13km south of Lonawala on Bombay Poona road.

26. *Cyprretta globulus* (Sars, 1889)

Ujani wetland, Solapur district.

Subfamily Stenocyprinae Ferguson, 1964

Genus *Stenocypris* Sars, 1889

27. *Stenocypris major* (Baird, 1859)

Bombay area, Ujani and Nathasagar wetlands.

28. *Stenocypris derupta* Vavra, 1906

Pandharpur dist. Solapur, Nathasagar wetland.

29. *Stenocypris hislopi* Ferguson, 1969

Nagpur, Nathasagar wetland.

30. *Stenocypris khopoliensis* Deb, 1983

Khopoli Raid Road, at Karla 13km south of Lonawala on Bombay Poona road.

31. *Stenocypris sohni* Deb, 1983

Rainwater pond at Kolhapur, 8km north of inspection bungalow.

Genus *Chrissia* Hartmann, 1957

32. *Chrissia humilis indica* (Klie, 1932)

Bombay, Ujani wetland.

33. *Chrissia krishnakantai* (Deb, 1972).

Satara, Nathasagar wetland.

Genus *Parastenocypris* Hartmann, 1964

34. *Parastenocypris canaliculata* Hartmann, 1964

Nagpur, Vidharba area.

Subfamily Cypridopsinae Kaufmann, 1900

Genus *Cypridopsis* Brady, 1868

35. *Cypridopsis dispar* Hartmann, 1964

Pandharpur, Solapur district and Tulsi dam, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivili, Bombay.

Family Cyclocyprididae Kaufmann, 1900

Genus *Physocypria* Vavra, 1897

36. *Physocypria furfuracea* (Brady, 1886)

Pandharpur, Solapur district and Nathasagar wetland, Aurangabad district.

Family Notodromadidae Kaufmann, 1900

Genus *Indiacypris* Hartmann, 1964

37. *Indiacypris dispar* Hartmann, 1964

Aurangabad district; Barsi, Solapur district.

Family Ilyocyprididae Kaufmann, 1900

Genus *Ilyocypris* Brady and Norman, 1889

38. *Ilyocypris australiensis* Sars, 1889

Aurangabad.

In the present study, attempts have been made to provide an initial picture of freshwater ostracod species distribution in Maharashtra. Victor and Fernando (1979) have given a total record of 56 freshwater valid species from the Indian Subcontinent, however, in their above paper they have given distributional record of only 21 species from Maharashtra. Venkatraman and Krishnamoorthy (1998) while writing on faunal diversity of crustacea have shown a record of 120+ species of freshwater and marine ostracods of India belonging to 24+ genera and four families which is very meagre as compared to world ostracod fauna. Paper on ostracods by Deb (1983) added 16 species to the existing checklist in Maharashtra, besides

Patil (2002a) recorded seven species of ostracods in Ujani wetland.

The present checklist of 38 species of freshwater ostracods is not a final picture and it seems that many species still remain to be described for which more surveys are needed.

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