



## MACROPHYTES BIODIVERSITY OF WAIGAON TUKUM LAKE NEAR BHADRAWATI, DISTRICT CHANDRAPUR (M.S.), INDIA

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### ABSTRACT:

Macrophytes are the conspicuous plants that dominate wetlands, shallow lakes, and streams. Macroscopic flora include the aquatic angiosperms (flowering plants), pteridophytes (ferns), and bryophytes (mosses, hornworts, and liverworts). In lakes macrophytes provide cover for fish and substrate for aquatic invertebrates, produce oxygen, and act as food for some fish and wildlife. Macrophytes is an important factors for helping in maintaining ecological balance. Aquatic macrophytes play a pivotal role in maintaining primary productivity of water ecosystem. Aquatic macrophytes includes a vast majority of aquatic vascular plants. They are found mainly in the shallow regions of ponds, lakes, rivers, swamps and streams etc. They are of considerable ecological and economical importance. The present paper describes the macrophytes biodiversity of Waigaon Tukum lake near Bhadrawati of Chandrapur district of Maharashtra State from January 2015 to December 2017 in which 26 species representing 17 families belonging to 08 groups such as 03 Submerged floating weeds, 03 Rooted floating leaves weeds, 01 Rooted emergent with heterophile weeds, 06 Free floating suspended submerged, 03 Rooted submerged hydrophytes, 07 Emergent weeds, 02 Submerged weeds and 01 Anchored floating weeds.

**Key words:** - *Macrophytes, Waigaon Tukum, Biodiversity*

### INTRODUCTION:

An aquatic plant can be defined as one that is normally found growing in association with standing water whose level is at or above the surface of the soil. Standing water includes ponds, shallow lakes, marshes, ditches, reservoirs, swamps, bogs, canals, and sewage lagoons. Aquatic plants, though less frequently, also occur in flowing water, in streams, rivers, and springs.

Aquatic macrophytes play a vital role in healthy ecosystems. They serve as primary producers of oxygen through photosynthesis, provide a substrate for algae and shelter for many invertebrates, aid in nutrient cycling to and from the sediments, and help stabilize river and stream banks.

The Waigaon Tukum lake is principal freshwater body located 35 km from Bhadrawati, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra State, India. It is situated at about 715 m above MSL and at 20°14'17.67" N latitude and 79°15'11.13" E longitude and the area of Waigaon Tukum lake is 71.661 acre. Aquatic macrophytes are also respond to the changes in water quality and have been used as indicator of pollution of pollution in several cases (Westtake, 1981 and Best, 1982).

During the last few decades considerable studies on aquatic macrophytes from different freshwater bodies of India and abroad have been carried out by researchers like, Unni, (1971), Crowder *et al.*, (1977), Zutshi *et al.*, (1980), Billore and Vyas (1981), Islam (1990), Kodarkar, (1996), Salaskar, (1998), Dey and Kar (1999), Bhaumiket

*al.*, (2004), Kumar and Pandit (2005), Ghavzan *et al.*, (2006), Devi and Sharma (2007) and so on.

#### **MATERIAL AND METHODS:-**

The aquatic macrophytes were collected for the period of 2 years i.e. January 2015 to December 2017. Macrophytes in shallow waters were collected directly while those from deeper water with the help of long handled hook. On collection the specimen were thoroughly washed, excess water soaked with filter paper, kept in polythene bags lined with filter paper and brought to the laboratory and preserved in 10% formalin and observed. The specimens were identified up to species level as per the guidelines of Kodarkar(1994).

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Aquatic macrophytes play a vital role in healthy ecosystems. They serve as primary producers of oxygen through photosynthesis, provide a substrate for algae and shelter for many invertebrates, aid in nutrient cycling to and from the sediments, and help stabilize river and stream banks.

Aquatic macrophytes have served humans well over the centuries, providing food, medicines, and building materials. The ancient Egyptians regularly harvested water lilies (*Nymphaea* sp.) for human consumption. Aquatic macrophytes have served humans well over the centuries, providing food, medicines, and building materials. The ancient Egyptians regularly harvested water lilies (*Nymphaea* spp.) for human consumption. Herodotus, the Greek historian, described the practice in the fifth century BC; lilies were dried and seeds were pounded or ground into flour, which was used to make bread. Other parts were eaten raw. Various *Nymphaea* sp. are still cultivated in the orient for their fruits, seeds, and rhizomes. In Africa, various tribes dig up the starch-laden rhizomes for food.

Aquatic plants serves as a good source of food to mankind and animals thus forming a palatable food for water birds and a best for aquatic wild life conservation practices (Kiran *et al.*, 2006). Aquatic vesicular plants are important indicator of water pollution (Seddon, 1972 and Shimoda, 1984). Aquatic plants are important as they serve as substratum to different micro and macro fauna (Raut and Pejawar, 2005). Macrophytes provide habitats for fish and smaller animals; they bind sediments, protect banks, absorb nutrients and provide oxygenation. Macrophytes can indicate the impact of increased nutrients in lakes and are also influenced by other pressures such as water level change or acidification.

In the present study altogether 26 species representing 17 families belonging to 8 groups such as 03 Submerged floating weeds, 03 Rooted floating leaves weeds, 01 Rooted emergent with heterophile weeds, 06 Free floating suspended submerged, 03 Rooted submerged hydrophytes, 07 Emergent weeds, 02 Submerged weeds and 01 Anchored floating weeds. The data is tabulated in Table No. 1.

Submerged floating weeds represented by three species such as *Vallisneria americana*, *Myriophyllum exalbescens* and *Ceratophyllum demersum*. Submerged weeds are weeds that are rooted on the bottom of the pond, Floating weeds are plants that float on the surface of the pond or lake.

Rooted floating leaves weeds represented by three species such as *Nymphaea tuberosa*, *Nelumbo lutea* and *Marsilea quadrifolia*. Plants that float on the surface and rooted on the bottom are included in this group.

Rooted emergent with heterophile weeds represented by only one species such as *Sagittaria* Sp. Emergent aquatic macrophytes are defined as plants that are rooted in shallow water with vegetative parts emerging above the water surface.

Free floating suspended submerged represented by six species such as *Lemna minor*, *Azollacarolimana*, *Wolffia* Sp., *Salvinia rotundifolia*, *Pistia stratiotes* and *Nymphoides*. They rooted in mud along margin and send out long creeping and floating stem.

Rooted submerged hydrophytes represented by three species such as *Potamogeton crispus*, *Ipomoea aquatic* and *Hydrilla* Sp.

Emergent weeds are *Commelina benghalensis*, *Cyperus rotundus*, *Grangea maderaspatana*, *Ipomoea camia*, *Merrimia emarginum*, *Scirpus articulatus* and *Typha angustata*.

Anchored Floating weeds represented by *Nymphoides cristata*

Submerged aquatic macrophytes are usually rooted in the bottom soil with the vegetative parts predominantly submerged.

Several workers have conducted macrophytes survey in lakes from different parts of India viz. Alwarlakes, Alwar, Rajasthan Vyas (1964), Udaipur lake, Udaipur, Rajasthan Paliwar (1984), Sagar lake, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh (Joshi et al., 1987), Sharma and Singhal (1988) recorded 11 species of macrophytes from a tropical lake. Sarrornagar lake, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (Kodarkar, 1996), Meshram and Dhande (2000) also recorded the aquatic macrophytes in Wadali lake, Amraoti and stated that the macrophytes stimulate the growth of phytoplankton and help in the recycling of the organic matter. Ambasht (2005) recorded 25 species of macrophytes from Gujrat Tal, Jaunpurtownshio North India. Narayana et al., (2006) study the aquatic macrophytes of Husain sagar, Karanataka. in Kiran et al., (2006) recorded 15 species of macrophytes the fish culture ponds at Bhadra fish farm, Karnataka. Game and Salaskar (2007) recorded the macrophytes on Malchmali lakes, Thane, Maharashtra, Saltanat Malik and AtulNamdeo (2010) recorded the 21 species of macrophytes

in a polluted pond of Shahjanpur, U.P., Sheikh, J.A. et al., (2011) reported 10 species of macrophytes in three eutrophic lakes of Jhansi, Bundelkhand region, Palit and Mukharjee (2012) recorded 25 species of macrophytes in wetlands of Bankara district, West Bengal and Harney et al., (2013) reported 19 species of macrophytes in three water bodies of Bhadrawati of Chandrapur District, Shashikant R. Sitre (2013) reported 17 macrophyte species in Ghotnimbala lake near Bhadrawati of Chandrapur district and Dhore M.M. et. al., (2014) recorded 15 species of macrophyte form some freshwater lakes of Yavatmal district.

## CONCLUSION

The present paper describes the macrophytes biodiversity of Waigaon Tukum lake near Bhadrawati, District Chandrapur of Maharashtra State from January 2015 to December 2017 in which 26 species representing 17 families belonging to 8 groups such as 03 Submerged floating weeds, 03 Rooted floating leaves weeds, 01 Rooted emergent with heterophile weeds, 06 Free floating suspended submerged, 03 Rooted submerged hydrophytes, 07 Emergent weeds, 02 Submerged weeds and 01 Anchored floating weeds.

The aim of this study has therefore undertaken of document the aquatic macrophytes of Waigaon Tukum lake near Bhadrawati, District Chandrapur. The check list generated in the study is intended to support other research in wetlands and in particular, to assure the continuity of ongoing long term ecological programmed.

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Table 1 : Biodiversity of Macrophytes of Waigaon Tukum lake.

Sr. No.	Name of macrophytes	Family	Life forms
1	<i>Azollacaroliniana</i>	Azollaceae	Free floating suspended submerged
2	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Ceratophyllaceae	Submerged floating weeds
3	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>	Commelinaceae	Emergent weeds
4	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Cyperaceae	Emergent weeds
5	<i>Grangea maderaspatana</i>	Asteraceae	Emergent weeds
6	<i>Hydrilla Sp.</i>	Hydrocharitaceae	Rooted submerged hydrophytes
7	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Rooted submerged hydrophytes
8	<i>Ipomoea camia</i>	Convolvulaceae	Emergent weeds
9	<i>Lemna minor</i>	Lemnaceae	Free floating suspended submerged

10	<i>Marsilea quadrifolia</i>	Marsileaceae	Rooted floating leaves weeds
11	<i>Merrimia emarginum</i>	Convolvulaceae	Emergent weeds
12	<i>Myriophyllum exaltatum</i>	Haloragaceae	Submerged floating weeds
13	<i>Nelumbo lutea</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Rooted floating leaves weeds
14	<i>Nymphaea tuberosa</i>	Nymphaeaceae	Rooted floating leaves weeds
15	<i>Nymphoides cristata</i>	Menyanthaceae	Anchored Floating weeds
16	<i>Nymphoides indica</i>	Menyanthaceae	Free floating suspended submerged
17	<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>	Hydrocharitaceae	Submerged weeds
18	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Oxalidaceae	Submerged weeds
19	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Araceae	Free floating suspended submerged
20	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Naidaceae	Rooted submerged hydrophytes
21	<i>Sagittaria Sp.</i>	Alismataceae	Rooted emergent with heterophile weeds
22	<i>Salvinia rotundifolia</i>	Salviniaceae	Free floating suspended submerged
23	<i>Scirpus articulatus</i>	Cyperaceae	Emergent weeds
24	<i>Typha angustata</i>	Typhaceae	Emergent weeds
25	<i>Vallisneria spiralis</i>	Hydrocharitaceae	Submerged floating weeds

	<i>cana</i>		
26	<i>Wolfia Sp.</i>	Lemnaceae	Free floating suspended submerged



Fig. – Satellite image of Waigaon Tukum Lake