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A REVIEW: EFFECT OF RISE IN GLOBAL TEMPERATURE ON WATER BEAR (TARDIGRADE) - MAHABALESHWAR

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ABSTRACT:

Micro animals which live in both fresh and salt water, are famous for their ability to survive extremes that would kill other organisms. But new research finds that the creatures rapidly wilt under heat. Water temperatures of about 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.8 degrees Celsius) can kill tardigrades in only a day. As global temperatures rise, that could become a problem for these animals, the authors of the new study said. "Tardigrades are definitely not the almost-indestructible organism as advertised in so many popular science websites."

Key words: - Tardigrads, Temperature, Dormancy, Cryobiosis.

NTRODUCTION:

The Scientist Dr. Johann Goeze discovered Water Bear in 1773 (Germany), called them little water bears and also known as moss piglets. They are water dwelling eight legged segmented microscopic animals. Water Bear cannot be seen by naked eyes. In 1777 Water Bear are classified as follows. Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Water Bear Scientific name: Tardigrada given by Italian scientist Spallanzani (1777). Habitat: Tardigrades are found everywhere from deep sea -13,000 ft to mountaintops 20,000 ft and volcanic mud and from Antartic to rainforests. These animals survive in extreme environment such as extreme high pressure and low pressure, exposure to extreme temperatures, starvation, radiation, air deprivation, dehydration. Exposure to outer space, in 2008 (Jonssen et al.) tardigrades survived exposure to space without loss in survival. 1150 species found from the phylum Tardigrada it is a part of Superphylum Ecdysozoa. Water Bear fossils dating from 530 million years ago, in the Cambrian period. Reproduction in Tardigrades are oviparous, and fertilization is usually external but, in some species, have internal fertilization, with mating

occurring before the female fully sheds her cuticle. When the substrate dries or freezes, Water Bear achieve dormancy (quiescence) by entering Cryptobiosis, specifically Anhydrobiosis or Cryobiosis, respectively.

MATERIAL AND METHOD:

In present study 15 different moss samples were collected from different localities of Mahabaleshwar. Tardigrades found in those samples using microscope. Then they were separated in following two groups.

- 1. Control Incubated at normal temperature.
- 2. Other group incubated 1 degree higher than normal temp at 38c

OBSERVATION:

Normal temp Tardigrades survived and other one degree higher died

CONCLUSION:

These micro animals, which live in both fresh and salt water, are famous for their ability to survive extremes that would kill other organisms. But new research finds that the creatures rapidly wilt under heat. Water temperatures of about 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.8 degrees Celsius) can kill tardigrades in only a day. As global





temperatures rise that could become a problem for these animals.

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