DIVERSITY OF ROTIFERS IN THE LAKES OF MYSORE CITY

BY

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INTRODUCTION

- The rotifers (commonly called wheel animals) are one of the zooplankter belong to phylum Rotifera.

- These are microscopic, psuedocoelomate, have a size around 0.04-2 mm.

- These are numerically abundant in fresh water.

- These have a short lifespan of <14 days. Females are more common than males. In most of the species males are unknown, if known, they live for few hours to three days.

- A number of studies have identified rotiferan species as best indicators of different kinds of aquatic pollution (Mahajan, 1981; Kolkwitz and Marsson, 1902 & 1909).

- The body is divided into head, trunk and foot. Head contains rotatory or wheel organ called corona, mouth and sensory organs. Corona is a ciliary organ, which has anterior (trochus) and posterior lines of cilia (cingulam). Corona helps in locomotion and food collection. This is withdrawn.

- A rotifer has a transparent cylinder shaped trunk, may be (loricate) or may not covered by a thin cuticle (illoricate forms).
• In most of these cuticle thickens to form lorica. Lorica has a arched dorsal plate and a flat ventral plate connected by a flexible cuticular membrane, the sulci.

• Foot and toes are at the posterior end and used for locomotion and attachment, withdrawn in to the body in contracted condition.

• Taxonomically important characters are Presence or absence of lorica and it’s shape, size, etc., number, shape and size of spines on the anterior and posterior end of lorica. Nature and types of corona. Foot-its presence or absence Shape, structure and type of trophi.

• Several taxonomists (Hyman, 1951; Pennak, 1953; Edmondson, 1959; Nogrady, 1982; Battish, 1992) proposed different types of classification.

• But in the present work the classification of Sugumaran et al., (2004) has been adopted, which is the latest and simplest.
MATERIALS AND METHODS

• Three lakes selected for this study –Kamana, Mandakally, and Devanooor lakes from Mysore city.

• The rotifer samples collected to estimate diversity and density (2006-2009).
Rotifers diversity

By towing a plankton net (50µm mesh size) horizontally at a depth of 40cm for about 10 minutes

• The collected rotifers samples are fixed in 4% and preserved in 5% formaldehyde.

• The specimens are identified with the help of keys provided by Battish (1992), Dhanapathathi (2000) and Altaff (2004).
Rotifers abundance

• By filtering known (70 L) quantity of water from the sampling stations concentrated samples are obtained.

• The rotifers enumerated from the concentrated samples by using Sedgwick rafter cell under the binocular microscope.

• The Rafter cell has a 50mm X 20 mm X 10 mm rectangular cavity that holds 1ml of sample.
Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Brachionus

1. Brachionus forficula

Lorica, dorsoventrally compressed. Anterior margin with four occipital spines, anterolaterals longer than anteromedian spines.

Posteriolaterally two stout, long and sub square spines, basally wide separated and tapering to blunt points, geniculate swellings present at bases of posterior spines.
2. *Brachionus calyciflorus*

Anterior dorsal margin of the lorica with 4 broad based stout spines of variable length,

medians longer than laterals

Posterior spines are present here, but may be absent in other polymorphic forms.
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Brachionus

Anterior dorsal margin of lorica with **six unequal spines**, The intermediate spines are longest and curved inward. Median spines are shortest Two posterior spines very long, at base widely separated, bent inwards are present.

3. Brachionus falcatus
4. *Brachionus quadridentatus*

Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Brachionus

Lorica broader than long, with six occipital spines of which the medians are longest and curved outward, laterals longer than intermediates. Intermediates are shortest.

Two posteriolateral spines present, but their length varies.
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Brachionus

Lorica with six occipital spines,
the laterals longer than the medians, at times twice as long as medians,
intermediate spine reduced.

Posterior spines long.

5. Brachionus caudatus
6. *Brachionus diversicornis*

Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Brachionus

Lorica elongate with **four occipital spines**, 
of which the laterals longer than medians.

Right posterior spine longer than the left.
7. Brachionus plicatilis

Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Brachionus

Lorica is oval, narrows anteriorly,

Anterodorsal margin with **six broad based pointed spines**, all are almost equal in length.

Posterior spines absent
8. *Brachionus angularis*

Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Brachionus  

Lorica oval shaped & stippled,  
anterodorsal margin with two median spines flanking a V shaped notch.  

Lateral and intermediate spines usually obliterated. Posterior spines wanting.
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Brachionus

Lorica oval, anterior dorsal margin with six spines, Medians longest, Laterals shortest
Intermediates longer than laterals.
Medians and intermediates with peculiar asymmetric shape (saw-toothed), posterior spines absent; foot opening subsquare and small.

9. Brachionus rubens
Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Brachionus  

10. Brachionus bidentata  

Lorica firm, stippled, with definite pattern of plaques. Lorica divided into dorsal, ventral and basal plates. The dorsal and ventral plates soldered together for three-fifth (3/5) of the lorica and thereafter united to a third basal plate.;  

dorsal margin with six spines; lateral always longer than medians, medians longer than intermediates, posterior spines may be vary in length and position of origin but may be absent; foot opening with foot
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Plationus

Occipital margin with six spines. Medians slightly longer than the intermediate. Which is longer than laterals.

Posterior margin with four spines. Posterior lateral spines are longer than the median.

11. Plationus patulus
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Ploimida
Family: Brachionidae
Genus: Keratella

3 hexagonal plaques are present on dorsal plate of lorica. A small four sided plaque is present between the posterior border of lorica and the last hexagonal plaque.

Anterior margin of lorica has six spines (sometimes four). Median spines curved and longest. Intermediate spines are shortest. Posterior end has two unequal spines. The right posterior spine is longer than left posterior spine.

12. Keratella tropica
Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Keratella

Dorsal plate of lorica with three median plaques and one pentagon terminates in to a short median line.

Anterior margin of lorica with six spines, medians longest and curved ventrally, laterals shortest. Posterior spines almost equal.
Phylum: Rotifera  
Class: Monogononta  
Order: Ploimida  
Family: Brachionidae  
Genus: Keratella

Dorsal plate of lorica with three median plaques and one pentagon terminates in to a short median line.

Anterior margin of lorica with six spines, medians longest and curved ventrally, laterals shortest.

Posterior spines strong, median & single.

14. Keratella cochlearis
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Flosculariaceae
Family: Filinidae
Genus: Filinia

Lorica thin, flexible and barrel shaped when contracted.

Two setiform anterolateral spine equal in length; with one terminal posterior spine.
Anterior spines are longer than posterior spine.

15. Filinia terminalis
Phylum: Rotifera
Class: Monogononta
Order: Flosculariaceae
family: Filinidae
Genus: Filinia

Lorica barrel shaped when contracted, with two equal anterior spines and one posterior spine.

Posterior, ventral subterminal spine is terminal & longer than anterior spines.

16. Filinia longiseta
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotifer Species</th>
<th>Kamana lake (12 sps)</th>
<th>Mandakally lake (9 sps)</th>
<th>Devanoor lake (6sp)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus forficula</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus calyciflorus</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus falcatus</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus quadridentatus</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus caudatus</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus diversicornis</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus plicatilis</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus angularis</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus rubens</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachionus bidentata</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plationus patulus</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keratella tropica</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keratella procurva</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keratella cochlearis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filinia longiseta</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filinia terminalis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>356</strong></td>
<td><strong>474</strong></td>
<td><strong>720</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kamana lake documented highest diversity and lowest abundance.

Devanoor lake recorded lowest diversity and highest abundance of rotifers.

Graph: To show correlation between abundance and diversity of rotifers.
• As abundance increases, diversity of rotifers decreases in the lakes of Mysore
Phylum: Rotifera

Class: Monogononta
- Order: Ploimida (free swimming)
  - Family: Brachionidae
    - Genus: Brachionus
    - Genus: Keratella
    - Genus: Plationus
    - Species: 10 3 1

Class: Digononta
- Order: Flosculariceae (sessile, adults rarely swim)
  - Family: Filinidae
    - Genus: Filinia
    - Species: 2

- Order: Collothecaceae (sessile)
  - Family: Filinidae

- Order: Bdelloidea (move over substratum)
  - Family: Filinidae

- Order: Seisonidea (epizoic on the gills of laptostracan crustacean, Nabelina)
Conclusion

- **Total 16 species** of rotifers are recorded during this study period (2006-2009) form the lakes of Mysore city.

- Out of which, **10 species** belong to genus *Brachionus*, **3 species** belong to genus *Keratella*, **1 species** belong to genus *Plationus*.

- These three genuses belong to Family *Brachionidae*.

- This Brachionidae family belongs to *Ploimida* order.
• **Filinia longiseta** and **Filinia terminalis** belong to genus *filinia*, family Filinidae, order *Flosculariacea*.

• **Ploimida** and **Flosculariacea** orders belong to the **Monogononta** class of Phylum *Rotifera*.

• Highest **diversity** and lowest **density** of rotifers documented in the Kamana lake, whereas lowest **diversity** and highest **density** recorded in the Devanoor lake.

• As the diversity decreases the abundance of rotifers increases.
THANK YOU

LET US NURTURE THE NATURE