

SOME FRESHWATER BIVALVES OF PUNJAB, HARYANA AND HIMACHAL PRADESH

S.K. Battish and Meenu Sharma

Department of Zoology, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab 141004, India.

In numerical dominance Mollusca are second only to Arthropoda living in habitats connected with water. Of the six classes under the phylum two, namely Gastropoda and Bivalvia are restricted to inland water bodies and wetlands. The gastropods of Punjab were reported by the present authors earlier (Battish & Sharma, 1993) and the bivalves of northern India, Bihar, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh are presented in this paper.

The inland bivalves contribute to the nation's economy, as these support pearl and button industries. Culturing of *Lamellidens marginalis* and *Lamellidens corrianus* is picking up for pearl production. The shell pieces are used in preparation of poultry feed and mosaic tiles. Larvae of Unionidae are known to parasitize fishes.

The literature scan reveals that inland bivalvia of India remain unattended by and large. Benson (1862) was perhaps the first to work on Unio. Blanford (1866, 1867, 1870) published a series of papers on the Malacology covering bivalve genera *Unio* and *Anodonta* from India, Sri Lanka, Burma and Yunnan.

Prashad (1921) published work on the Lamellibranchs from the Indian Museum. The publications of Tonapi (1980) and Rao (1989) also contain useful information on Indian Bivalvia. The bivalve species worked out by us are given in Table 1.

References

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Table 1. List of bivalve species recorded in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

Scientific name	Habitat
<u>Amblemidae</u>	
<i>Parreysia corrugata</i> (Muller, 1774)	Harike Pattan, Ferozepur (Punjab)
<u>Corbiculidae</u>	
<i>Colbicula arata</i> (Sowerby, 1878)	Sukhna Lake, Chandigarh (Union Territory)
<i>Colbicula assamensis</i> (Prashad, 1928)	Harike Pattan, Ferozepur (Punjab)
<i>Colbicula striatella</i> Deshayes, 1854	Budha Nullah, Ludhiana (Punjab)
<u>Unionidae</u>	
<i>Lamellidens corrianus</i> (Lea, 1834)	Kali Bein, Kapurthala (Punjab)
<i>Lamellidens generosus</i> (Gould, 1847)	Renuka Lake, Nahan (Himachal Pradesh)
<i>Lamellidens jenkinsianus</i> (Benson, 1862)	Renuka Lake, Nahan (Himachal Pradesh)
<i>Lamellidens lamellatus</i> (Lea, 1838)	Kali Bein, Kapurthala (Punjab) Renuka Lake, Nahan (Himachal Pradesh)
<i>Lamellidens marginalis</i> (Lamarck, 1819)	Kali Bein, Kapurthala (Punjab) Renuka Lake, Nahan (Himachal Pradesh)
<i>Lamellidens scutum</i> (Sowerby, 1868)	Kali Bein, Kapurthala (Punjab) Sukhna Lake, Chandigarh (Union Territory)

Blanford, W.T. (1870). Contributions to Indian Malacology No. 9. Description of new species of *Paludomus*, *Cremnoconchus*, *Cyclostoma* and *Helicidae* from various parts of India. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 39(2): 9-25.

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