

Seasonal variation of Zinc and Sodium in different sea weeds at selected locations of Kollam Seacoast, Kerala State

Hashim. K. A¹, Padmakumar² and Santhosh. S³

¹Research Scholar, Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, Karyavattom campus, University of Kerala

²Head Professor, Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, Karyavattom campus, University of Kerala

³To whom correspondence should be sent: Department of Zoology, NSS College, University of Kerala, Pandalam, Pathanamthitta, Kerala

India.drsanthoshpillai@rediffmail.com

I. INTRODUCTION

Coastal and marine environments throughout the world suffer from high pollution caused by the humans. Heavy metals are considered major anthropogenic contaminants in the coastal and marine environments throughout the world (Ruilian et al., 2008). They are a serious threat to living organisms and natural systems due to their toxicity (DeForest et al., 2007). Heavy metals can contribute to the degradation of ecosystems by reducing the diversity of species and through the accumulation of metals in living organisms and food chains (Hosono et al., 2011). Seaweeds contribute a key role in the nutrient dynamics of coastal systems as well as reflect alterations in water quality efficiently. Therefore, every change in the nutrient dynamics will likely be reflected by them (Zbikowski et al., 2007). Seaweeds are excellent agents of removing the metals like arsenic, zinc, iron, nickel and mercury from seawater. They remove the toxic metals from the environment and accumulate in the body cell. The absorption of metals present in the environment depends on the surface reaction in which metals absorbed through electrostatic attraction to metal ions. This is independent of factors influencing metabolism such as pH, temperature, light or age of seaweeds sites. This is independent of factors influencing metabolism such as pH, temperature, light or age of seaweeds sites, but it is inclined by the virtual abundance of elements in water (Sanchez-Rodriguez et al., 2001). Knowledge of trace metals levels in marine algae is a basic requirement for their use as biological indicators of metal pollution.

In order to assess the level of trace metals found in the different species of seaweeds collected from the coastal areas of Kollam District of Kerala.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Samples were collected seasonally from coastal areas of Kollam district from January 2006 to December 2006. Trace elements such as zinc in the algae collected from this area was determined by using the Atomic Absorption Spectrometer while, sodium was determined by flame photometry. For the determination of trace elements, the algal samples were dried and powdered, and carefully digested with 10ml of a 5:1 mixture of nitric acid and perchloric acid. The digested matter was extracted with water filtered and made up to 10ml. The filtrate was used for analysis. Sample solutions were directly aspirated in to the flame and the

concentration in the digest was measured. Standards and blanks were also prepared and read whenever necessary. All the analyses were performed in duplicate.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

There were 19 species of seaweeds which included 7 species (Chaetomorpha media, Chaetomorpha antemina, Enteromorpha linza, Enteromorpha intestinalis, Ulvalactuca, Ulva fasciata, Caluclerpataxifolia) from Chlorophyceae, 9 species (Ceramiun, Gracilaria certicata, Gracilaria, Hypnea valantea, Centroceros, Hypnea, Spongomorpha, Valanopsis panchenema and Spongomorpha) from Rhodophyceae and 3 species (Chnoospora fastigata, Sargassum lilicifolium, Sargassum) from Phaeophyceae collected from 6 stations for analysis of Heavy metals concentration. The metal concentration in the collected seaweeds are tabulated below:

Table no 1: Monthly variation of Zinc content in seaweeds at different station at Ko'lam district during 2006.

Zn (mg/g)	Name of the Algae	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
	SITEA CHLOROPHYCEAE												
	CHAETOMORPHA MEDIA	6.58	8.76	7.38	8.02	9.23	9.02	-	8.91	9.87	7.34	7.91	8.21
	CHAETOMORPHA ANTEMINA	-	-	-	-	8.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	ULVA LACTUCA	7.92	8.71	8.02	9.52	9.44	-	-	-	5.44	6.92	7.11	8.21
	ULVA FASCIATA	5.41	5.63	6.28	-	-	-	4.28	7.21	6.63	8.77	8.11	6.51
	RHODOPHYCEAE												
	CERAMIUM	7.37	6.82	7.50	-	-	6.72	6.59	6.73	6.95	-	-	7.81
	GRACILARIA CERTICATA	8.02	7.82	8.03	8.08	-	-	8.02	7.68	8.14	8.99	8.21	8.81
	GRACILARIA	5.72	6.48	-	-	-	7.42	8.87	7.73	7.92	7.91	7.81	8.01
	HYPNEA VALANTEA	-	-	-	-	-	6.45	7.80	6.21	7.03	8.74	8.21	7.81
	CHNOOSPORA FASTIGATA	4.80	5.40	-	-	6.03	7.53	-	-	4.01	5.12	7.61	7.01
	SITEB CHLOROPHYCEAE												
	CHAETOMORPHA MEDIA	7.02	8.31	8.62	8.05	-	-	-	8.19	9.02	8.61	7.71	8.41
	CHAETOMORPHA	7.93	7.48	8.53	9.34	-	-	-	9.01	9.83	7.89	8.31	8.21
	ULVA LACTUCA	9.80	7.53	5.25	5.78	4.68	-	-	-	-	9.21	8.91	7.01
	ULVA FASCIATA	7.45	7.89	8.34	7.98	-	8.74	7.81	8.96	9.34	-	-	-
	RHODOPHYCEAE												
	CENTROCEROS	6.32	6.87	5.19	-	-	-	-	5.86	6.77	6.76	7.12	7.01
	CERAMIUM	5.78	6.93	5.20	5.40	-	-	7.09	8.03	7.67	8.21	7.19	7.01
	GRACILARIA CERTICATA	6.34	6.96	8.29	-	9.18	8.62	8.30	7.08	7.29	8.54	8.17	8.01
	HYPNEA VALANTEA	-	9.23	-	-	-	-	7.34	7.45	8.54	9.31	-	-
	HYPNEA	-	9.28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.34	7.01	7.01
	SPONGOMORPHA VALANOPSIS PANCHENEMA	-	-	-	9.85	-	7.25	8.65	8.14	7.89	-	-	-
	PHAEOPHYCEAE												
	CHNOOSPORA FASTIGATA	-	-	-	9.24	-	11.25	-	-	7.89	7.36	5.21	8.01
	SARGASSUM LILICIFOLUM	7.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.34	7.62	7.14	8.31	8.01
	SITEC CHLOROPHYCEAE												
	CAULERPA TAXIFOLEA	4.78	4.09	5.98	9.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CREATOMORPHA MEDIA	7.13	8.29	8.32	7.67	-	-	5.83	7.82	9.58	9.32	-	-	
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	8.57	9.22	9.47	7.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ULVA LACTUCA	8.43	-	-	9.56	-	-	11.49	10.00	-	-	-	-	
ULVA FASCIATA	7.45	8.54	-	-	-	9.37	-	10.20	10.54	10.24	11.12	10.82	
RHODOPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.99	11.67	-	10.22	9.23	10.45
CERAMIUM	-	-	-	-	5.68	6.17	7.47	8.82	-	-	-	-	
GRACILAREA CERTICATA	7.85	5.98	-	-	-	4.32	11.25	10.56	7.32	8.74	6.33	4.02	
HYPNEA VALANTEA VALANOPSIS PANCHINEMA	9.78	10.42	12.30	10.50	-	-	-	-	-	8.43	6.38	8.95	
PHEOPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	8.41	7.49	9.34	8.57	7.85	-	-	-	
CHONOSPORIA FASTIGATA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.93	10.21	9.42	8.87	
CHLOROPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CAULERPA TAXIFOLEA	4.76	5.45	-	8.71	-	-	-	-	-	5.87	6.43	8.56	
CREATOMORPHA MEDIA	5.23	6.49	6.32	7.34	-	-	-	8.91	11.02	10.87	9.54	10.69	
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	4.79	5.29	5.38	6.87	7.14	-	7.77	6.18	8.82	7.39	8.98	9.32	
ULVA LACTUCA	7.35	8.87	-	-	-	3.80	-	8.69	9.04	9.63	8.64	10.47	
ULVA FASCIATA	4.67	5.78	4.87	4.25	5.78	-	-	-	7.54	7.04	8.63	9.65	
RHODOPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CERAMIUM	-	-	6.38	4.85	4.62	5.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRACILAREA CERTICATA	8.87	7.44	9.51	-	-	-	8.93	7.67	8.58	10.65	11.60	10.68	
SPONGOMORPHA INDICA	-	8.65	-	-	9.52	-	8.82	8.90	9.34	7.68	8.03	7.54	
SPONGE MORPH VALANOPSIS PANCHINEMA	-	6.81	5.48	6.89	-	-	9.18	8.32	9.31	-	-	-	
PHEOPHYCEAE	8.42	7.44	8.34	9.33	-	-	-	-	6.28	7.89	7.03	8.49	
CERAMIUM	9.32	8.97	9.34	-	-	-	-	8.51	7.30	9.56	9.36	10.32	
CHLOROPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.71	5.62	4.89	7.23	6.58	
CREATOMORPHA MEDIA	9.36	9.87	10.26	9.33	-	-	-	-	-	9.61	8.12	9.82	
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	4.23	4.75	4.08	5.98	3.20	7.42	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ULVA LACTUCA	11.12	-	-	-	9.34	8.34	11.85	10.48	10.04	11.56	8.71	9.03	
ULVA FASCIATA	4.76	5.87	5.98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
RHODOPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.35	4.27	3.84	
CERAMIUM	4.05	5.21	5.10	6.70	-	-	-	-	-	8.27	7.58	8.03	
GRACILAREA CERTICATA	3.98	5.72	5.22	-	-	7.42	8.84	-	-	9.54	8.35	7.17	
HYPNEA VALANTEA VALANOPSIS PANCHINEMA	7.35	8.95	9.38	10.17	-	-	10.08	-	-	7.30	7.04	8.72	
PHEOPHYCEAE	8.94	9.32	9.07	10.40	-	-	-	-	-	7.54	8.63	11.80	
CHONOSPORIA FASTIGATA	11.05	10.34	11.52	7.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHLOROPHYCEAE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.83	10.93	10.62	11.67	11.58	
ENTEROMORPHA LINZA	9.24	8.13	8.09	7.35	-	8.51	7.96	9.32	5.81	3.78	4.34	5.01	
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	4.73	5.22	10.00	7.35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Table no 2: Monthly variation of sodium content in seaweeds at different stations at Kutch district during 2006.

Station	Name of the Algae	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	
SITE A	CHLOROPHYCEAE													
	CHEATOMORPHA MEDIA	0.68	0.86	0.81	-	1.48	1.73	1.22	0.68	0.91	0.76	0.48	0.48	
	CHEATOMORPHA ANTEMINA	0.81	0.15	0.75	0.82	1.34	1.22	-	-	1.11	1.25	0.58	0.48	
	ULVA LACTUCA	1	1.23	0.51	0.57	1.71	-	-	-	1.96	1.68	1.44	1.48	
	ULVA FASCIATA	0.88	0.91	1.01	1.43	-	-	1.3	1.44	2.31	0.91	0.91	0.58	
	RHODOPHYCEAE													
	CERAMUM	1.2	1.05	0.46	0.73	0.81	1.18	1.24	-	-	-	-	1.96	0.48
	GRACILARIA CERTICATA	1.06	1.48	0.37	2.31	2.26	1.73	1.22	1.28	1.64	1.11	0.48	0.48	0.48
	GRACILARIA	0.81	0.73	-	-	-	1.49	2.37	2.08	1.99	0.41	0.48	0.48	0.48
	HYPNEA VALANTEA	-	0.48	0.79	-	-	0.67	0.73	0.84	1.09	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	PHAEOPHYCEAE													
	CHNOSPOORA FASTIGATA	1.29	1.66	2.07	1.5	0.65	-	-	-	1.11	2.4	1.2	0.48	0.48
	SARGASSAM LILICIFOLUM	1.39	-	1.76	1.49	0.6	1.13	1.29	2.09	-	1.4	0.48	0.48	0.48
	SITE B	CHLOROPHYCEAE												
CHEATOMORPHA MEDIA		0.87	0.56	0.73	1.23	1.09	-	-	1.28	-	-	-	1.48	
CHEATOMORPHA		1.7	1.19	2.01	2.19	2.65	-	-	0.73	0.81	0.48	0.48	0.48	
ENTEROMORPHA LINZA		1.49	1.66	1.82	0.69	0.73	0.72	2.31	2.66	1.01	-	-	0.48	
ULVA LACTUCA		0.32	-	0.47	1.86	0.79	-	-	1.99	2.34	0.48	-	0.48	
ULVA FASCIATA		1.69	1.43	1.05	0.82	-	0.8	0.73	0.49	-	0.48	1.24	0.48	
RHODOPHYCEAE														
CENTROCEROS		2.08	2.11	1.93	1.47	0.49	-	-	0.73	0.47	0.48	0.47	0.48	
CERAMUM		1.15	1.05	1.28	0.45	-	1.21	0.64	0.68	0.65	0.55	2.11	0.48	
GRACILAREA CERTICATA		1.25	0.95	0.61	0.64	1.91	0.94	0.48	-	1.72	1.94	1.28	1.48	
HYPNEA VALANTEA		1.96	2.06	2.84	3.22	2.72	1.54	0.99	-	-	1.76	0.54	0.48	
HYPNEA		1.91	3.08	2.5	2.14	3	2.6	1.29	-	-	0.74	1.48	0.48	
SPONGOMORPH VALANOPSIS PANCHENEMA		1.6	1.64	0.76	0.71	0.85	0.92	1.27	1.36	1.49	1.85	-	0.48	
1.95		1.46	1.665	1.8	0.94	0.64	0.73	0.46	1.07	-	-	2.11	0.48	
PHAEOPHYCEAE														
CHNOSPOORA FASTIGATA	-	-	1.2	1.09	-	1.82	0.94	1.94	2.22	1.48	1.02	-	0.48	
SARGASSAM LILICIFOLUM	1.5	1.33	0.59	0.86	0.73	0.49	1	-	-	-	0.74	2.08	0.48	
SITE C	CHLOROPHYCEAE													
	CAULERPA TAXIFOLEA	1.9	1.69	2.05	-	2.33	2.51	1.26	1.67	1.35	-	-	1.28	
	CHEATOMORPHA MEDIA	2.06	-	1.64	1.49	2.3	2.11	1.83	-	1.06	1.9	1.67	1.48	
	ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	-	0.99	-	-	1.27	1.64	1.38	1.43	0.68	0.9	-	0.78	
	ULVA LACTUCA	0.72	0.95	0.48	0.77	-	1.77	-	1.38	1.105	1.105	1.48	0.48	
	ULVA FASCIATA	2.5	1.94	1.28	1.49	0.47	0.656	1.84	1	-	-	-	0.48	
	RHODOPHYCEAE													
	CERAMUM	2.6	1.26	-	1.015	0.62	1.15	2.05	0.29	0.96	0.76	0.34	0.48	
GRACILAREA CERTICATA	0.82	1.2	-	-	0.65	2.08	1.9	2.58	-	0.76	1.88	2.08		

HYPNEA VALANTEA	1.25	1.54	0.45	1.12	1.56	1.88	2.08	-	-	2.485	2.9	2.65
VALANOPSIS PANCHI NEMA	1.64	1.69	0.5	0.94	0.96	0.73	0.97	1.36	1.95	-	-	1.2
PHAEOPHYCEAE												
CHNOOSPOR./ FASTIGATA	1.88	0.95	0.94	0.732	-	-	0.15	1.2	2.06	2.29	2.13	1.3
CHLOROPHYCEAE												
CAULERP/ AXIFOLEA	1.25	1.64	1.93	0.46	0.64	-	-	1.75	1.69	1.32	1.24	0.88
CHEATOMORPHA MEDIA	0.56	0.87	0.99	-	0.34	0.72	1	-	1.6	-	1.2	1.6
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	0.64	0.88	0.91	-	0.74	-	1.93	-	-	1.28	1.64	-
ULVA LACTUCA	0.65	0.541	0.52	-	-	1.53	0.48	0.41	0.37	0.77	-	-
ULVA FASCIATA	0.29	0.61	1.3	-	0.6	-	-	-	1.91	1.02	1.42	-
RHODOPHYCEAE												
CERAMIMUM	0.169	0.25	0.45	0.19	0.11	0.258	-	-	0.71	0.17	0.21	-
GRACILARE/ CERTICATA	0.184	0.251	0.56	0.34	-	-	0.43	0.71	0.81	0.17	1.42	-
SPONGOMORPHA INDICA	-	0.64	0.28	0.37	2.79	0.5	0.72	1.23	1.3	-	-	1.63
SPONGOMORPHA VALANOPSIS PANCHI NEMA	-	0.71	0.75	1.08	-	-	0.62	1.24	1.34	1.43	1.61	-
PHAEOPHYCEAE												
SARGASSUM	2.64	2.4	2.7	2.64	2.06	-	-	1.84	1.3	-	-	2.47
CHLOROPHYCEAE												
CHEATOMORPHA MEDIA	1.52	1.24	0.74	-	0.7	1.29	2.1	-	1.21	1.02	2.24	-
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	0.68	-	-	0.67	1.29	1.61	0.94	-	-	1.37	1.28	-
ULVA LACTUCA	1.03	1.48	1.37	0.84	0.73	0.8	0.95	0.38	-	0.65	0.73	-
ULVA FASCIATA	-	1.08	1.23	-	1.64	1.44	0.87	1.96	1.18	0.94	1.66	-
RHODOPHYCEAE												
CERAMIMUM	1.3	0.5	-	-	0.67	0.94	0.92	0.33	0.48	-	-	0.38
GRACILARE/ CERTICATA	1.49	1.96	2.05	1.6	0.8	0.67	-	-	1.28	2.32	2.22	-
HYPNEA VALANTEA	2.09	2.11	1.96	0.77	-	-	1.16	1.07	0.51	-	0.9	0.83
VALANOPSIS PANCHI NEMA	1.03	0.87	0.81	0.69	0.73	0.86	-	-	-	-	1.24	1.44
PHAEOPHYCEAE												
CHNOOSPOR./ FASTIGATA	1.76	1.29	1.34	0.64	0.94	-	0.62	0.35	0.38	1	2.54	2.78
CHLOROPHYCEAE												
ENTEROMORPHA LINZA	-	1.37	1.94	-	-	2.04	2.4	2.89	1.25	1.65	1.56	-
ENTEROMORPHA INTESTINALIS	1.01	0.97	0.25	1.35	-	0.63	1.32	1.2	-	-	2.09	2.3

These observations thus throw light on the efficient metal uptake by various seaweeds. This also explains seasonal variation of the mineral concentration in aquatic biota may be due to seasonal fluctuation in mass and changes in physical chemical characteristics of the surrounding water. The algae may be advantages due to metabolic uptake and continuous growth. Marine macroalgal accumulate trace elements solution and for this reason, they have been used extensively as biomonitors of metal concentration of sea water (Topcuoglu., 2003). Besides the available metal concentration in the ambient water factor such as water conditions, the stages of development and variation in growth and chemical composition of the algae may influence the pattern of accumulation. The accumulation of metals in

algae occurs by different mechanism depending on the algae specie, metal, ambient solution condition and the like (Greene and Bedell, 1990). These include intracellular accumulation of metals by active biological transport, intracellular chelation by biological polymers, accretion or precipitation of the metals on the cell wall surface and adsorptive surface binding to various cell wall chemical function group including phosphate, thiol, sulphate, carboxylate, imidazole or other groups associated with various biopolymers located in the cell wall. Thus the present study was effective in find out the use of seaweeds as a good bio-sorbent for heavy metals.

IV. CONCLUSION

Heavy metal contamination in water bodies is harmful to plants and animals. It has now become crucial to find an effective biosorbent that can uptake harmful trace metals from water bodies. The present study revealed that the various seaweeds collected from Kollam coastal areas could take up metal such as zinc and sodium. Thus these seaweeds can be considered as efficient tools for the removal of heavy metals from contaminated aquatic bodies due to its large abundance and easy accessibility.

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