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**Comparative Study on the Seasonal Variations in the
Population Density and Distribution Patterns of a Curly
Wood Louse-*Cylisticus convexus***

Aswin S.R¹ and M.G Sanaal Kumar²

^{1,2}P.G and Research Department of Zoology, N.S.S. College Pandalam-
689501

¹aswinrekhasatheesh@gmail.com, ²mgsanalkumar@gmail.com

Abstract

Population density and vertical distribution pattern of tropical isopod *Cylisticus convexus* in three study areas (Meckkarai, Kottavasal and Achankovil) in different seasons were studied, along with the analysis of soil properties. It was found that the density of isopod was high during post monsoon season (36.5±6.2 & 26.3±4.5), moderate in monsoon season (36±8.3 & 23.3±5.1) and low during summer season (11±2.6 & 12±4.7). The population density of isopod was high in Achankovil area in all seasons when compared to Meckkarai and Kottavasal except in summer, during which the density was almost same in all the three ecosystems. Soil of Achankovil has high organic carbon (2.45%) and calcium (1754ppm) and magnesium content (79ppm). Soil of Meckkarai has high amount of nitrogen (2511ppm) and phosphorus (3.9ppm). *Cylisticus convexus* has very low power of vertical distribution in soil which goes to a maximum depth of 30cm only from the surface. The density of this organism is very high in the top soil than the