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physico- Chemical Parameters And Diversity of Zooplankton, In Karingali Wetland of Central Travancore, Kerala

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Zooplankton are a diverse group of heterotrophic organisms and plays an important role in recycling nutrients as well as cycling energy within their respective environment. They are considered as a good indicator, as it responds to the various changes occurring in their surrounding environment. The present study deals with the species diversity of zooplankton and the physico- chemical parameters of Karingali wetland of Central Travancore, Kerala.

It is a collection of wetlands of Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta districts. It is one of the major wetland paddy fields of Central Travancore and had been considered as the rice bank of Mavelikara kingdom. Biodiversity of zooplankton were studied using Shannon-Weiner index and Simpson's dominance index. The work was carried out for a period of one year from January 2021 to December 2021. During this study a total of 25 species of zooplankton were identified from Karingali wetland. The major groups of zooplankton were identified was Rhizopoda, Rotifera, Cladocera and Copepoda. Among these Rotifers comprises of 10 species, eight Cladocera, four Copepoda, and three Rhizopoda. A percentage comparison among the various zooplankton species reveals that the rotifers were the dominant group