

## Molluscan Check List of Ghodaghodi Tal Area, Kailali District

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### **Abstract**

The paper deals with ten freshwater and one terrestrial mollusc collected from Ghodaghodi Tal area. Among ten freshwater molluscs, nine species belong to six families viz. Planorbidae, Viviparidae, Pilidae, Lymnaeidae and Thiaridae of class Gastropoda and one species is of family Amblemididae of the class Bivalvia. The single species of terrestrial mollusc belongs to family Ariophantidae of the class Gastropoda.

*Keywords:* Molluscan diversity, Ghodaghodi Tal, Wetland

### **Introduction**

Ghodaghodi Tal area lies in Kailali district in far western development region of Nepal at an elevation of 205 m with 28° 41' 03" N latitude and 80° 56' 43"E longitude. The Tal area includes various types of wetlands, rivers and their flood plains, oxbow lakes, swamps, marshes, reservoirs, ponds and paddy fields with a cluster of nine lakes, located in a rectangular area of 5.5 km. by 1.5 km. Climate is tropical monsoonic with ranging annual rainfall 1630-1705mm and drought period remains 5-6 months in a year. Literature on mollusc reveals no report of mollusc from western and far western region of Nepal. However, works (Subba and Ghosh 2000, Subba and Ghosh 2001) on the freshwater and land molluscs of eastern and central Nepal have helped in the survey of mollusc. Recently Subba and Pandey (2002) have described twenty-one species of mollusc of Jhapa district.

### **Materials and Methods**

Collection of mollusc from Ghodaghodi Tal area was started in Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 2001 with a view to

make a scientific study when wetland inventory work was in its inception. Boat, nylon scoopnet, gloves were used to collect mollusc with the help of local people. The collected samples were brought to Zoology Department of Post Graduate Campus, Biratnagar where identification work was carried out with the help of available literature (Tonapi 1980, Subbarao 1989, Preston 1915) and tallied with samples of molluscs identified and confirmed by Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) Calcutta.

### **Results and Discussion**

The report includes ten freshwater molluscs belonging to six families and one terrestrial mollusc (Table 1). This work is the first of its kind in western and far western regions of Nepal. However a few reports on mollusc from eastern and central Nepal (Godwin – Austen 1910, Pfeiffer *et al.* 1999, Subba and Ghosh 2000, Subba and Ghosh 2001, Subba and Pandey 2002) are available.

The most common species of mollusc of Ghodaghodi Tal area were *Bellamya bengalensis f. typica*, *Pila globosa*, *Indoplanorbis exutus*, *Lymnaea acuminata f.*

*typica*, and *Lymnaea acuminata refesseens*. But *Parreysia caerulea* was rarely found. (There were many kinds of bivalves in the past, but indiscriminate killing of them by local people for making one of the delicious ingredients of their food items have resulted in the rapid decline of the population - a statement of local people). As this region suffers from

dry weather for 5-6 months every year, no more land mollusc could be included in the present report. Land molluscs were not found in expected numbers in comparison of eastern and central development regions. The latter are having more species of land mollusc (Subba and Ghosh 2001).

**Table 1.** List of Mollusc of Ghodaghodi Tal area

Family	Scientific Name
Planorbidae	<i>Indoplanorbis exutus</i> (Deshayes) <i>Gyraulus convexiusculus</i> (Hutton)
Viviparidae	<i>Bellamyia bengalensis f. typica</i> (Lamarck) <i>Bellamyia dissimilis</i>
Pilidae	<i>Pila globosa</i> (Swainson)
Lymnaeidae	<i>Lymnaea acuminata f. typica</i> (Lamarck) <i>Lymnaea acuminata refesseens</i> (Gray) <i>Lymnaea persica</i>
Thiaridae	<i>Thiara tuberculata</i> (Mueller, 1774)
Amblemidae	<i>Parreysia caerulea</i> (Lea, 1831)
Ariophantidae	<i>Khasiella pansa</i>

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