

ON A COLLECTION OF FISH FAUNA FROM CHENNAI, CHENGLEPUT AND THIRUVALLUR DISTRICTS OF TAMIL NADU

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ABSTRACT

The primary freshwater fishes of Chennai, Chengleput and Thiruvallur districts, collected through several surveys were found to belong to 51 species under 16 families and 7 orders. Earlier reports included 15 more species. Two species are new additions to the list of fishes known from Chennai. The distribution of fishes in the different water bodies surveyed is discussed.

INTRODUCTION

The present paper deals with the fish collections brought through 20 local surveys from 29 water bodies, mostly tanks and other lentic waters, the details of which are provided in Table 1. The collections constituted 1909 specimens and were found to belong to 51 species, the systematic list of which is provided. This includes the first reference, material collected and distribution. Under 'material collected' the number of specimens examined followed by their length range, register number and locality number as in Table 1 is provided. Systematic listing is after Menon (1998).

TABLE-1 : List of Collection Localities

Sl. No.	Date	Localities	Collector
1.	22.02.80	Vandalur	Koshy Mathew & Party
2.	27.09.92	Kattupakkam-T. N. Agricultural Farm	M. Mary Bai & Party
3.	21.10.92	Kalpakkam-Water Body In Bird Sanctuary	K. V. Lakshminarayana & Party
4.	22.01.93	Kalpakkam-Water Body In Bird Sanctuary	T. S. N. Murthy & Party
5.	20.07.95	Namili Village	M. S. Ravichandran & Party
6.	13.09.95	Chembarambakkam Lake	M. Mary Bai & Party
7.	13.09.95	Pond Near Vaingaiwasal	M. Mary Bai & Party.
8.	16.11.95	Chembarambakkam Lake	M. Mary Bai & Party.
9.	16.11.95	Karasangal Anaicut	M. Mary Bai & Party.
10.	19.12.95	Pozhuvamkarnai	P.T. Cherian & Party
11.	19.12.95	Pulambakkam	P.T. Cherian & Party
12.	19.12.95	Saravambakkam	P.T. Cherian & Party

TABLE-1 : *Contd.*

Sl. No.	Date	Localities	Collector
13.	20.12.95	Vedanthangal	P.T. Cherian & Party
14.	28.11.96	Thamal	M.S. Ravichandran & Party
15.	30.12.96	Koovam Tank	M.B. Raghunathan & Party
16.	20.01.97	Alathur, 13 Km. East Of Mahabalipuram	M. Mary Bai & Party
17.	20.01.97	Payanur Near Kelambakkam	M. Mary Bai & Party
18.	20.01.97	Pond Near Mahabalipuram	M. Mary Bai & Party
19.	20.01.97	Pudupakkam Near Kelambakkam	M. Mary Bai & Party
20.	21.01.97	Double Tank Near Red Hills	M. Mary Bai & Party
21.	21.01.97	Tamaraikulam-Madavaram	M. Mary Bai & Party
22.	22.01.97	Appur Near Singaperumal Koil	M. Mary Bai & Party
23.	22.01.97	Vallakulam, Senneerkuppam	M. Mary Bai & Party
24.	30.01.97	Ratnamangalam, 3 Km. From Kolappakkam	M. Mary Bai & Party
25.	19.02.97	Palar River at Mamandur	M.B. Raghunathan & Party
26.	19.02.97	Uttaramerur	M.B. Raghunathan & Party
27.	07.10.98	Porur Tank	Geetha.
28.	16.07.98	Singaperumal Koil Paddy Field	M. B. Raghunathan & Party
29.	28.08.98	Singaperumal Koil Paddy Field	M. B. Raghunathan & Party

Order OSTEOGLOSSIFORMES

Family NOTOPTERIDAE

Genus *Notopterus* Pallas

1. *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas)

1769. *Gymnotus notopterus* Pallas, *Spicilegia zoologica*, part 7 ; pl. 6, fig. 2.

(Type locality : Indian ocean).

Material examined : 2 exs., 75.0-85.0 mm SL, F. 5180, 21.

Distribution : India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.

Order CYPRINIFORMES

Family CYPRINIDAE

Sub Family CULTRINAE

Genus *Chela* Hamilton2. *Chela cachi* Hamilton

1822. *Cyprinus (Chela) cachi* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 258, 384.

(Type locality : River Ganges, about the commencement of the delta).

Material examined : 2 exs., 20.0 & 22.5, F. 5263, 26 ; 8 exs., 24.0-28.0, F. 5582, 28 ; 1 ex., 31.0, F. 5598, 29.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar.

3. *Chela laubuca* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus laubuca* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 260, 384.

(Type locality : Ponds in northern parts of Bengal).

Material examined : 6 exs., 20.0-24.0, F. 5176, 17 ; 96 exs., 17.0-45.0, F. 5216, 22 ; 36 exs., 33.0-40.0, F. 5581, 28.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Genus *Salmostoma* Swainson4. *Salmostoma clupeioides* (Bloch)

1795. *Cyprinus clupeioides* Bloch, *Naturl. Ausland Fische*, 12, p. 49, pl. 408,

(Type locality : Tranquebar)

Material examined : 4 exs., 41.0-87.0 mm SL, F. 4747, 8 ; 3 exs., 50.0-63.0, F.5175,17.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India : Gujarat, Maharashtra, Mysore, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh.

Sub Family RASBORINAE

Genus *Amblypharyngodon* Bleeker5. *Amblypharyngodon microlepis* (Bleeker)

1853. *Leuciscus microlepis* Bleeker, *Verh. Batav. Genootsch*, 25, p. 41.

(Type locality : R. Hooghly).

Material examined : 1 ex., 45.0, F. 4585, 13 ; 4 exs., 54.0-72.0, F. 4748, 8; 1ex., 59.0 F. 5083, 2; 42 exs., 15.0-17.0, F. 5209, 18; 5 exs., 27.0-29.0, F. 5212, 16; 7 exs., 18.0-40.0, F. 5219, 22; 5 exs., 31.0-46.0, F. 5578, 28.

Distribution : India : Bengal through Chota-Nagpur to Peninsular India, except the west face of the Western Ghats.

Genus *Danio* Hamilton

6. *Danio rerio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus rerio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 323, 390.

(Type locality : R. Kosi)

Material examined : 2 exs., 34, F. 5085, 2.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh & Myanmar.

Genus *Esomus* Swainson

7. *Esomus danricus* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus danrica* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 325, 390, pl. xvi, fig. 88.

(Type locality : Ponds and ditches of Bengal)

Material examined : 4 exs., 38.0-39.0, F. 4494, 5; 8 exs., 50.0-67.0, F. 4749, 8; 95 exs., 22.0-54.0, F.5177, 17 ; 19 exs., 22.0-48.0, F. 5191, 23 ; 21 exs., 24.0-32.0, F. 5201, 24 ; 14 exs., 24.0-34.0, F. 5205, 18 ; 17 exs., 30.0-37.0, F. 5215, 16 ; 40 exs., 16.0-21.0, F. 5218, 22.

Distribution : India : Earlier confined to North India but now it is reported from South ; Nepal, Bangladesh & Pakistan.

8. *Esomus thermoicos* (Valenciennes)

1842. *Nuria thermoicos* Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, xvi, p. 238

(Type locality : Ceylon)

Material examined : 8 exs., 41.0-53.0, F. 4510, 7 ; 8 exs., 36.0-53.0, F. 4579, 10 ; 14 exs., 31.0-46.0, F. 4582, 11 ; 10 exs., 30.0-57.0, 13 ; 1 ex., 38.0, F. 4592, 12 ; 6 exs., 23.0-67.0, F. 5089, 1; 14 exs., 19.0-48.0, 15; 7 exs., 25.0-37.0, F. 5255, 25; 3 exs., 30.5-37.0, F. 5264, 26 ; 96 exs., 35.0-48.0, F. 5579, 28 ; 22 exs., 23.0-48.0, F. 5593, 29.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India ; Sri Lanka.

Genus *Rasbora* Bleeker

9. *Rasbora caverii* (Jerdon)

1848. *Leuciscus caverii* Jerdon, *Madras J. Lit. & Sci.*, 15, p. 320

(Type locality : Cauvery river, Coorg State).

Material examined : 1 ex., 69.0, F. 4495, 5; 4 exs., 38.0-41.0, F. 4511, 7; 4 exs., 32.0-45.0, F. 4577, 10 ; 6 exs., 37.0-52.0, F. 4583, 11 ; 1 ex., 43.0, F. 4591, 12; 4 exs., 34.0-44.0, F. 5265, 26; 1 ex., 24.0, F. 5178, 17; 7 exs., 22.0-28.0, F. 5187, 21; 9 exs., 27.0-58.0, F.5190, 23; 16 exs., 25.0-38.0, F. 5580, 28; 11 exs., 25.0-37.0, F. 5594, 29.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Karnataka, Tamil Nadu (Cauvery drainage and Tambraparni); Sri Lanka.

10. *Rasbora daniconius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus daniconius* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, p. 327, pl. 15, fig. 89.

(Type locality : Rivers of Southern Bengal).

Material examined : 3 exs., 34.0-50.0, F.4501, 6; 2 exs., 30.0 & 41.0, F. 4578, 10; 3 exs., 35.0-46.0, F.4584, 11; 1 ex., 49.0, F.5090, 1; 1ex., 26.0, 25; 23 exs., 25.0-40.0, F. 5213, 16.

Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand.

Genus *Horadandia* Deraniyagala

11. *Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala

1943. *Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala, *J. Royal Asiatic Soc.*, xxxv, p. 158, fig. 1.

(Type locality : Attidiya, Colombo, Ceylon).

Material examined : 1 ex., 12.0. F. 3962. 3.

Distribution : India : Kerala, Tamil Nadu; and Sri Lanka.

Genus *Barbodes* Bleeker

12. *Barbodes sarana subnasutus* (Valenciennes)

1865. *Cyclohelichthys pinnauratus* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, p. 300; *Fish Malabar*, p. 209, pl. 15., Fig. 2.

(Type locality : Wynaad).

Material examined : 1 ex., 135.0, F. 4743, 9 ; 4 exs., 50.0-125.0, F. 5166, 17.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India.

Genus *Catla* Valenciennes

13. *Catla catla* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus catla* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp: 287, 387, pl. 13, fig. 81.

(Type locality : In the rivers and tanks of Bengal).

Material examined : 1 ex., 95.0. F. 5081, 2.

Distribution : Pakistan ; India : Northern India, introduced into the rivers of Peninsular India ; Bangladesh ; Nepal ; Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

Genus *Labeo* Cuvier

14. *Labeo rohita* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus rohita* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 301, 388, pl. 36, fig. 85.

(Type locality : Freshwater rivers of the Gangetic provinces).

Material examined : 3 exs., 135.0-170.0, F. 4573, 10.

Distribution : India : Northern India, introduced into Peninsular India and Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

Genus *Cirrhinus* (Oken)

15. *Cirrhinus mrigala* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus mrigala* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 279, 386, pl. 6, fig. 78.

(Type locality : Ponds and freshwater rivers of the Gangetic Provinces).

Material examined : 1 ex., 95.0, F. 5082, 2.

Distribution : Pakistan, India : Northern India, introduced into Peninsular India ; Nepal and Bangladesh.

Genus *Puntius* (Hamilton)

16. *Puntius amphibius* (Valenciennes)

1842. *Capoeta amphibia* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 16 : p. 282, pl. 478.

(Type locality : Bombay).

Material examined : 2 exs., 39.0-72.0, F. 5164, 17 ; 1 ex., 45.0, F. 5583, 28.

Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

17. *Puntius chola* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus chola* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, p. 312, 389.

(Type locality : North-eastern parts of Bengal).

Material examined : 5 exs., 42.0-86.0, F. 4502, 8; 19 exs., 21.0-45.0, F. 5097, 15; 2 exs., 40.0 & 42.0, F. 5165, 17 ; 2 exs., 19.0 & 20.0, F. 5204, 18.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

18. *Puntius conchoni* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus conchoni* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 317, 389.

(Type locality : North-east Bengal and rivers Kosi and Ami).

Material examined : 1 ex., 43.0, F. 5084, 2.

Distribution : India : Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, U.P., Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Cauvery drainage in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka ; Pakistan and Bangladesh. Now introduced widely as aquarium fish.

19. *Puntius dorsalis* (Jerdon)1849. *Systemus dorsalis* Jerdon, *Madras J. Lit. & Sci.*, pp. 314, 316.

(Type locality : Tanks and rivers in the neighbourhood of Madras).

Material examined : 1 ex., 95.0, F. 4503, 6; 1 ex., 50.0, F. 4751, 8; 3 exs. 17.0-21.0, F.5165, 17.*Distribution* : India : Peninsular India, Cauvery and most of the drainages in Tamil Nadu, Krishna, Godavary, Mahanadi, Narmada; and Sri Lanka.20. *Puntius filamentosus* (Val.)1844. *Leuciscus filamentosus* Valenciennes, *Hist Nat. Poiss.*, 17, p.96, pl. 492.

(Type locality : Alleppey, Kerala).

Material examined : 2 exs., 80.0 & 85, 27.*Distribution* : Peninsular India : Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh ; & Sri Lanka.21. *Puntius sharmai* Menon & Rema Devi1992. *Puntius sharmai* Menon and Rema Devi, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 89(3) : 353-354

(Type locality : Madras).

Material examined : 6 exs., 19.0-20.0, F.5161, 17 ; 10 exs., 22.0-23.0, F. 5585, 28 ; 9 exs., 35.0-40.0, F. 5595, 29.*Distribution* : India, Tamil Nadu.22. *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton)1822. *Cyprinus sophore* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 310, 319, pl. 19, fig. 86.

(Type locality : Ponds of Bengal).

Material examined : 1 ex., 31.0, F. 4496, 5; 1 ex., 52.0, F. 4504, 6; 62 exs., 35.0-45.0, F. 4576, 10; 60 exs., 35.0-41.0, F. 4581, 11; 1 ex., 37.0, F. 4587, 13; 11 exs., 36.0-42.0, F. 4590, 12; 5 exs., 39.0-70.0, F. 4750, 8; 17 exs., 33.0-50.0, F. 5079, 14; 3 exs., 35.0-42.0, F. 5091, 1; 6 exs., 22.0-40.0, F. 5098, 15; 3 exs., 52.0-60.0, F. 5256, 25; 1ex. 31.0, F. 5162, 17; 2 exs., 27.0 and 28.0, F. 5186, 21; 2 exs., 35.0-40.0, F. 5192, 23; 4 exs., 28.0-30.0, F. 5199, 24; 2 exs. 30.0 & 31.0, F. 5214, 16; 2 exs., 44.0-45.0, F. 5584, 28; 7 exs., 22.0-60.0, F. 5596, 29.*Distribution* : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Yunan.23. *Puntius ticto* (Hamilton)1822. *Cyprinus ticto* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 314, 389, pl. 8, fig. 87.

(Type locality : Southeastern parts of Bengal).

Material examined : 2 ex., 40.0 & 41.0, F. 4505, 6; 3 exs., 32.0-36.0, F.4752, 8; 43 exs., 24.0-25.0, F. 5168, 17; 3 exs., 19.0-21.0, F. 5184, 21; 14 exs., 16.0-28.0, F. 5195, 20; 20 exs., 29.0-36.0, F. 5586, 28; 5 exs., 42.0-48.0, F. 5597, 29.

Distribution : India : Except Kerala, Nepal; Pakistan and Bangladesh.

24. *Puntius vittatus* Day

1865. *Puntius vittatus* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, p. 303.

(Type locality : Madras).

Material examined : 1 ex., 29.0, F.4497, 5; 1 ex., 33.0, F. 5163, 17; 3 exs., 22.0-23.0, F. 5185, 21; 2 exs., 20.0 & 24.0, F. 5193, 23; 9 exs., 9.0-18.0, F. 3965, 4.

Distribution : Peninsular India : Goa, Kutch, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu; and Sri Lanka.

Family COBITIDAE

Subfamily COBITINAE

Genus *Lepidocephalus* Bleeker

25. *Lepidocephalus thermalis* (Valenciennes)

1846. *Cobitis thermalis* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 17, p.78.

(Type locality : Ceylon).

Material examined : 2 exs., 31.0, F.4498, 5; 3 exs., 31.0-35.0, F.4512, 7; 3 exs., 41.0-45.0, F.4580, 10; 1 ex., 30.0, 13; 4 exs., 20.0-23.0, F.5099, 15 ; 1 ex., 28.0, 25 ; 2 exs., 26.0 & 27.0, 26 ; 40 exs., 15.0-30.0, F.5173, 17; 7 exs., 18.0-30.0, F. 5200, 24 ; 10 exs., 20.0-30.0, F. 5210, 18; 7 exs., 27.0-32.0, F. 5211, 16 ; 2 exs., 34.0 & 35.0, F. 5587, 28.

Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

Order SILURIFORMES

Family BAGRIDAE

Genus *Mystus* Scopoli

26. *Mystus bleekeri* (Day)

1846. *Bagrus keletius keletius* (nec. Valenciennes), *Nat. Geneesh. Arch. Ned. Ind.*, 3(2), p.135

(Type locality : Bengal).

Material examined : 5 exs., 73.0-84.0, F.5257, 25; 2 exs., 38.0 & 64.0, F. 5170, 17.

Distribution : Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

27. *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus cavasius* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 203, 379, p. 11, fig. 67.

(Type locality : Gangetic provinces).

Material examined : 1 ex., 73.0, F. 4746, 9.

Distribution : India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia.

28. *Mystus gulio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus gulio* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 201, 379, pl. 23 fig. 6.

(Type locality : Higher parts of the Gangetic estuaries where the water is not very salty).

Material examined : 1 ex., 100.0., F. 5171, 17.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia.

29. *Mystus vittatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus vittatus* Bloch, *Ichthyol Hist. Nat.* 11, p. 40, pl. 371, fig. 2.

(Type locality : Tranquebar, S. India).

Material examined : 1 ex., 82.0, F. 4506, 6 ; 2 exs., 69.0-80.0, F.4753, 8; 1 ex., 103.0, F. 5092, 1.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Family SCHILBEIDAE

Genus *Pseudeutropius* Bleeker

30. *Pseudeutropius atherinoides* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus atherinoides* Bloch, *Naturges, ausland, Fische*, 8. p.48, pl. 371, fig. 1

(Type locality : Tranquebar).

Material examined : 1 ex., 50.0, 27.

Distribution : Throughout India except Kerala; Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar.

Family HETEROPNEUSTIDAE

Genus *Heteropneustes* Muller

31. *Heteropneustes fossilis* Bloch

1794. *Silurus fossilis* Bloch, *Naturgesch. ausl. Fische*, 8 : 46, pl. 370, fig. 2.

(Type locality : Tranquebar).

Material examined : 1 ex., 111.0, F.5599, 29.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Laos.

Order CYPRINODONTIFORMES

Family ORYZIIDAE

Genus *Oryzias* Jordon & Snyder

32. *Oryzias melastigma* (McClelland)

1839. *Aplocheilus melastigma* McClelland, *Asiat. Res.*, 19, *Indian Cyprinidae*, pp. 301, 427, pl. 42, fig. 3.

(Type locality : Tanks at Calcutta).

Material examined : 2 exs., 16.0 & 20.0, F. 4508, 6; 1 ex., 25.0, F. 5095, 1; 32 exs., 16.0-22.0, F.5100, 15; 36 exs., 15.0-25.0, F. 5266, 26; 2 exs., 25.0, F. 5179, 17; 1 ex., 21.0, F.3960, 3; 2 exs., 22.0 & 23.0, F. 5588, 28; 1 ex., 18.0, F. 5601, 29.

Distribution : India : Peninsular India, Orissa, W. Bengal; Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Family APLOCHEILIDAE

Genus *Aplocheilus* McClelland

33. *Aplocheilus blocki* (Arnold)

1911. *Haplocheilus panchax* Var. *blockii* Arnold, *Wochenschr. Aquarien und Terrarienkunde*, 8 : 672

(Type locality : Ceylon).

Material examined : 1 ex., 19.0, F. 5100, 13; 3 exs., 22.0-26.0, F. 5206, 18; 5 exs., 11.0-20.0, F. 3961, 3; 14 exs., 10.0-29.0, F. 3964, 4.

Distribution : Peninsular India : West Coast, from Kutch Southwards along the coast to Kerala; Sri Lanka.

Family POECILIIDAE

Genus *Gambusia* Poey

34. *Gambusia affinis* (Baird & Girard)

1853. *Heterandria affinis* Baird and Girard, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.*, 6 : 390.

(Type locality : San Antonio river drainage, Texas).

Material examined : 4 exs., 8.0-19.0, F.5198, 20; 244 exs., 20.0-38.0, F. 5188, 21; 1 ex., 17.0, F. 5600, 29.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. Introduced for larvicidal use.

Genus *Poecilia* Bloch and Schneider

35. *Poecilia reticulata* Peters

1859. *Poecilia reticulata* Peters, *K. Preussischen Akad. Wiss., Berlin.* 412

(Type locality : Venezuela).

Material examined : 44 exs., 11.0-28.0, F.4500, 5.

Distribution : The Netherlands, Antilles, the Venezuelan Islands, Trinidad and British Guiana, introduced in India.

Genus *Xiphophorus* Heckel

36. *Xiphophorus helleri* Heckel

Material examined : 3 exs., 35.0-44.0, F.5086, 2.

Distribution : Eastern Mexico, introduced into India.

37. *Xiphophorus maculatus* Gunther

Material examined : 3 exs., 24.0-27.0, F.5087, 2.

Distribution : Eastern Mexico, introduced into India.

Order PERCIFORMES

Suborder CHANNOIDEI

Family CHANNIDAE

Genus *Channa* Scopoli

38. *Channa punctatus* (Bloch)

1793. *Ophiocephalus punctatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, (2) : 139, pl. 358

(Type locality : Rivers and lakes of Coromandel Coast).

Material examined : 1 ex., 41.0, F. 4513, 7 ; 1 ex., 83.0, F. 4742, 9 ; 6 exs., 45.0-102.0, F.4588, 13; 2 exs., 75.0-114.0, F. 5080, 14; 1 ex., 21.0, F. 5217, 22; 4 exs., 63.0-83.0, F. 5591, 28.

Distribution : India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Yunan.

39. *Channa striatus* (Bloch)

1793. *Ophiocephalus striatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, (2) : 141, pl. 359.

(Type locality : Malabar).

Material examined : 1 ex., 240.0, F. 4741, 9 ; 1 ex., 230.0, F. 4574, 10.

Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Malay-Archipelago, Thailand upto Philippines.

Sub Order PERCOIDEI
Family CHANDIDAE
Genus *Chanda* Hamilton

40. *Chanda nama* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda nama* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges* : 109, 371, pl. 39, fig. 37.

(Type locality : Bengal).

Material examined : 1 ex., 22.0, F. 5196, 20 ; 5 exs., 18.0–40.0, F. 5189, 21.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar.

41. *Chanda ranga* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda ranga* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges* : 113, 371, pl. 16, fig. 38.

(Type locality : Freshwaters of all parts of Gangetic provinces).

Material examined : 51 exs., 24.0-53.0, F. 5258, 25.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Malaysia and Thailand.

Sub Order GOBIOIDEI
Family GOBIIDAE
Genus *Glossogobius* Gill

42. *Glossogobius giuris* Hamilton

1822. *Gobius giuris* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges* : 51, pl. 33, fig. 15.

(Type locality : Gangetic Provinces).

Material examined : 3 exs., 31.0-50.0, F. 4514, 7 ; 3 exs. 60.0-85.0, F. 4745, 9; 1 ex., 60.0, F. 5169, 17; 1 ex., 70.0, F. 5202, 19 ; 2 exs., 32.0-33.0, F. 5260, 25.

Distribution : Indo-West Pacific, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh.

Genus *Favonigobius* Whitley

43. *Favonigobius reichei* (Bleeker)

1853. *Gobius reichei* Bleeker, *Natuurk. Tijdschr. Ned. Indie*, 5 : 509.

(Type locality : Padang, Indonesia).

Material examined : 1 ex., 58.0, F. 5090, 1.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Sub Order LABROIDEI

Family CICHLIDAE

Genus *Etroplus* Cuvier

44. *Etroplus maculatus* (Bloch)

1785. *Chaetodon maculatus* Bloch, *Syst. ichth.*, pl. 427, fig. 2.

(Type locality : India).

Material examined : 3 exs., 16.0-19.0, F. 3966, 4 ; 2 exs., 58.0, F. 4509, 6; 4 exs., 40.0-61.0, F. 4755, 8 ; 6 exs., 22.0-30.0, F. 5194, 20; 2 exs., 25.0-50.0, F. 5182, 21; 5 exs., 40.0-48.0, F. 5259, 25.

Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

Genus *Oreochromis* Gunther

45. *Oreochromis mossambica* (Peters)

1852. *Chromis (Tilapia) mossambicus* Peters, *Montab, Akad. Wiss., Berlin.* 681.

(Type locality : Mozambique).

Material examined : 2 exs., 73.0, F. 5088, 2 ; 14 exs., 10.0-23.0, F. 3959, 3; 25 exs., 10.0-30.0, F. 3963, 4 ; 1 ex., 28.0, F. 4499, 5; 2 exs., 67.0 & 80.0, F. 4756, 8; 1 ex., 130.0, F.4575, 10; 5 exs., 25.0-32.0, F. 5174, 17 ; 72 exs., 18.0-27.0, F. 5208, 18 ; 1 ex., 28.0, F. 5197, 20 ; 142 exs., 18.0-45.0, F. 5183, 21 ; 7 exs., 35.0-63.0, F. 5592, 28; 2 exs., 15.0-17.0, 29.

Distribution : East Africa. Introduced species.

Sub Order ANABANTOIDEI

Family ANABANTIDAE

Genus *Anabas* Cuvier

46. *Anabas testudineus* Bloch

1795. *Anthias testudineus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, (6) : 121, pl. 322

(Type locality : Japan, East Indies).

Material examined : 2 exs., 60.0 & 112.0, F. 4744, 9.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, S. China, Indo-China, Malay and Malay Archipelago.

Family BELONTIIDAE

Sub Family TRICHOGASTERINAE

Genus *Colisa* Cuvier

47. *Colisa fasciatus* (Schneider)

1801. *Trichogaster fasciatus* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.* 164, pl. 36.

(Type locality : Tranquebar).

Material examined : 2 exs., 30.0-38.0, F. 4507, 6; 5 exs., 26.0-30.0, F. 5172, 17 ; 70 exs., 26.0-36.0, F. 5181, 21 ; 1 ex., 39.0, F. 5261, 25 ; 6 exs., 28.0-30.0, F.5589, 28.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Upper Myanmar.

Sub Family MACROPODINAE

Genus *Pseudosphromenus* Bleeker

48. *Pseudosphromenus cupanus* (Valenciennes)

1831. *Polyacanthus cupanus* Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 7 : 357.

(Type locality : Arian Coopam river at Pondicherry).

Material examined : 1 ex., 24.0, 10 ; 25 exs., 23.0-37.0, 13 ; 2 exs., 20.0-21.0, F. 5207, 18 ; 1 ex., 30.0, F.5262, 25 ; 13 exs., 27.0-34.0, F. 5590, 28.

Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

Order SYNBRANCHIFORMES

Suborder MASTACEMBELOIDEI

Family MASTACEMBELIDAE

Genus *Mastacembelus* Scopoli

49. *Mastacembelus armatus* (Lacépède)

1800. *Macrognathus armatus* Lacépède, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 2 : 286.

(Type locality : not known).

Material examined : 1 ex., 42.0, F. 5203, 18.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia to South China.

Genus *Macrognathus* Lacépède

50. *Macrognathus aral* (Bloch & Schneider)

1801. *Rhynchobdella aral* Bloch and Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.*, 479, pl. 89.

(Type locality : Tranquebar, Tamil Nadu).

Material examined : 1 ex., 120.0, F. 5094, 1.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar.

51. *Macrogathus pancalus* Hamilton

1822. *Macrogathus pancalus* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, 30, 364, pl. 22, fig. 7.

(Type locality : Tanks of Gangetic Provinces).

Material examined : 3 exs., 107.0-132.0, F. 4757, 8.

Distribution : India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

DISCUSSION

Though several faunal and hydrographical aspects of Chennai and its environs have been studied by many workers, only a few papers by Raj (1916), Venkateswarlu et. al (1975), Raghunathan (1978), Rema Devi (1994, 1996) and Mary Bai et al (1997) deal with the fish fauna of this area. From available literature it is observed that 170 species are known from Chengleput MGR districts. Of these 52 are primary freshwater species. The present paper deals with the distribution of 51 species from freshwater bodies of the three districts under report. Of the species listed here *Danio rerio* (Ham.), *Xiphophrus helleri* Heckel and *X. maculatus* Gunther collected from Kattupakkam Agricultural farm, are cultured for aquarium purposes and do not occur in the wild. *Favonigobius reichei* (Blkr.), an estuarine species, was collected for the first time from the freshwaters of Vandalur. *Chela laubuca* (Ham.) and *Mystus bleekeri* (Day) are new reports from Chennai waters, subsequent to their reports from Bhavani headwaters by Rajan (1955) and Cauvery River by Jayaram (1982). The following 15 species viz. *Anguilla bengalensis* Gray & Hardwicke, *A. bicolor* Mc Cl., *Salmostoma bacalia* (Ham.), *Puntius arenatus* (Day), *Cirrhinus reba* (Ham.), *Labeo calbasu* (Ham.), *Mystus keletius* (Val.), *Proeutropiichthys taakree* (Sykes), *Wallago attu* (Bloch & Schn.), *Clarias batrachus* (Linne.), *Xenentodon cancila* (Ham.), *Nandus nandus* (Ham.) *Mugil cephalus* (Linnaeus), *Rhinomugil corsula* (Ham.) & *Channa orientalis* (Bloch) reported earlier are not represented in the present collections. Excluding the introduced aquarium species *Danio rerio* and the exotic species *Gambusia affinis*, *Poecilia reticulata*, *Xiphophorus helleri*, *X. maculatus* and *Oreochromis mossambica*, the primary freshwater fishes of Chennai and its environs, reported so far numbers 60.

Some interesting observations on distribution of fishes, collected during various surveys are as follows.

Maximum species composition comprising 19 species was observed in Payanur tank near Kelambakkam. Other speciose areas include Chembarambakkam tank, Porur tank, Palar river at Mamandur, Tamaraikulam at Madavaram and Pozhuvamkaranai, most of which are located in Chengleput district. Among the species collected, those which are most commonly encountered

(frequency of occurrence being 35-50%) in their order of predominance are *Puntius sophore*, *Oreochromis mossambica*, *Lepidocephalus thermalis*, *Esomus thermoicos* and *Rasbora caverii*. All other species fall within the range of 4-23% frequency of occurrence.

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