

STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERIPHYTON COMMUNITY IN RIVER GANGA

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The periphyton is valuable as natural indicator of contamination, as there most parts are sessile and consequently cannot keep away from contact with the waste effluents. The present study was made to understand seasonal variation of diversity and density in the large riverine ecosystem, the River Ganga. A total of 73 genera of phytoplankton, belonging to 10 classes and 6 phyla were recorded during the study. The Diatoms and Cholophyceae were found dominant during winter (2.29998×10^5 unit/cm² and 1.8433×10^4 unit/cm²), while the Cyanophyta and the highest density was observed during Monsoon (1.17135×10^5 unit/cm²) months.
