

# PECULAR LIMNOLOGICAL FEATURES OF A SOFT WATER RESERVOIR IN SOUTH INDIA.

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## Abstract

A softwater impoundment in Southwest Tamilnadu, Pechiparai has a stable thermal stratification. Oxygen depletion parallels thermal stratification and an anoxic bottom is common. A high bottom accumulation of free CO<sub>2</sub> and bicarbonate is peculiar to this unpolluted softwater reservoir. The bottom iron content is high.

# ECOLOGY OF THE ROTIFERS OF THE PITCHAVARAM MANGROVES, SOUTHEAST COAST OF INDIA

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Rotifers from a vital source of energy as secondary producers in the aquatic food-chain and serve as indirect source of food to other organisms, occupying still higher trophic levels. A total of 22 species and one variety of rotifers belonging to 13 genera were identified from the Pitchavaram Mangroves. *Brachionus angularis*, *Keratella cochlearis*, *K. Procurva*, *K. tropica* and *Lecane luna* occurred throughout the year and the genus *Brachionus* was numerically abundant. Maximum number of rotifer species were encountered during the summer season when the species diversity and richness were high. Environmental parameters were either positively or negatively correlated with the total rotifer population.

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