

Diversity And Seasonal Abundance Of Phytoplankton Of River Narmada Madhya Pradesh (India).

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Abstract: Phytoplankton which are predominantly atrophic and primary producers of organic matter in aquatic habitat, float in water and moved passively by wind or water current. They stand at the base line of many food webs in aquatic environments and are in turn dependent on the activities of other microbial organisms, which convert organic material into inorganic nutrients required by plants. Phytoplankton of the Narmada River consisted mainly of green algae (*Chlorophyceae*) Diatoms (*Bacillariophyceae*) and the blue green algae (*Myxophyceae*). *Chlorophyceae* consisted of 23 genera some of the Zygnema, *Eudorina Species*, *Chlosterium Species*, *Spirogyra*, *Pediastrum simplex*, *Pediastrum duplex* and *Chlorella* were more dominant forms. Diatoms (*Bacillariophyceae*) was represented by 7 genera where as *Myxophyceae* by 10 genera respectively. In Narmada river the temporal succession of phytoplankton groups is noticed as *Chlorophyceae* > *Cyanophyceae* > *Bacillariophyceae*. The species composition, distribution, abundance of phytoplankton population are governed by various physico-chemical factors of the water body. The population of Plankton fluctuates in different seasons and months.

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1. Introduction

Plankton abundance and distribution are strongly dependent on factors such as ambient nutrients concentration the physical state of the water column, and the abundance of other plankton.

Plankton are of immense value as food and play an important role in the disposal of sewage and in the natural purification of polluted waters. However some plankton, from a harmful bloom that may cause high mortality among the aquatic organisms and pose a serious hazard in the water supply for domestic and industrial use.

This scheme divides the plankton community into broad producer, consumer and reeler groups. In reality, the trophic level of some plankton is not straight forward, for example, although most dinoflagellates are either photosynthetic producers or heterotrophic consumers many species are mixotrophic depending upon their circumstances.

Phytoplankton (from Greek Phyton), autotrophic, prokaryotic or Eukaryotic algae that live near the water surface where there is sufficient light to support photosynthesis. Among the more important groups are the diatoms, cyanobacteria and dinoflagellates.

Planktons are minute organisms and is essential links in food chain in aquatic system. Phytoplankton's and zooplanktons are the major

group of plankton. Phytoplanktons play a phenomenal role in the biosynthesis of organic material while zooplankton forms important components of secondary production. The zooplankton forms of link between phytoplankton and micro invertebrates which in turn provide food to fishes and aquatic birds. Planktonic animals in fresh water are dominated by rotifers cladocerans and copepods. Rotifers are most sensitive bioindicators of water quality and their presence may be used as a reference to the physico-chemical characteristics of water.

The information about the fresh water planktonic organisms is scanty in India. The basic knowledge of fresh water plankton is very limited. The detailed study on their biological and ecological relation is required. A real contribution to the planktonic studies has been pointed out by Hutchinson (1991), Ward and Whipple (1959) Schindler & Noven (1971) Fernando (1980) Malone and Neale (1981) and Duncan (1983).

Studies on the phytoplankton communities of rivers started with Roy (1949, 1966), Chacko & Ganapati (1949), Chacko, Shrinivasan & Evangeline (1955), Chakraborty et al., (1959), Iyengar & Venkataraman (1962), Laxmi-Narayana, (1965) besides many other rivers Venkateshwarlu, (1969), Venkateshwarlu & Jayanti, (1969) and Dutta et al.,

(1979), Prasad & Saxena, (1980), since late (1950s), River Ganga and River Yamuna Roy et al., (2002) have been investigated Gopal & Sah (1993) Krishnamurti et al., (1994).

2. Material and Methods

Description of Narmada River

The Narmada river, hemmed between Vindhya and Satpuda ranges, extends over an area of 98,796 km². And lies between east longitudes 72 degrees 32' to 81 degrees 45' and north latitudes 21 degrees 20' to 23 degrees 45' lying on the northern extremity of the Deccan Plateau. The basin covers large areas in the states of Madhya Pradesh (86%), Gujarat (14%) and a comparatively smaller area (2%) in Maharashtra. There are 41 tributaries, out of which 22 are from the Satpuda range and the rest on the right bank are from the Vindhya range.

3. Study Area/Sampling Station:

The water samples would be collected from the various selected sampling station in the Narmada river which are as under. Before finally fixing the sampling stations a general survey of River was made, samples were collected and estimated from various regions in which Narmada river flow. Accordingly & study areas were fixed.

A. Omkareshwar:

Omkareshwar is a famous place of pilgrimages, situated 77 km from Indore in Khandwa District. Madhya Pradesh shaped like the holy Hindu Symbol. 'OM', this sacred island, on the conflux of the river Narmada and Kaveri is visited by pilgrims from all over the country to seek blessing at the temple of Shri Omkar Mandhata.

It's Latitude (D M S) – 22°15' 1" N and Longitude – (DMS) 76°8' 48" E

B. Mandleshwar:

Mandleshwar is a small town and a Nagar Panchayat Khargone District in the Madhya Pradesh state of India (Asia). It is a town of historical and religious importance situated on the banks of Narmada river at a distance of 8 km east from Maheshwar, which was the capital of Holkar States and 99 km from Indore.

It's Latitude– 22°18 Latitude (DMS) 22°10' 60" N and Longitude –75°67. Longitude (DMS) 75°0' 0" E.

C. Maheshwar:

Maheshwar is a small town in Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh state in central India. It is located

91 km. away from Indore (4 hour by bus), the commercial capital of the state. The town lies on the North bank of the Narmada river.

It's Latitude– 22°18 Latitude (DMS) 22°10' 60" and Longitude –75°58, Longitude (DMS) 75°54' 60" E.

D. Barwani:

Barwani, also known as Barwani or Siddh Nagar, is a city and a municipality in Barwani District in the state of Madhya Pradesh, India. The town is situated near the left bank of the Narmada river. The great Narmada river flows through Barwani (Just 5 km from city). Barwani is located 150 km away from Indore.

It is Latitude– 22°03, Latitude (DMS) 22°1' 60" N and Longitude –749.9, Longitude (DMS) 74°54' 0" E.

Biological Estimation:

1. Collection, preservation and Identification of Plankton:

The plankton samples were collected following Lind (1979, Welch 1953), Wetzel (1975), by filtering 40 Liters of water through plankton net having pore size 64 μ. The concentration plankton samples were fixed in 4% formalin and Lugal's solution for zooplankton and phytoplankton study respectively.

The phytoplankton were identify with the help of keys given by pres cott (1962), Smith (1950), Agarkar (1975), Edmondson (1959).

Zooplankton were identified with the help of keys' provided by Pemak (1978), Sehgal (1083), Needham and Needham (1962), Tonapi (1980), APHA (1980).

Counting of the individual plankton was done by "Lac Keys" dropping method (1935) using the formula.

$$\text{Plankton units/Liter} = \frac{N \times C}{y} \times 10$$

N = Number of plankton counted in 0.1ml Concentrate.

C = Total volume of concentrate in ml.

Y = Total volume of water filtered for sample in liters.

The phytoplankton density was expressed on units/liter and zooplankton density was expressed on individuals/liter.

4. Results and discussion

A list of Phyto planktonic population of Narmada river.

Table 1. Monthly variations in phytoplankton density (units/l) at station I in Narmada River during 2008-09

S. No.	Name of Group & Species	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April
CHLOROPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Eudorina Species</i>	12	25	30	37	44	26	28	25	30
2	<i>Closteridium Species</i>	-	12	30	44	25	18	29	15	25
3	<i>Chlorella Species</i>	-	13	16	36	26	19	-	15	-
4	<i>Actinastrum Species</i>	-	-	-	31	23	19	-	-	-
5	<i>Crucigenia Species</i>	-	-	-	21	22	19	12	30	-
6	<i>Scenedesmus</i>	-	-	13	22	19	26	23	29	-
7	<i>Pediastrum Simplex</i>	-	32	64	52	44	32	12	22	42
8	<i>Pediastrum Duplex</i>	-	22	32	44	32	26	-	13	14
9	<i>Microspora Species</i>	18	19	22	26	13	14	-	-	-
10	<i>Oedogonim Species</i>	-	13	13	22	23	18	-	-	-
11	<i>Spirogyra Species</i>	-	32	38	44	52	32	23	26	14
12	<i>Zygnema Species</i>	-	13	19	82	100	126	132	31	42
13	<i>Closterium Species</i>	-	19	13	14	13	44	26	19	12
14	<i>Euastridium Species</i>	-	22	26	29	42	44	20	21	-
18	<i>Ulothrix Species</i>	-	22	26	29	30	12	19	22	-
19	<i>Volvox Species</i>	22	19	18	22	26	30	35	8	32
20	<i>Cosmarium Species</i>	32	-	35	29	26	22	21	18	8
21	<i>Tetraspore Species</i>	23	-	-	24	35	40	48	2	13
22	<i>Chlamydomonas Species</i>	22	18	22	25	-	-	33	36	40
23	<i>Lepocinclis Species</i>	33	-	-	19	37	32	34	42	18
	Total	162	281	417	652	632	599	495	374	290
CYANOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Anacytis Species</i>	87	98	100	86	89	104	92	62	45
2	<i>Oscillatoria Species</i>	-	72	83	72	44	42	54	32	108
3	<i>Spirulina Species</i>	25	32	38	40	22	36	44	32	44
4	<i>Anabaena Species</i>	20	21	26	40	32	46	62	42	32
5	<i>Nostoc Species</i>	12	19	33	20	23	32	22	26	32
6	<i>Melosira Species</i>	-	38	46	23	44	48	52	54	56
7	<i>Synedra Species</i>	23	34	46	48	33	29	12	22	32
8	<i>Cyclotella Species</i>	38	18	29	34	36	48	50	32	28
9	<i>Cymbella Species</i>	-	-	13	22	36	13	14	19	22
10	<i>Diatoma Species</i>	23	34	45	36	29	38	22	51	30
	Total	228	366	459	421	388	436	424	372	429
BACILLARIOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Asterionella Species</i>	-	22	26	19	26	32	37	38	34
2	<i>Melosira Species</i>	-	-	-	13	19	22	26	32	19
3	<i>Fragilaria Species</i>	44	26	22	19	20	22	26	38	26
4	<i>Gomphonema Species</i>	-	38	52	34	32	19	19	17	19
5	<i>Surevillia Species</i>	-	40	52	32	26	20	19	44	53
6	<i>Microcystis Species</i>	38	42	36	22	29	34	33	19	80
7	<i>Lyngbya Species</i>	13	20	29	42	50	34	23	11	12
8	<i>Nodularia Species</i>	34	40	43	48	38	29	27	17	12
9	<i>Rivularia Species</i>	34	40	53	37	18	56	25	37	31
	Total	163	268	313	266	258	268	235	253	286

Table 2. Monthly variations in phytoplankton density (units/l) at station II in Narmada River during 2008-09

S. No.	Name of Group & Species	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April
CHLOROPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Eudorina Species</i>	-	-	33	-	50	31	18	18	19
2	<i>Closteridium Species</i>	-	-	-	13	24	26	33	38	25
3	<i>Chlorella Species</i>	-	26	30	33	18	19	42	-	18
4	<i>Actinastrum Species</i>	24	-	-	50	44	39	32	26	44
5	<i>Crucigenia Species</i>	-	-	-	12	19	32	33	38	19
6	<i>Scenedesmus</i>	-	-	-	13	21	26	22	33	34
7	<i>Pediastrum Simplex</i>	-	-	13	24	36	42	23	41	32
8	<i>Pediastrum Duplex</i>	-	-	12	19	22	19	13	25	34
9	<i>Microspora Species</i>	-	13	13	19	-	-	-	-	-
10	<i>Oedogonim Species</i>	23	-	-	24	19	30	35	44	34
11	<i>Spirogyra Species</i>	-	-	29	44	32	38	18	19	13
12	<i>Zygnema Species</i>	-	-	12	18	22	24	30	20	14
13	<i>Closterium Species</i>	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
14	<i>Euastrium Species</i>	-	-	-	-	13	19	-	15	-
18	<i>Ulothrix Species</i>	30	-	12	51	31	32	18	19	-
19	<i>Volvox Species</i>	12	13	18	22	-	-	-	12	13
20	<i>Cosmarium Species</i>	30	18	33	-	-	12	19	30	15
21	<i>Tetraspore Species</i>	-	-	18	22	26	12	21	23	13
22	<i>Chlamydomonas Species</i>	12	19	22	26	8	13	-	-	18
23	<i>Lepocinlis Species</i>	12	-	-	18	31	27	20	15	17
	Total	143	89	245	421	416	441	377	416	362
CYANOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Anacytis Species</i>	-	-	-	-	12	15	-	18	19
2	<i>Oscillatoria Species</i>	31	-	-	13	15	12	-	-	19
3	<i>Spirulina Species</i>	31	32	-	-	18	19	23	24	27
4	<i>Anabaena Species</i>	31	26	25	-	23	27	28	35	38
5	<i>Nostoc Species</i>	31	29	18	15	-	-	19	27	30
6	<i>Melosira Species</i>	-	-	12	18	29	44	34	12	19
7	<i>Synedra Species</i>	22	-	19	29	34	37	43	24	30
8	<i>Cyclotella Species</i>	-	13	-	18	19	21	27	29	33
9	<i>Cymbella Species</i>	-	23	37	20	20	19	32	28	18
10	<i>Diatoma Species</i>	18	20	20	-	18	27	30	32	13
	Total	164	143	131	113	188	221	236	229	246
BACILLARIOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Asterionella Species</i>	12	13	20	13	19	29	30	18	19
2	<i>Melosira Species</i>	20	18	28	29	20	20	13	15	20
3	<i>Fragilaria Species</i>	31	-	-	25	12	12	12	25	30
4	<i>Gomphonema Species</i>	10	13	20	-	-	13	20	26	21
5	<i>Surevilla Species</i>	12	13	21	-	-	-	-	12	19
6	<i>Microcystis Species</i>	10	13	20	12	12	12	13	21	27
7	<i>Lyngbya Species</i>	13	13	15	20	20	25	12	12	23
8	<i>Nodularia Species</i>	24	20	23	15	15	20	12	12	43
9	<i>Rivularia Species</i>	10	14	18	19	20	18	20	12	12
	Total	142	117	165	133	118	149	132	153	214

Table 3. Monthly variations in phytoplankton density (units/l) at station III in Narmada River during 2008-09

S. No.	Name of Group & Species	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April
CHLOROPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Eudorina Species</i>	-	-	-	37	20	27	30	23	20
2	<i>Closteridium Species</i>	-	-	20	36	41	32	19	20	22
3	<i>Chlorella Species</i>	20	22	-	25	18	19	20	20	20
4	<i>Actinastrum Species</i>	-	-	12	12	20	25	22	18	20
5	<i>Crucigenia Species</i>	-	20	20	43	51	70	26	25	20
6	<i>Scenedesmus</i>	-	-	20	43	50	54	30	34	25
7	<i>Pediastrum Simplex</i>	22	24	-	27	34	37	23	20	20
8	<i>Pediastrum Duplex</i>	-	20	30	24	24	-	-	-	-
9	<i>Microspora Species</i>	-	12	24	19	19	19	20	-	-
10	<i>Oedogonim Species</i>	-	20	25	31	34	43	13	-	-
11	<i>Spirogyra Species</i>	-	12	20	32	44	32	20	20	-
12	<i>Zygnema Species</i>	50	34	44	80	125	170	60	57	56
13	<i>Closterium Species</i>	-	20	12	18	20	44	20	20	-
14	<i>Euastridium Species</i>	-	31	32	44	32	40	26	20	12
18	<i>Ulothrix Species</i>	12	-	18	33	34	26	12	-	-
19	<i>Volvox Species</i>	-	23	24	30	18	27	35	37	38
20	<i>Cosmarium Species</i>	-	-	19	20	26	32	20	12	18
21	<i>Tetraspore Species</i>	12	-	13	15	20	21	24	29	30
22	<i>Chlamydomonas Species</i>	23	24	18	20	20	27	30	19	12
23	<i>Lepocinclis Species</i>	13	18	20	12	12	13	19	24	26
	Total	152	280	371	601	662	758	469	398	339
CYANOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Anacytis Species</i>	-	13	13	31	26	31	20	20	25
2	<i>Oscillatoria Species</i>	32	44	51	44	33	26	20	25	33
3	<i>Spirulina Species</i>	31	44	44	32	20	49	30	18	24
4	<i>Anabaena Species</i>	25	32	26	24	26	38	26	23	28
5	<i>Nostoc Species</i>	20	32	37	26	19	26	19	13	25
6	<i>Melosira Species</i>	12	13	18	26	20	20	12	20	26
7	<i>Synedra Species</i>	23	31	36	44	20	20	12	18	21
8	<i>Cyclotella Species</i>	33	12	18	19	19	20	12	12	25
9	<i>Cymbella Species</i>	13	23	20	20	12	13	19	21	20
10	<i>Diatoma Species</i>	24	26	12	12	25	12	18	20	30
	Total	213	270	275	278	220	255	188	190	257
BACILLARIOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Asterionella Species</i>	-	12	18	22	19	12	12	20	25
2	<i>Melosira Species</i>	-	-	12	19	19	20	32	26	38
3	<i>Fragilaria Species</i>	23	21	-	-	24	19	27	32	41
4	<i>Gomphonema Species</i>	25	50	57	38	44	23	20	18	20
5	<i>Surevilla Species</i>	20	34	38	24	20	18	13	34	33
6	<i>Microcystis Species</i>	24	13	12	12	25	22	20	20	13
7	<i>Lyngbya Species</i>	23	24	30	33	34	20	27	28	30
8	<i>Nodularia Species</i>	23	31	-	-	23	31	34	50	52
9	<i>Rivularia Species</i>	24	26	-	27	20	20	12	15	37
	Total	162	211	167	175	228	185	197	243	289

Table 4. Monthly variations in phytoplankton density (units/l) at station IV in Narmada River during 2008-09

S. No.	Name of Group & Species	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April
CHLOROPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Eudorina Species</i>	-	-	12	19	19	12	-	-	-
2	<i>Closteridium Species</i>	-	44	52	57	70	44	-	-	-
3	<i>Chlorella Species</i>	-	13	20	31	44	21	20	20	-
4	<i>Actinastrum Species</i>	-	12	20	25	32	25	20	20	-
5	<i>Crucigenia Species</i>	-	-	-	20	31	44	20	-	-
6	<i>Scenedesmus</i>	-	26	38	44	27	67	26	-	-
7	<i>Pediastrum Simplex</i>	-	22	19	22	26	12	-	53	12
8	<i>Pediastrum Duplex</i>	-	23	21	26	13	52	15	24	-
9	<i>Microspora Species</i>	-	38	44	33	20	12	12	12	-
10	<i>Oedogonim Species</i>	10	26	25	20	20	26	38	40	-
11	<i>Spirogyra Species</i>	27	50	28	34	39	26	20	12	12
12	<i>Zygnema Species</i>	-	38	44	100	175	180	100	110	200
13	<i>Closterium Species</i>	-	34	35	38	24	44	50	25	25
14	<i>Euastridium Species</i>	-	-	13	20	32	13	18	12	-
18	<i>Ulothrix Species</i>	23	31	26	22	12	12	29	19	12
19	<i>Volvox Species</i>	24	31	12	12	20	36	34	37	-
20	<i>Cosmarium Species</i>	12	12	12	36	21	33	24	12	12
21	<i>Tetraspore Species</i>	33	23	20	20	36	29	12	24	26
22	<i>Chlamydomonas Species</i>	24	12	12	37	38	44	33	45	39
23	<i>Lepocinclis Species</i>	12	12	24	39	34	12	12	20	26
	Total	165	447	477	655	733	744	483	485	364
CYANOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Anacytis Species</i>	-	32	30	54	44	30	20	20	38
2	<i>Oscillatoria Species</i>	31	32	26	27	19	19	25	32	44
3	<i>Spirulina Species</i>	18	20	19	22	24	15	25	25	32
4	<i>Anabaena Species</i>	20	33	12	12	31	33	42	18	19
5	<i>Nostoc Species</i>	-	-	12	26	18	12	10	14	20
6	<i>Melosira Species</i>	31	-	-	-	12	10	14	13	12
7	<i>Synedra Species</i>	34	-	-	-	10	15	18	18	20
8	<i>Cyclotella Species</i>	33	-	-	20	23	18	19	10	18
9	<i>Cymbella Species</i>	25	23	-	-	-	13	12	12	18
10	<i>Diatoma Species</i>	23	24	12	12	20	18	12	13	19
	Total	215	164	111	173	201	183	197	175	240
BACILLARIOPHYCEAE										
1	<i>Asterionella Species</i>	34	44	50	25	30	32	34	56	49
2	<i>Melosira Species</i>	24	26	29	44	-	44	56	23	39
3	<i>Fragilaria Species</i>	44	46	49	20	30	33	50	51	50
4	<i>Gomphonema Species</i>	31	44	12	12	20	19	12	13	30
5	<i>Surevillia Species</i>	31	32	37	31	31	44	50	23	24
6	<i>Microcystis Species</i>	24	26	20	20	12	13	31	44	12
7	<i>Lyngbya Species</i>	20	12	12	31	31	31	44	45	51
8	<i>Nodularia Species</i>	20	12	37	44	12	45	25	20	12
9	<i>Rivularia Species</i>	25	26	12	12	-	-	23	12	19
	Total	253	268	258	239	166	261	325	287	286

Phytoplankton of this Narmada River consisted mainly of green algae (*Chlorophyceae*) Diatoms (*Bacillariophyceae*) and the blue green algae (*Myxophyceae*) phytoplankton population represented by *Chlorophyceae* group followed by *Bacillariophyceae* and *Myxophyceae*. *Chlorophyceae* consisted of 23 genera some of the *Zygnema*,

Eudorina Spices. *Chlosterium Species*. *Spirogyra*, *Pediastrum simplex*, *Pediastrum duplex* and *Chlorella* were more dominant forms. diatoms (*Bacillariophyceae*) was represented by 7 genera where as *Myxophyceae* by 10 genera respectively. The dominant groups each family are listed in the Table 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Figure 1. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (*Chlorophyceae*) density at Station-I (Omkareshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

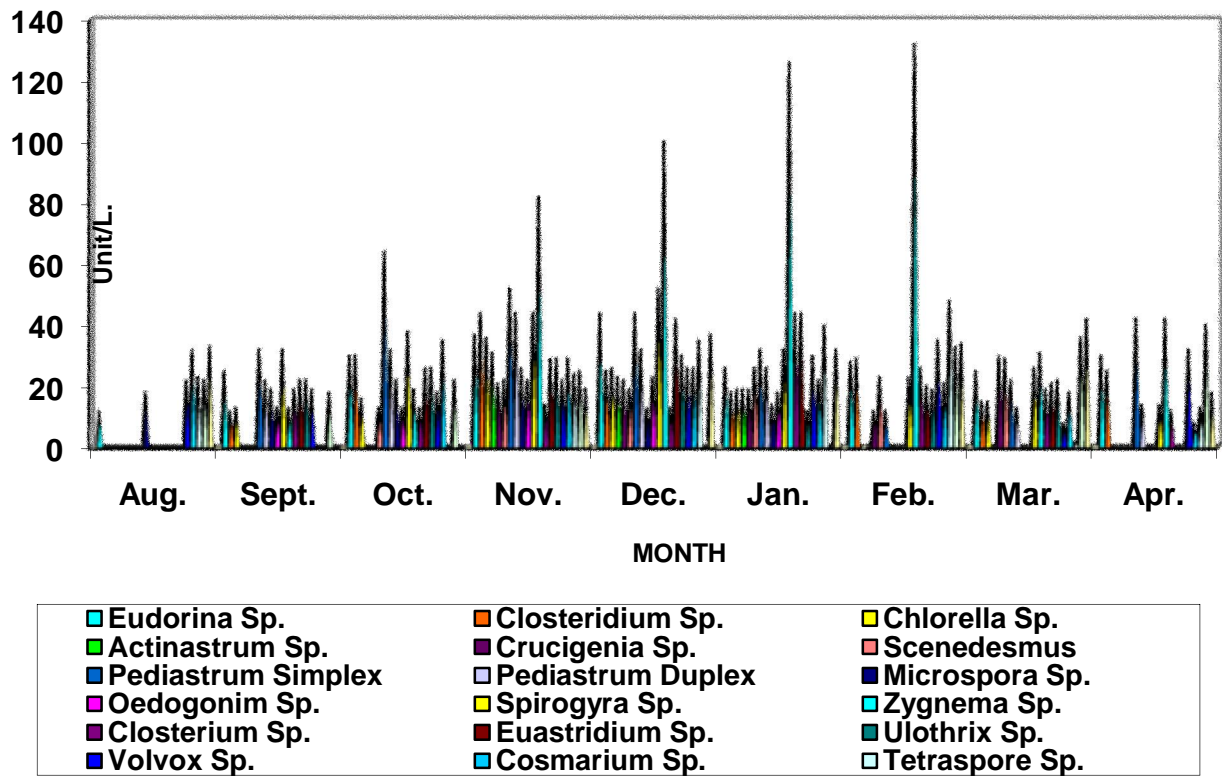


Figure 2. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Cyanophyceae) density at Station-I (Omkareshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

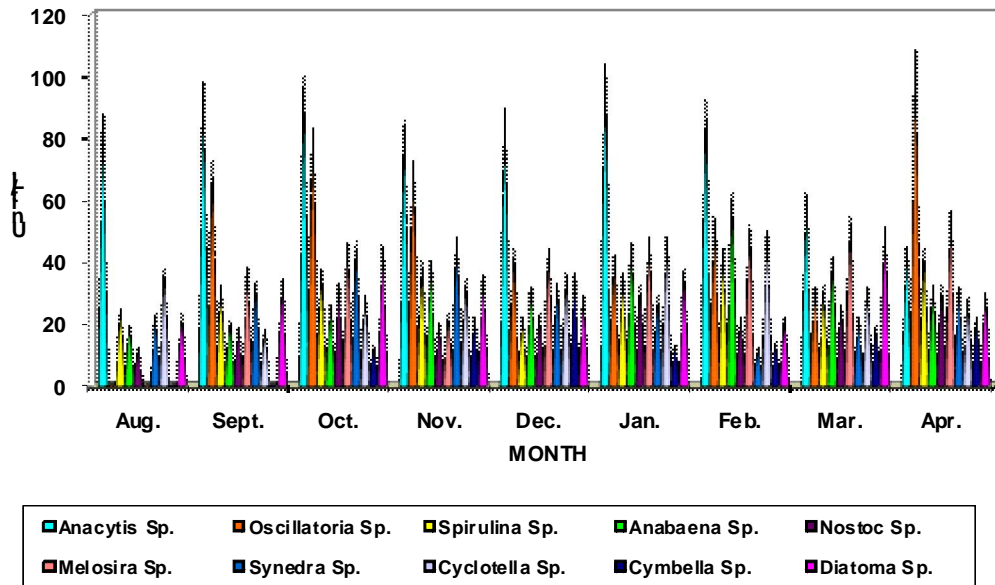


Figure 3. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Bacillariophyceae) density at Station-I (Omkareshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

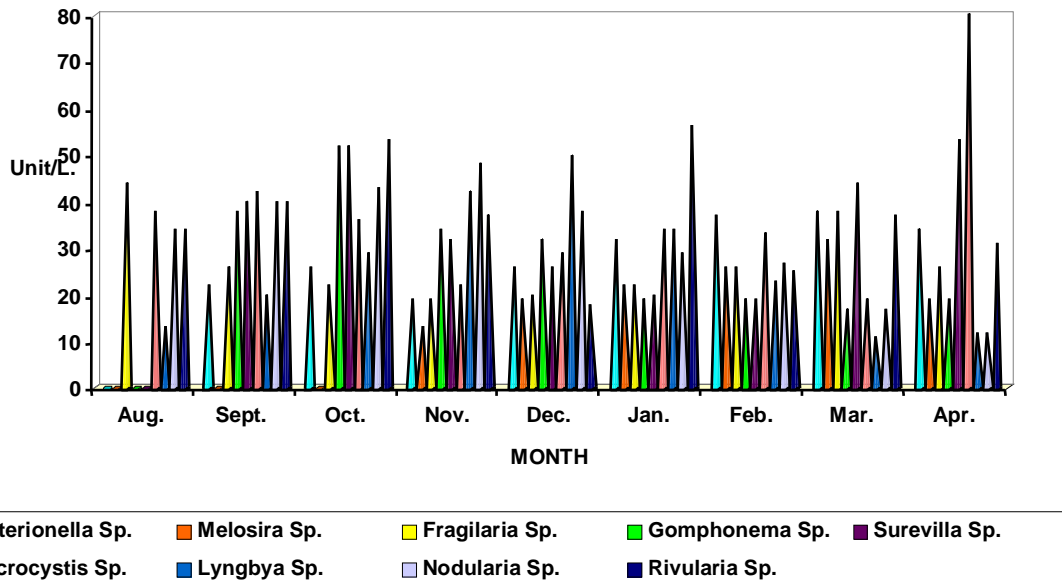


Figure 4. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Chlorophyceae) density at Station-II (Mandleshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

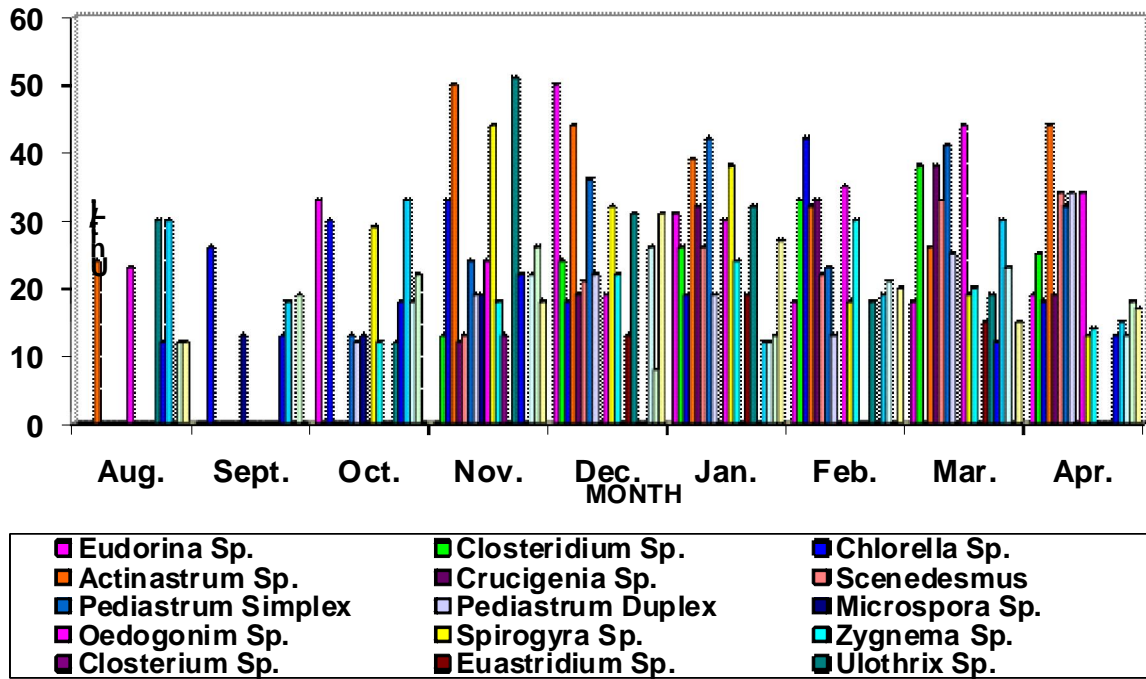


Figure 5. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Cyanophyceae) density at Station-II (Mandleshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

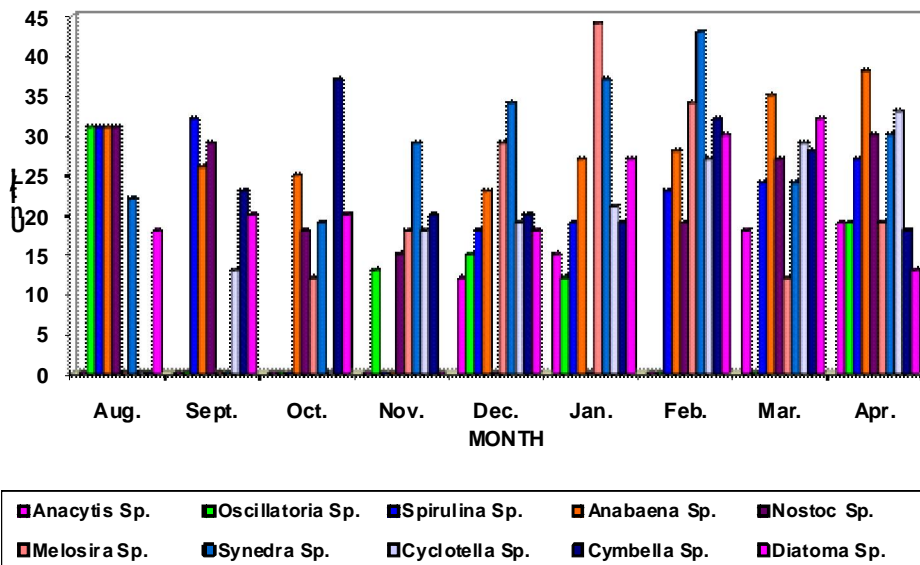


Figure 6. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Bacillariophyceae) density at Station-II (Mandleshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

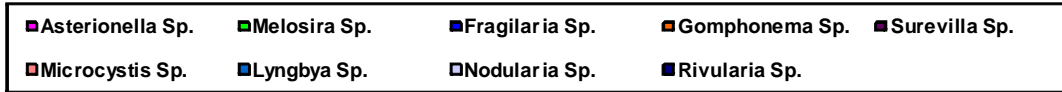
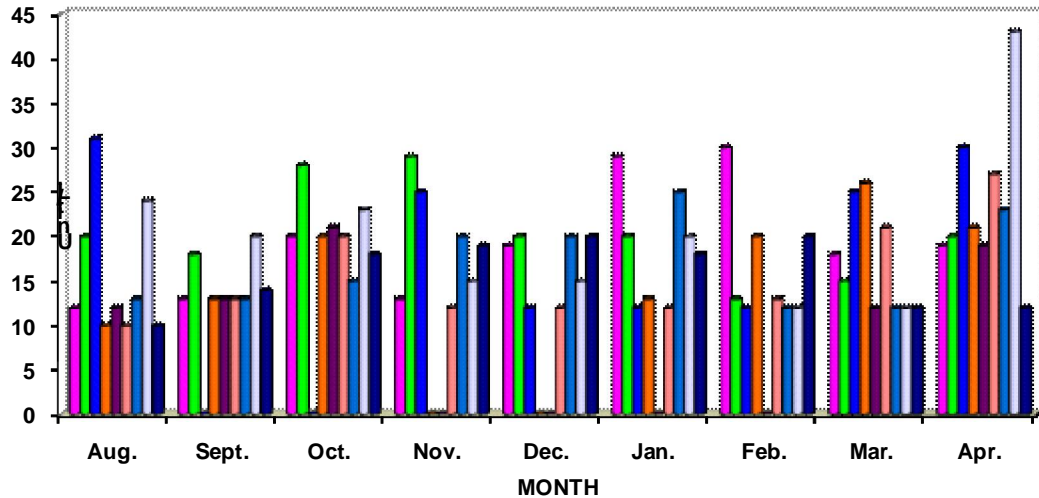


Figure 7. Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Chlorophyceae) density at Station-III (Maheshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

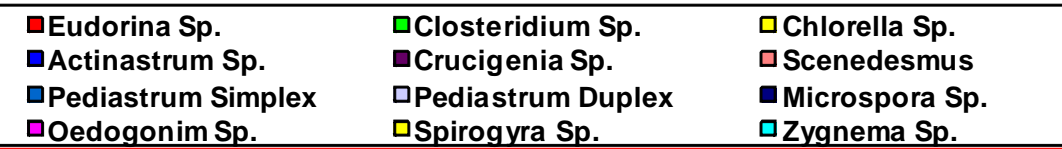
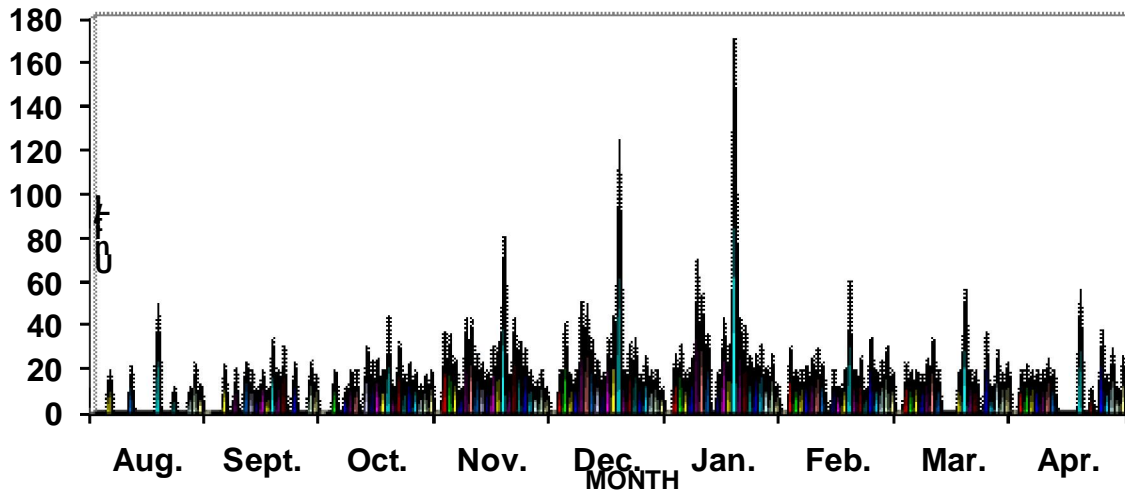


Figure 8 Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Cyanophyceae) density at Station-III (Maheshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

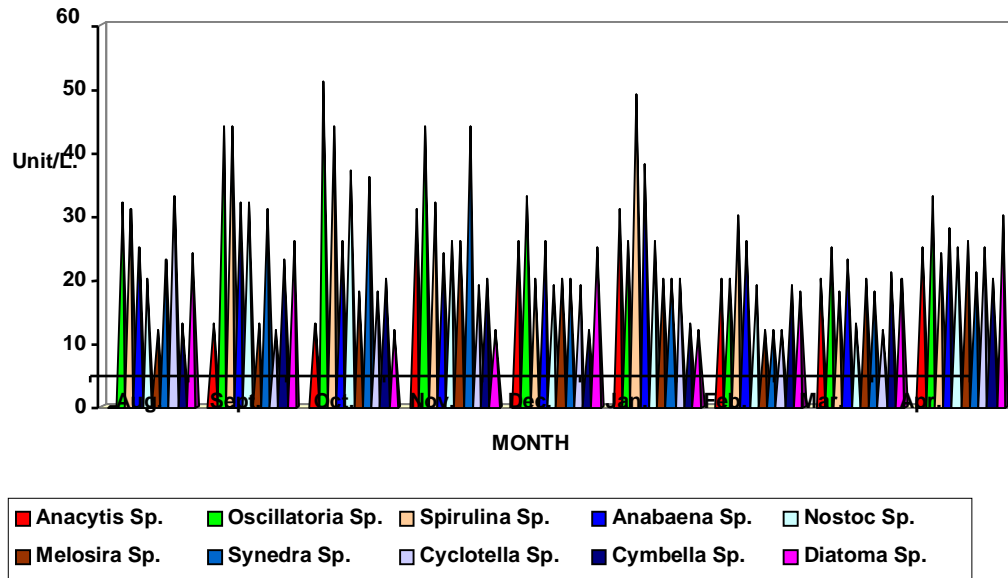


Figure 9 Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Bacillariophyceae) density at Station-III (Maheshwar) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

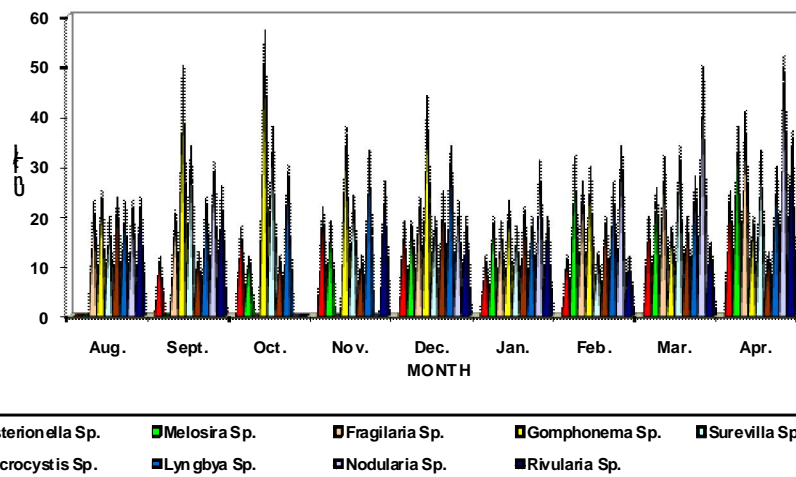


Figure 10 Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Chlorophyceae) density at Station-IV (Barwani) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)

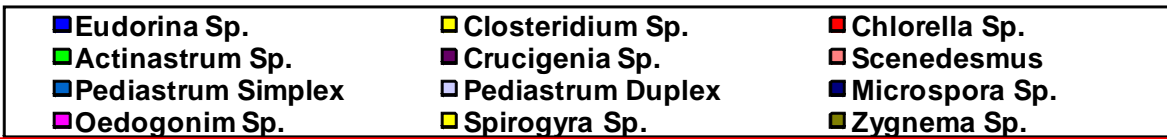
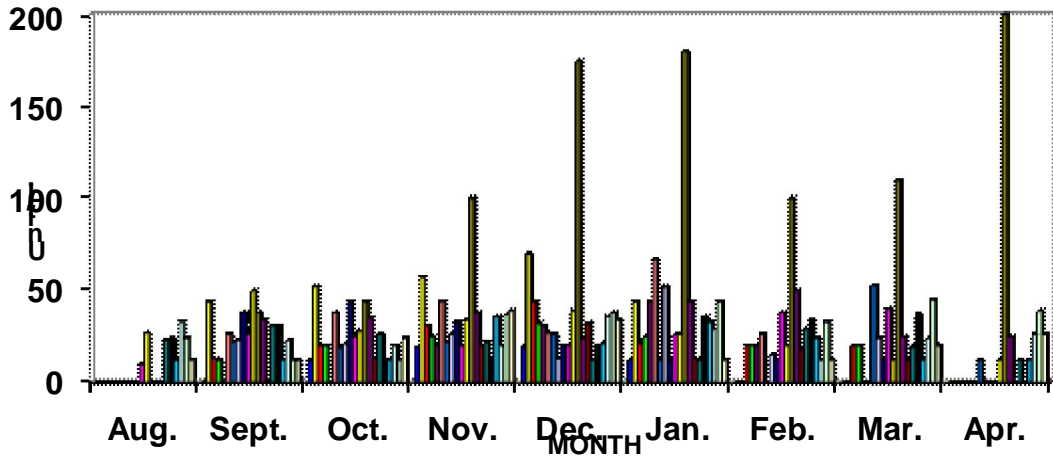
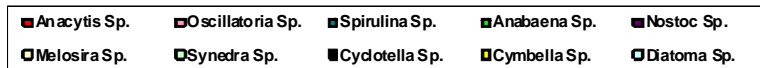
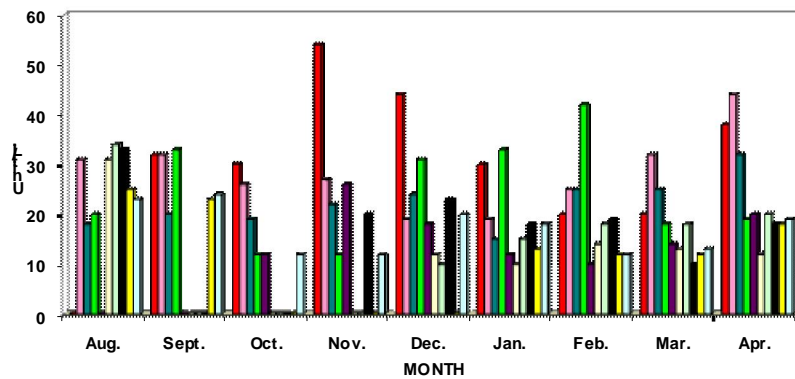
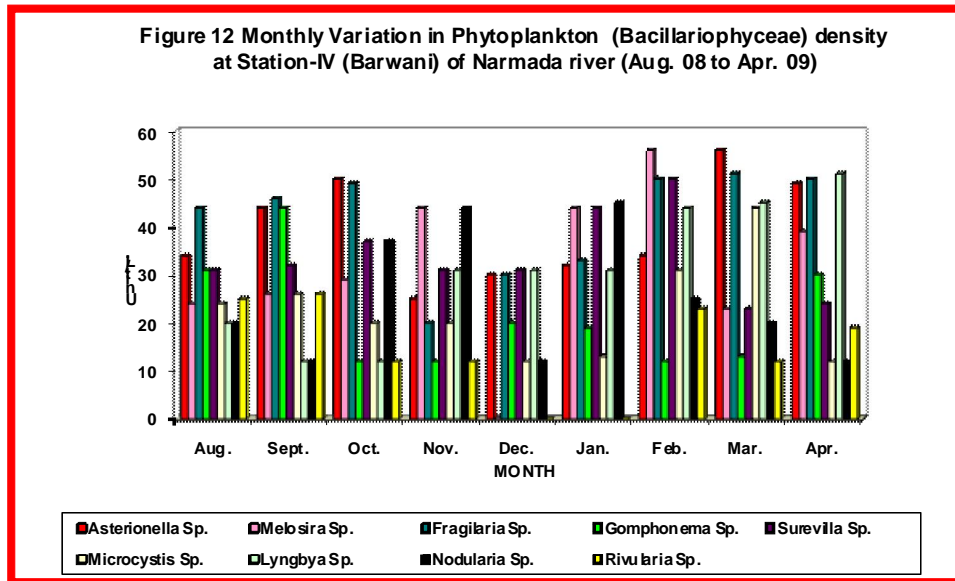


Figure 11 Monthly Variation in Phytoplankton (Cyanophyceae) density at Station-IV (Barwani) of Narmada river (Aug. 08 to Apr. 09)





In general, on the annual basis the average number of phytoplankton was 125.0 units/l. in 2008 and 1248 unit/l. in 2009. The total number of phytoplankton was composed of 1505 of which *Chlorophyceae* were 733 (48.70%) *Bacillariophyceae* 313 (20.79%) and *Myxophyceae* were 459 (30.49%) in 2008. But in 2009, the total number of phytoplankton was recorded 1458 of which *Chlorophyceae* the major constituents with 758 in numbers (51.98%) followed by *Bacillariophyceae* 325 (22.29%) and *Myxophyceae* 436 (29.90%) Respectively.

Among the phytoplankton, chlorophyton showed an increasing trends from January to April whereas from August to September, The trend was in negative fashion in October a sudden rise in total number of phytoplankton and another negative trend in November and December was reported during the working spawn. (2008-2009).

Group Wise –

Chlorophyceae – (Green algae)

The green algae was recorded its medium in April 103 and 105 units/l. while minimum in August 12 and 13 units/l. respectively during both years of investigation. However, this group dominated during summer months and considerably was low in number during rainy months of the both years (2008-09).

Bacillariophyceae (diatoms)

Bacillariophyceae attained its maximum growth in April that is 87 and 85 units/l. in both the years (2008-09) and the minimum in August 10 and 8 units/l. during both years (2008-09).

This results of *Bacillariophyceae* indicated that they were more in numbers in summer seasons and low in numbers during rainy seasons.

Myxophyceae (Blue green algae)

Myxophyceae reached in high peak in January (89 units/l. and 76 units/l.) during 2008-09 respectively and minimum peak in August (5 units/l. and 6 units/l.). These groups were more common during summer seasons and minimum in rainy season of both years.

Total of the plankton (Phyto & Zooplankton) showed a typical bimodal curve representing two minima maxima and two minima (Table 1 to 4) (Figure 1 to 12.)

In Narmada river the temporal succession of phytoplankton groups is noticed as *Chlorophyceae* > *Cyanophyceae* > *Bacillariophyceae*.

Chlorophyceae

The group *Chlorophyceae* dominated the river plankton in all the collections at all the stations forming in general 48.7% of total phytoplankton (Table 1 to 4). The peak of the group is recorded during winter months.

In the present study among *Chlorophyceae* the group *Chlorococals* appears as dominant during winter season, but the number records faster in summer. The other group which comes next in order to dominance is conjugals but these maintain almost a similar density in winter and summer.

The least recorded group during the present study among *Chlorophyceae* is *Utricals*. In the present study the group *Chlorophyceae* has a positive correlation with total dissolved oxygen, and a negative correlation with temperature pH and phosphate.

Among *Chlorophyceae* the most dominant species is *Zygnema* species. And *Pediastrum* simplex stands as second in order of dominance. *Zygnema* Species showed its maximum density at the station IV. This indicates that *Zygnema* Species prefers the limonitic waters. This species is recorded in the maximum density during the months of winter and it loses its growth at the onset of the summer.

Cyanophyceae

In the present study this group is observed to constitute 26.12% of total phytoplankton. The contribution of *Cyanophyceae* in the Narmada River is almost half of *Chlorophyceae*, through it has appeared as second dominant group in the river. The density of *Cyanophyceae* is reported the maximum at station I. The peak of the group is observed during summer month. Many other reports like Siddiqui and Pandey (2001), Rao et al., (2002), and Pathan (2002), Reports two peaks of *Cyanophyceae*. In the present study *Cyanophyceae* shows positive correlation with transparency, pH, alkalinity and dissolved oxygen (Table 4).

Bacillariophyceae

The group *Bacillariophyceae* constitutes the diatoms and it characteristics of lentic water bodies specially the river. In the present study this group is observed to constitute 20.79% of total phytoplankton.

During the present study *Surevella* species is most dominant species among the *Bacillariophyceae* group. The highest density of this species is recorded at station IV and lowest density is records at station II. The second dominant species is the *Gomphonema* species. The highest density of *Gomphonema* species is records at the station III and lowest at the station II.

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