

Innovations and Applications in Life Sciences

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INCIDENCE OF SAPROLEGNIA INFECTION IN FRESHWATER FISHES OF GODAVARI RIVER

Ravi D, Barde, M.M.V.Baig

Introduction: The terms aquatic mold or aquatic fungi include, in a rather simplistic way, the organisms of the phylum oomycetes able to live in water. This phylum comes from the reign of Chromista, which makes the use of the term mold deceptive. This name comes from the similarity between oomycetes and fungi. The term will still be used to differentiate aquatic oomycetes from the rest of the phylum. These molds are ubiquitous in freshwater ecosystems and feed on organic matter (Rossman and Palm, 2006). An oomycete family that of saprolegniaceae, contains several pathogens with a high impact on aquatic life (Van West, 2006). The genera *Saprolegnia*, *Aphanomyces* and *Achlya* are particularly infective for crustaceans, amphibians, molluscs and fish (Phillips et al., 2008). The remainder of this book concerns the genus *Saprolegnia*, since it is most often isolated from an animal suffering from saprolegniasis (Van West, 2006). In fish, salmonids appear to be more vulnerable to infection (Tiffney, 1939). Cases of infection have also been reported in bass (Noga, 1996), pike (Wilkoughby, 1985), carp, lamprey, sturgeon, mullet, tilapia, barramundi, orfe (Bruno and Wood, 1999), catfish (Howe et al., 1999) and others (Roberts, 1989). Saprolegniasis also affects more tropical fish such as swordfish, guppies, platyfish and kissing gourami (Roberts, 1989 and Wilkoughby, 1994).

The paper describes the work done on *saprolegnia* directly isolated from an fish. The water samples from which the fishes with infection of *Saprolegnia* sp. was harvested and analyzed for the presence *Saprolegnia*. The paper reports the epidemiology of *saprolegnia* from Nanded district.

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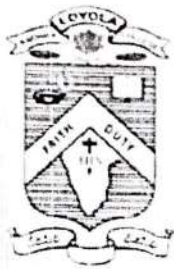
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