

RECENT OSTRACODE ASSEMBLAGES FROM MYMENSINGH TO BARISAL - A NORTH-SOUTH TRANSACT, BANGLADESH

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Non-marine to marginal marine Recent ostracodes have been recovered from Mymensingh to Barisal - a north-south transact, Bangladesh. Sixty-four samples out of seventy-nine yielded ostracodes and on the basis of scarcity or abundance of ostracodes species, species diversity and the percentage of species within the samples, broadly four ostracodes assemblages have been recognized.

The Mymensingh assemblage is characterized by a small number of fresh water ostracodes, dominated by *Cypria* associated with *Cypris*, *Cypridies*, *Hemicypris*, *Notodramus*. The Tangail-Jamalpur assemblage is recognized by the presence of *Cypridopsis* and *Strandesia* along with other ostracodes. The Dhaka-Faridpur-Madaripur assemblage is demarcated by the presence of a number of ostracodes - *Darwinulla*, *Eucypris*, *Ilyocypris*, *Metacypris*, *Stenocypris*, and *Virgatocypris*. The thick-shelled *Hiltermanicythere* / *Australimoosella*(?) and *Thalmanina* along with some foraminifera are the characteristics ostracode fauna of the Barisal-Patuakhali assemblage.

The study reveals that the middle part of the transact yielded higher percentage of ostracodes, which decline towards the north and south. The valves or shells of ostracodes of northern part are thin, smooth and friable; and there is a gradual variation in appearance, ornamentation and thickness of ostracodes valves towards south. And this variation suggests an ecological change from north to south as fresh, fresh to brackish and brackish to marginal marine environment.