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## Food and Feeding Habit of Air-Breathin Channa Punctatus (Bloch) from Wan Seservoir of Beed District, Maharashtra,India

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In the present investigation, an attempt has been made to investigate the food and feeding habit of Channa punctatus from wan reservoir of Beed district, Maharashtra (India). It is observed that the Channa punctatus feed on a wide variety of food items. Fry are mainly zooplankton feeder while juveniles and adults are mainly piscivorous.

In present investigation, a total of 30 guts of Channa punctatus were examined. The gut content of fry of Channa punctatus mainly composed of crustaceans (52%), aquatic insects (32.10%), worms (5.25%), miscellaneous items (5.10%), and unidentified items (5.55%) .

In case of juveniles fish formed the main food item of the gut content forming 35.20%. The aquatic insects were next important food item in the diet contributing around 30.80%. The crustaceans, gastropods, worms, miscellaneous items and unidentified items formed 11.10%, 10.2%, 8.5%, 3.2% and 1% respectively.

Fish formed an important dietary component of adults (55.20%), followed by crustaceans (14.2%), aquatic insects (9.3%), miscellaneous items (8.10%), worms (5.3%), unidentified items (5%) and gastropods (2.90%) .

From the above study, it can be concluded that the Channa punctatus fed on a wide variety of food items. Fry are mainly zooplankton feeder while juveniles and adults are mainly piscivorous.

### Biography:

Dr. Shivaji Gyanba Jetithor is working as Assistant Professor in Department of Zoology/Fishery Science of Yashwantrao Chavan Mahavidyalaya, Tuljapur (Maharashtra). He has more than six years teaching experience in the field of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Environmental Science. He has published more than 15 research papers in the national and international journals and also attended more than 20 conferences. He is a recognized post graduate teacher and research guide of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.