

ABSTRACT

A thorough study was carried out to determine the taxonomic status and biology of *Glyptosternum reticulatum*. For this purpose, 16 specimens were available which were collected from Kaghan and Swat. In the morphometrical analysis, all the measurements were taken according to the method described by Jayaram (1981). In order to determine the taxonomic status of this fish, the comparison of specimens from Kaghan and Swat was made. For this purpose students "t" test was applied. It was analysed that non significant results were more than significant ones. Therefore, the taxonomic status of *Glyptosternum* of Pakistan can be retained as *Glyptosternum reticulatum* McClelland. Specimens of both localities belong to same population. Gut contents were analysed through fullness Index (Blegvad 1917) and by occurrence method. Fullness index of all the 14 specimens indicated that three stomachs were full, two were 3/4 full, four were 1/2 full, two were 1/4 full and three were empty. In occurrence method, the number of guts containing a particular item of food was expressed as a percentage of the total number of guts examined. Examination of gut analysis revealed that this fish feeds mainly on animal matter of insects. Plant matter was analysed which is 15% of food items but the animal matter was in excess that is 85%. At least 170 organisms of 30 species of class insecta were analysed. The percentage occurrence of various groups of food items are as follows: caddis flies larvae 11.61%, two winged flies larvae 27.55%, Dragon flies larvae 28%, butterflies larvae 2.35%, beetles 5.3%, termites 7.05%, crustaceans 7%, rotifers 1.1%, daphnia 2.9%, mites 4.8%, worms 0.5%, algae 7%, protozoans 2.9% and fungi 1.1%. In addition to this debris, mud, sand particles and tiny stones were also found in the gut contents.