

MARINE DEBRIS

**Problems
and
Management**

**Ayona Jayadev, Smitha Asok V
Katie Conlon**



MARINE DEBRIS
PROBLEMS AND MANAGEMENT

Study
Edited by
Ayona Jayadev
Smitha Asok v
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CHINTHA PUBLISHERS
Thiruvananthapuram

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First Chinth Edition
January 2021

Typesetting and Published
Chinth Publishers, Thiruvananthapuram

Printed at
Repro India Ltd, Mumbai

Cover Design
Vinod Mangoes

ISBN : 978-93-90301-15-7

Co - 2957/5365

Email: chinthapublishers@gmail.com

Website: www.chinthapublishers.com

Distribution

DESHABHIMANI BOOKHOUSE
H O Thiruvananthapuram 695035

Branch

Head Office Kunnukuzhi • Overbridge Thiruvananthapuram
KSRTC Bus Station Alappuzha • KSRTC Bus Station Ernakulam
Machingal Lane Thrissur • IG Road Kozhikode
Mavoor Road Kozhikode • NGO Union Building Kannur
Central Bus Terminal Complex Thavakkara Kannur

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Foraging and Migratory Aspects of Marine and Backwater Fishes – A Case Study

Alexander T

Introduction

The State of Kerala is abundantly rich in marine and brackish water fishes. These water bodies are inhabited by a wide variety of aquatic fauna & flora and the State occupies one of the foremost positions in the aquatic biodiversity. The long coastline and the extensive inland waters of the State are ideal for fishing community to make a livelihood from time immemorial. Geographically, inland fisheries have great scope in the State. An inimitable feature of the State is the occurrence of 49 interconnected backwaters (Kayals) which have an area of 46129 ha. The total brackish water resource of the State is estimated as 143696 ha. (Harikumar & Rajendran, 2007) Kerala coast has major fisheries of the shrimps, cuttle fish, sardines, mackerels, anchovies, soles, sharks, rays etc. It is estimated that on an average 6.02 lakh tones of marine fish is produced annually by the State, which accounts for about 25 per cent of the Country's total marine fish production.

Diversity status of fishes

The present study area Neendakara is located at the mouth of the Ashtamudi estuary and which forms one of the biggest fish landing centres of the West Coast of India. 90 species belonging to 42 families of fishes have been recorded from Neendakara region,