

DIATOM SPECIES OF BRAHMSAROVAR IN DISTRICT KURUKSHETRA, HARYANA (INDIA)

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ABSTRACT

Diatom analysis is a valuable tool in forensic science and it is useful in diagnosis in drowning cases. In the present study an attempt has been made to characterize diatom flora existing in Braham Sarovar Lake in Haryana. Haryana is located in the northern plain of India making it very hot in summers and extremely cold in winters. Haryana extends between 27°39'N to 35°55'N latitudes and 74°36'E longitudes and located in north-western part of India. Diatom plays an important role in establishing the death due to drowning. In present study, 24 number of species namely, *Achanthes*, *Brachysira*, *Cyclotella*, *Cymbella*, *Frustulia*, *Melosira*, *Navicula*, *Rhoicosphenia*, *Synedra*, *Tabularia* etc. were observed. Study of seasonal and site specific diatoms at different site may help in indicating time of drowning along with the location of drowning which would be helpful for the scientific forensic investigation of drowning cases.

KEYWORDS: Diatom, Centrifugation, Microscopy, Pond