



Food and Agriculture
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Cefas

VIRTUAL REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON BIVALVE MOLLUSCS SANITATION

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**BIVALVE MOLLUSCS OF BANGLADESH :
OFFICIAL CONTROL**

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Bivalve fauna of Bangladesh

- Bangladesh being a small deltaic country is abundant with freshwater and marine resources
- Bangladesh has a coastline 480-km long and approximately 1 million hectares of territorial waters, and about 4.7 million hectares of freshwater open and closed water bodies which are abundant with bivalves.
- The major bivalve groups in order of abundance are clams, oysters, and mussels.
- Six freshwater and 142 marine bivalves have been recorded from Bangladesh waters
- Freshwater Mussels are distributed throughout the country in the natural water bodies like rivers, floodplains, lakes etc. as well as aquaculture ponds
- Marine bivalves are mainly distributed in the South Eastern coastal region of Bangladesh, and in the Bay of Bengal
- The present exploitation is far below the level of natural production and confined to wild stocks; bivalve culture is not commercially practiced.

Important Bivalve Species of Bangladesh: Oysters

- Oysters grow attached to rocks, gravel, tree roots or any hard object in the intertidal zone.
- Abundant in brackish waters in estuaries and marshes.
- Edible oysters: Seven species of edible oysters are found in the coastal areas of the country. Important species are-
 - *Saccostrea cucullata*
 - *Crassostrea belcheri*
 - *Crassostrea madrasensis*
- Pearl oysters : Eight species of genus *Pinctada* and one species under *Placuna* belongs to pearl oyster are available in Bangladesh. Important species are-
 - *Pinctada fucata*
 - *Pinctada margaritifera*
 - *Pinctada maxima*
 - *Placuna placenta*



Important Bivalve Species of Bangladesh: Mussels

- Mussels are found in both freshwater and saline water environments.
- Important species of mussels
 - *Lamellidens marginalis*
 - *Lamellidens jenkinsianus*
 - *Perna viridis*
 - *Perna indicus*



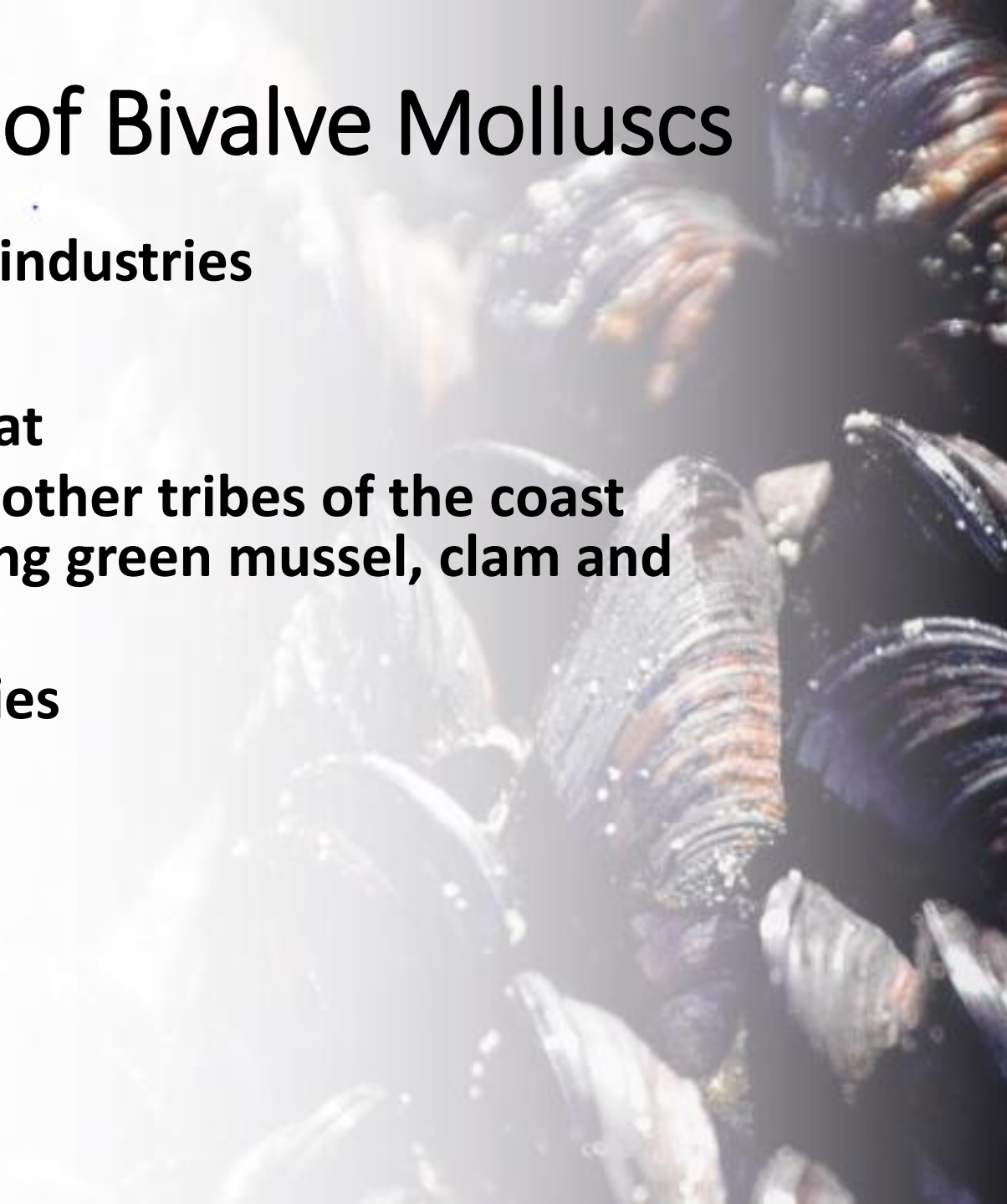
Important Bivalve Species of Bangladesh: Clams

- Few species of clams are found in coastal region of Bangladesh. Among them two species i.e., *Meretrix meretrix* and *Anadra* sp. are found abundantly in the muddy coast of nearly all estuarine areas.
- List of important species of clams in Bangladesh
 - *Meretrix meretrix*
 - *Anadara granosa*
 - *Anadara antiquata*
 - *Scapharca* sp.
 - *Barbatia foliata*



Economic importance of Bivalve Molluscs

- Use of shell in poultry and fish feed industries
- Lime making
- Human consumption of mollusk meat
 - People from Rakhaing and some other tribes of the coast traditionally have long been eating green mussel, clam and oyster meat
- Use of meat used in shrimp hatcheries
- Ornamental and decorative uses
- Paint making/shining
- Pearl culture/collection



Official Control of Bivalve Products in Bangladesh

- **Department of Fisheries, Bangladesh is the Competent Authority**
- **Regulations**
 - **Fish and Fish Products (Inspection and Quality Control) Act, 2020**
 - **Fishery Products: Official Control Protocol**
- **Testing of bivalve molluscs: No parameter of testing bivalve molluscs yet developed in Bangladesh**
- **DoF is implementing a pilot project on oyster culture in the Cox's Bazar Area**
- **Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute is involved with the experimental production of freshwater pearls**
- **Consumption of meat of oyster or mussel in Bangladesh is very limited and there is no record of outbreak of diseases due consumption of them.**

Thank you

