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**STUDIES ON BENTHIC MACROFAUNA OF GHARIYARWA POND,  
BIRGANJ, NEPAL, WITH RESPECT TO FISH CULTURE**

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**ABSTRACT :** The present investigations on the abundance and rare occurrence of different groups of macrofauna in the Ghariyarwa pond, Birganj, Nepal revealed that Oligochaetes have dominated over the other groups of macrofauna. Insects ranked second followed by Gastropods. The abundance and occurrence of various groups of benthic macrofauna was controlled by their trophic level, fertility of soil, base exchange capacity, pH as well as wide fluctuations of hydro-biological parameters. Dissolved oxygen and pH of water has also played major role in the occurrence and abundance of benthic macrofauna. Increased soil fertility, alkalinity, pH and temperature favours fish productivity and the pond is suited for fish culture.

**Key Words :** Benthic macrofauna, Nepal, fish culture