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FISH BIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS ON *LEPIDOCEPHALUS GUNTEA* (HAMILTON) FROM UTTARAKHAND

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ABSTRACT

Conservation of biodiversity is on highest priority in recent times because of adverse effect of anthropogenic activities including pollution and overexploitation of our natural resources. The present communication is related to biological investigations on a hillstream cobitid fish *Lepidocephalus guntea* (Hamilton) which will be helpful in its successful conservation. Morphometric characters were studied and interpreted for taxonomic purpose. Length weight relationship and condition factor were analysed to view the health status of fish in its selected habitat. Breeding power and requisite environmental conditions along with maturation physiology, the food preference and age structure were analysed for conservation aspect.

KEYWORDS: Conservation, L. guntea, Morphometrics, Length-Weight, RCF, Breeding, Feeding, Age

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