



SEASONAL VARIATION OF PESTICIDES IN BIVALVE FROM WEST
COAST OF MAHARASHTRA.

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ABSTRACT

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) such as organochlorines have been of great concern due to their occurrence in high concentration even in remote ecosystems, despite bans on production and usage (Iwata et al., 1994; Guruge and Tanabe, 2001). Organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) such as hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH) and 1,1,1-trichloro-2,2'-bis (p-chlorophenylethane (DDT) are ubiquitous anthropogenic environmental contaminants (Willett et al., 1998; Nakata et al., 1998). They are persistent, broad-spectrum toxicants that accumulate in the food web with high risks to the ecosystem and human health. Many of these compounds are considered to act as hazardous environmental hormones, which disrupt reproductive cycles of humans and wildlife (Colborn and Smolen, 1996). Some developing countries are still using these compounds because of their low cost and versatility in industry and agriculture for sanitation purpose (Tanabe et al., 1994). Consequently, environmental problems associated with toxic contaminants in these countries are of great concern. It is reported that approximately three million people are poisoned and 200,000 died each year around the world from pesticide poisoning, and a majority of them belongs to the developing countries (WHO, 1990; FAO, 2000). It is also believed that in developing countries, the incidence of pesticide poisoning may even be greater than reported due to under-reporting, lack of data and misdiagnosis (Forget, 1991).

KEY WORDS: Persistent organic pollutants (POPs), cycles of humans and wildlife.

INTRODUCTION

India (Lat. 8°4' N and 37°69' N and Long. 68°7' E and 97°25' E), a tropical south Asian country, has a stretch of ~7500 km coastline, excluding its island territories with 2 million km² exclusive economic zone (EEZ). There are 14 major, 44 medium and 162 small rivers in India, with a mean annual run-off of 1645 km³, although not all these rivers discharge into the sea. The Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal are subject to large semi-diurnal tides with amplitudes of 1–8 m and are also influenced by the biannual reversal of the monsoon winds. These two factors result in the flushing of Indian coastal areas which further help in



dispersing pollutants (Glassby and Roonwal, 1995). The catastrophic effects of tsunami and super cyclones also play a major role in changing the coastal morphology and sediment dispersal patterns (Bhattacharya, 2003). In India, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) especially DDT and HCH were used extensively till recently both for agricultural and sanitary purposes (Pandit et al., 2001; Kumar et al., 2006). It is estimated that about 25,000 MT of chlorinated pesticides was used annually in India and DDT accounted over 40% of this group (Mathur, 1993). Although substantial portions of applied pesticide are dissipated at the site of

application through chemical and biological degradation processes. Still, a reasonable fraction of the OCPs residues reaches the oceans through agricultural run-off, atmospheric transport and sewerage discharge (GESAMP, 1989). Because OCPs are known for their persistence, toxicity and bioaccumulation characteristics, there is a concern about their impact on the marine environment.

The transport, dispersion and finally the ultimate effects of pesticides in marine systems depend upon the persistence of the chemicals under tropical conditions and their bioaccumulation and biodegradation. Although pesticide consumption is low in India compared to the other developed countries, the indiscriminate use of these pesticides has resulted in sporadic occurrence of the residues in biota and other abiotic compartments. In order to understand the role of tropical developing countries as possible emission sources of POPs, it is necessary to elucidate the distribution, behaviour and fate of these compounds in various environmental compartments. The determination of those compounds existing in water and sediment may indicate the extent of aquatic contamination and the accumulation characteristics in the aquatic ecosystems. Hence an attempt has been made to elucidate the distribution, behaviour and fate of these compounds in Indian coastal regions specially west coast which are characteristically different in geomorphological and hydrological set up with varying anthropogenic stresses.

MATERIAL AND METHODS :-

To analyses bivalve samples, samples were combined with acetonitrile & then homogenize with poltron. The mixture & solvent was too sticky to be homogenized, probably due to high water & salt content of bivalves. Therefore modification of the polarity & salinity of the mixture was required. For this purpose, water & acetone were added to the sample along with acetonitrile prior to homogenization. After homogenization, an additional procedure of salting out was headed in order to enhance the extraction of organic components from water layer. Samples were processed according to food safety and standard & Authority of India, ministry of health & family welfare, Govt. of India by using GC (HP model 6890) & flame photometric detector. The HPLC (Agilent 1100 series) system consisted of post – column derivatizer (Pickering laboratories Pc x 5200) & fluorescence detector CHP1100 Series).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :-

RATNAGIRI DISTRICT :

To study seasonal variation of pesticides in bivalve from Ratnagiri district; three study areas were selected as Dapoli, Guhagar&Ratnagiri. Study was carried out during peak of each season i.e. 20-25. August 2012. For monsoon, 15-20 December 2012 for winter & 03-08 May 2013 for summer season. The result are expressed in ng/g wet basis.

PERNA VIRIDIS :

P. viridis from Dapoli region, during monsoon season, HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 0.80, 2.10, 1.50, 3.35 respectively while during winter season 0.61, 1.80, 1.14, 2.85 respectively whereas during summer season 0.31, 1.30, 1.01, 1.70 respectively.

In the Guhagar region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 0.65, 2.15, 1.45, 3.40 respectively while during winter season 0.42, 1.76, 1.20, 2.78 respectively whereas during summer season 0.34, 1.10, 0.91, 1.79 respectively.

In the Ratnagiri region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan found to 0.85, 2.30, 1.58, 3.66 respectively while during winter season 0.72, 2.00, 1.38, 2.96 respectively whereas during summer season 0.40, 1.43, 1.20, 1.93 respectively

CROSSOSTREA CUTTUKENSIS :

C. cuttukensis from Dapoli region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 1.56, 2.10, 1.12, 2.57 respectively while during winter season 1.29, 1.53, 1.36, 2.22 respectively whereas during summer season 1.08, 1.12, 0.76, 1.24 respectively.

In the Guhaghar region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan found to 1.45, 1.94, 1.36, 2.92 respectively while during winter season 1.22, 1.68, 1.15, 2.11 respectively whereas during summer season 0.98, 1.17, 0.86, 1.77 respectively.

In the Ratnagiri region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 1.96, 2.18, 1.66, 3.36, respectively while during winter season 1.80, 1.98, 1.21, 3.10 respectively whereas during summer season 1.47, 1.20, 0.95, 2.14 respectively.

SACCOSTREA CUCULATTA :

S. cuculatta from Dapoli region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 1.28, 3.24, 2.56, 1.80 respectively while during winter season 1.13, 2.89, 2.47, 1.33 respectively whereas during summer season 0.97, 1.98, 1.92, 1.07 respectively.

In the Guhaghar region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.36, 3.10, 2.68, 1.12 respectively while during winter season 2.87, 2.14, 1.84, 0.88 respectively whereas during summer season 2.37, 1.94, 1.15, 0.68 respectively.

In the Ratnagiri region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 1.47, 3.92, 3.20, 4.42, respectively while during winter season 1.13, 3.10, 2.86, 3.90 respectively whereas during summer season 0.94, 2.82, 2.16, 2.46 respectively.

MERETRIX MERETRIX :

M. meretrix from Dapoli region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 1.48, 2.69, 2.36, 3.68 respectively while during winter season 1.13, 2.17, 1.96, 3.19 respectively whereas during summer season 0.96, 1.92, 1.36, 2.58 respectively.

In the Guhaghar region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.72, 2.99, 2.23, 3.43 respectively while during winter season 1.60, 2.14, 1.97, 2.94 respectively whereas during summer season 1.22, 1.85, 1.26, 1.43 respectively.

In the Ratnagiri region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan content was 1.85, 3.24, 2.73, 4.94 respectively while during winter season 0.57, 1.62, 2.18, 2.86 respectively whereas during summer season 0.29, 0.93, 1.67, 1.96 respectively.

KATELYSIA OPIMA :

K. opima from Dapoli region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was recorded 1.04, 2.10, 0.78, 3.66 respectively while during winter season 0.88, 1.73, 0.61, 3.22 respectively whereas during summer season 0.73, 1.12, 0.59, 2.84 respectively.

In the Guhaghar region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was found to 0.97, 2.18, 0.87, 3.98 respectively while during winter season 0.77, 1.96, 0.65, 2.93 respectively whereas during summer season 0.65, 1.14, 0.53, 1.84 respectively.

In the Ratnagiri region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan content was 1.10, 2.54, 0.94, 4.67 respectively while during winter season 0.49, 1.16, 1.10, 2.86 respectively whereas during summer season 0.32, 0.58, 0.94, 2.53 respectively.

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT :-

To study seasonal variation in bivalve from Sindhudurg district, three study areas were selected as Vengurla, Malvan, Devgad. Study was carried out during peak of each season i.e. 1-5 Sept 2012 for monsoon, 22-26 Dec 2012 for winter & 10-15 May 2013 for summer season. The results are expressed in ng/g wet basis.

PERNA VIRIDIS :

P. viridis from Vengurla region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was recorded 1.20, 3.43, 2.34, 5.10 respectively while during winter season 0.81, 1.20, 1.85, 3.20 respectively whereas during summer season 0.44, 0.93, 1.21, 1.43 respectively.

In the Malvan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.42, 3.24, 2.60, 4.80 respectively while during winter season 0.60, 1.10, 1.20, 2.63 respectively whereas during summer season 0.51, 0.63, 0.83, 1.20 respectively.

In the Devgad region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan content was 1.63, 3.94, 3.22, 6.20 respectively while during winter season 1.10, 1.50, 1.28, 3.38 respectively whereas during summer season 0.72, 1.25, 1.42, 1.80 respectively.

CROSSOSTREA CUTTUKENSIS :

C. cuttukensis from vengurla region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was recorded 1.00, 2.83, 1.90, 3.70 respectively while during winter season 0.62, 1.05, 1.38, 2.40 respectively whereas during summer season 0.42, 0.96, 0.80, 1.24 respectively.

In the Malvan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.18, 2.38, 1.92, 3.65 respectively while during winter season 1.12, 1.86, 1.19, 2.45 respectively whereas during summer season 0.88, 1.25, 1.15, 1.12 respectively.

In the Devgad region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 2.13, 2.96, 2.00, 4.22 respectively while during winter season 1.76, 2.42, 1.45, 3.18 respectively whereas during summer season 1.20, 1.70, 1.15, 2.34 respectively.

SACCOSTREA CUCULATTA :

S. cuculatta from Vengurla region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was recorded 1.38, 4.50, 3.20, 3.80 respectively while during winter season 0.85, 3.35, 1.90, 3.60 respectively whereas during summer season 0.67, 2.27, 1.86, 1.90 respectively.

In the Malvan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.45, 4.76, 2.38, 5.40 respectively while during winter season 1.25, 3.17, 2.12, 4.38, respectively whereas during summer season 1.12, 2.60, 2.48, 2.35 respectively.

In the Devgad region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 1.58, 4.85, 3.60, 6.38 respectively while during winter season 1.54, 3.72, 2.25, 5.60 respectively whereas during summer season 1.80, 3.15, 3.55, 3.16 respectively.

MERETRIX MERETRIX :

M. meretrix from Vengurla region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 1.98, 2.44, 2.60, 3.90 respectively while during winter season 1.40, 2.38, 2.00, 3.47 respectively whereas during summer season 1.00, 1.78, 1.67, 3.45 respectively.

In the Malvan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 1.90, 2.35, 2.10, 4.36 respectively while during winter season 0.45, 1.20, 1.87, 2.45 respectively whereas during summer season 0.25, 0.94, 1.25, 1.80 respectively.

In the Devgad region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 2.10, 3.60, 2.80, 5.43 respectively while during winter season 0.68, 1.75, 2.35, 3.44 respectively whereas during summer season 0.34, 1.10, 1.85, 2.20 respectively.

KATELYSIA OPIMA :

K. opima from Vengurla region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 1.00, 1.49, 1.17, 3.13 respectively while during winter season 0.48, 0.96, 1.13, 1.97 respectively whereas during summer season 0.30, 0.39, 1.00, 1.28 respectively.

In the Malvan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 0.94, 1.80, 0.96, 3.26 respectively while during winter season 0.30, 1.18, 0.95, 2.43 respectively whereas during summer season 0.22, 0.42, 0.86, 1.79 respectively.

In the Devgad region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 1.20, 2.68, 1.27, 5.73 respectively while during winter season 0.56, 1.47, 1.26, 3.22 respectively whereas during summer season 0.34, 0.67, 1.10, 2.30 respectively.

RAIGAD DISTRICT :-

To study seasonal variation of pesticides in bivalve from Raigad district, three study areas were selected as Shrivardhan, Alibag & Uran. Study was carried out during peak of each season i.e. 10-15 Sept. 2012 for monsoon season, 2-7 Jan. 2013 for winter season & 20-25 May 2013 for summer season. Results are expressed in ng/g wet basis.

PERNA VIRIDIS :

P. viridis from Shrivardhan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 0.68, 1.42, 1.12, 1.68 respectively while during summer season 0.58, 1.32, 0.96, 1.35 whereas during winter season 0.47, 1.10, 0.76, 1.12 respectively.

In the Alibag region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found 0.42, 0.96, 0.84, 0.96 respectively while during winter season 0.37, 0.86, 0.74, 0.89 respectively whereas during summer season 0.30, 0.72, 0.63, 0.74 respectively.

In the Uran region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 0.75, 1.16, 1.36, 1.26 respectively while during winter season 0.66, 1.10, 1.06, 1.13 respectively whereas during summer season 0.54, 0.97, 0.94, 1.10 respectively.

CROSSOSTREA CUTTUKENSIS :

C. cuttukensis from Shrivardhan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 0.43, Not detected, 0.23, 0.45 respectively while during winter season 0.20, Not detected, 0.15, 0.38 respectively whereas during summer season Not detected, Not detected, Not detected, 0.20 respectively.

In the Alibag region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 0.54, 0.92, Not detected, 0.68 respectively while during winter season 0.47, 0.64, Not detected, 0.53 respectively whereas during summer season 0.34, 0.32, Not detected, 0.37 respectively.

In the Uran region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 0.84, 0.58, Not detected, 0.89 respectively while during winter season 0.72, 0.44, Not detected, 0.66 whereas during summer season 0.54, 0.22, Not detected, 0.43 respectively.

SACCOSTREA CUCULATTA :

S. cuculatta from Shrivardhan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB Endosulfan was recorded Not detected, Not detected, Not detected, 0.85 respectively while during winter season Not detected, Not detected, Not detected, 0.69 respectively whereas during summer season Not detected, Not detected, Not detected, 0.48 respectively.

In the Alibag region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 0.35, 0.64, Not detected, 0.81, respectively while during winter season Not detected, 0.52, Not detected, 0.65 respectively whereas during summer season Not detected, 0.46, Not detected, 0.55 respectively.

In the Uran region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 0.53, 0.47, 0.22, 0.65 respectively while during winter season 0.34, 0.24, 0.14, 0.41 respectively whereas during summer season 0.25, 0.14, Not detected, 0.38 respectively.

MERETRIX MERETRIX :

M. meretrix from Shrivardhan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 0.65, 0.44, 0.36, 0.77 respectively while during winter season 0.37, 0.23, 0.15, 0.55 respectively whereas during summer season 0.20, 0.13, not detected, 0.29 respectively.

In the Alibag region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan 0.46, 0.32, 0.50, 0.80 respectively while during winter season 0.34, 0.27, 0.36, 0.62 respectively whereas during summer season 0.26, 0.21, 0.28, 0.41 respectively.

In the Uran region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan content was 0.52, 0.43, 0.36, 0.63 respectively while during winter season 0.39, 0.28, 0.23, 0.51 respectively whereas during summer season 0.26, 0.18, 0.14, 0.35 respectively.

KATELYSIA OPIMA :

K. opima from Shrivardhan region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded 0.32, Not detected, Not detected, 0.39 respectively while during winter season 0.24, Not detected, Not detected, 0.24 respectively whereas during summer season 0.11, Not detected, Not detected, 0.10 respectively.

In the Alibag region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was found to 0.28, 0.14, Not detected, 0.25 respectively while during winter season 0.16, 0.12, Not detected, 0.18 respectively whereas during summer season 0.10, 0.09, Not detected, 0.13 respectively.

In the Uran region, during monsoon season HCH, DDT, PCB, Endosulfan was recorded Not detected, Not detected, 0.14, 0.20 respectively while during winter season Not detected, Not detected, 0.10, 0.16, respectively whereas during summer season Not detected, Not detected, 0.12, 0.17 respectively.

Amongst all studied pesticides, HCH is recorded lowest value while Endosulfan was found to maximum concentration. Concern to selected bivalve, *Crossostreacuttukensis* showed high level of pesticides while *P. viridis* low level. Amongst different study area from Ratnagiri district, Ratnagiri region showed high level of pesticides in all selected bivalve as compare with Dapoli & Guhagar while from Sindhudurg district showed high levels of pesticides in all studied bivalve belong to Devgad region as compare to Vengurla & Malvan whereas from Raigad district, *P. viridis*, *C. cuttukensis*, *S. cucullata* showed high levels of pesticides belongs to Uran region while *M. meretrix*, *K. opima* showed high levels belongs to Shrivardhan region. In the Raigad region certain pesticides are not detected.

As compare to three district i.e. Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg & Raigad, high level of pesticides are recorded in bivalve from Sindhudurg district while low level was found in Raigad district.

Concern to seasonal variation of pesticides common trend was found in all study areas as well as selected bivalve that concentration raises in monsoon, followed by winter & summer i.e. lowest concentration was detected in summer season.

Using a moored in-situ sampler, Sarkar and Sen Gupta (1989) determined the concentration of residues in seawater off the central west coast of India. Shailaja and Sarkar (1992) reviewed the results where the order of distribution of different chlorinated compounds along the central West Coast of the Arabian Sea was as follows: HCH > aldrin > DDE > dieldrin > DDE > DDT > DDD. The sum of DDT concentrations ranged from 15.8 to 444.0 ng/l. Among DDT isomers, p, p'-DDT was found to be more abundant than others in the southern part of the region whereas o, p'-DDT was present in significant concentrations off the Ratnagiri Coast, western part of India. Gamma-HCH ranged from 0.26 to 9.4 ng/l, whereas aldrin and dieldrin were found at concentrations ranging from 1.4 to 9.8 ng/l and 2.1 to 50.9 ng/l, respectively. In general -HCH and the two cyclodiene compounds aldrin and dieldrin were found more consistently in seawater samples than compounds of the DDT family. Isomers of HCH, aldrin, dieldrin and DDT were detected in water of different regions of the Indian Ocean (Shailaja and Sen Gupta, 1989). Of all organochlorine pesticides, total DDT was found to be present in considerable amounts (15.8–444 ng/l). There was sharp spatial variations of organochlorine compounds in water where enrichment was evident in coastal regions in comparison to open

ocean water, the latter is contaminated mainly due to atmospheric transport of pollutants (Tanabe et al., 1982a,b).

The concentration of HCH was found to be quite low in water as compared to that in sediment which may be due to the hydrophobic characteristics of these compounds as well as dispersion of pollutants in the open ocean. Coastal sediments act as temporary or long-term sinks for many classes of anthropogenic contaminants and consequently act as the source of these substances to the ocean and biota. The applied pesticide can be transported through surface run-off, leaching and vapour phase and ultimately accumulates and settles in the bottom sediments. Hence bottom sediments represent an integrated measure of particle bound contaminants that have deposited over a longer period of time. Few studies have reported that contamination of OCs in the sediments from Indian coastal regions (Takeoka et al., 1991; Pandit et al., 2002; Sarkar et al., 1997; Sarkar and SenGupta, 1987, 1988c, 1991) indicating the presence of their major emission sources in these regions. Data on the accumulation of pesticides in marine sediments is limited, especially considering the length of India's coastline. Guzzella et al. (2005) documented distribution of various organochlorine pesticides in the surface sediments along the stretch of the Ganges (Hooghly) estuary including Sunderban mangrove wetland, eastern coastal part of India. The results revealed a wide range of spatial variations.

The concentration of various pesticides also exhibited a wide range of fluctuations. The presence of HCH isomers and DDT and its metabolites can be attributed to the use of these insecticides in agriculture as well as anti-malaria sanitary activities carried out throughout the country (Pandit et al., 2002). The concentration of four important isomers of HCHs reveals a heterogenic nature of distribution. Recently Sarkar et al. (2008) reported the first comprehensive account of the organochlorine pesticide residues (HCHs, DDTs and HCB) in core sediments (63 μ particle size) from Sunderban which revealed an erratic pattern, either top to bottom or vice versa, reflecting non-homogenous input of these compounds. HCB is not only used as fungicide but also generated as a by-product during the production and usage of several agrochemical and industrial chemicals. Furthermore, HCB has also been released into the environment by waste incineration (van-Birgelen, 1998) and in a variety of reactions where it persists because of its thermodynamic stability (Breivik et al., 2004). The residues of HCB in the rest of the stations might be a reflection of its limited sources and the volatile nature of this compound. Breivik et al. (2004) rightly pointed out that HCB emissions can be expected to decrease as developing countries improve their chemical and metal production and handling practices. DDTs were detected in all species, but the contribution of individual metabolites showed differences. The dominance of DDTs in the sediment was also reported by Pandit et al. (2002) from the coastal marine environment of Mumbai, western part of India. This may be attributed to the slow degradation of DDTs or recent input of DDTs in this environment (Tavares et al., 1999; Yuan et al., 2001). The dominance of either pp'-DDT or both pp'-DDT and pp'-DDE in sediments was also recorded by Guruge and Tanabe (2001) from the west coast of India and by Booij et al. (2001) from the northwest coast of Java, Indonesia. Occurrence of DDT in all studied bivalve showed a definite indication of recent use of the DDT. The more contribution of DDT at some study area seems to be associated with use of pesticides for Alphonso Mango & other agricultural growing activities. The use of pesticides in agriculture and aquaculture has generally been increasing due to rising population and demand for more agrochemicals at these sites. The high percentage composition of DDT clearly illustrates that DDT usage has not been eradicated yet in the country, and there might be new input of DDT to the coastal estuary as asserted by Aguilar (1984) and Dimond and Owen (1996). India is ranked the biggest consumer and manufacturer of HCH and DDT in the world (Mehrotra, 1993) as these are cheap as well as effective chemicals (Bashkin, 2003). Sarkar and Sen Gupta (1987) measured pesticide residues in sediments along the west-central coast of India in the Arabian Sea showing the following decreasing order: HCH Naldrin Npp'-DDE Npp'-DDT Nop'-DDE Npp'-DDD Ndielrin. It is worthwhile to mention that HCH, DDT were found in almost all samples. The concentration of DDT was relatively high in most of the samples. However, PCB & endosulfon could not be detected in a few samples that contained the maximum percentage of silt and sand. Aldrin was much more prevalent than dieldrin and HCH was dominant over. Sarkar et al. (1997) found higher mean concentration of

DDT and dieldrin (by factors of 1.7 and 2.4 respectively) in estuarine sediments of the Arabian Sea areas compared to offshore sediments while mean concentrations of HCH, aldrin, and endrin were similar for both offshore and estuarine samples. There are only a few studies on the fate and behavior of OP pesticides in marine sediments (Sarkar and Sen Gupta 1985; Sarkar and Sen Gupta 1986; Sujatha and Chacko 1991) from Indian waters. They found that the stability and fate of the pesticides monocrotophos, phosphamidon and DDVP in sediment samples were influenced by pH, salinity and exchangeable cations. The low stability of these pesticides in sea sediments indicates that major element cations have reduced the toxic effects of these pesticides in marine organisms (Sarkar and Banerjee 1987). A review of published data of pesticide residues in sediments indicates that isomers of DDT and its metabolites, HCH, aldrin, dieldrin and endrin are present but that, while all may not be found in every sample, the most common and abundant pesticide residues were aldrin, HCHs and DDTs.

Pesticide concentrations in magnitude higher which might be attributed to several factors. All major Indian rivers flow and drain through fertile agricultural lands, which receive a considerable input of pesticides, and carry their sediment loads to marine waters on the coast. Also, the use pattern of pesticides shows a predominance of pesticides to lands bordering the eastern coast. Shailaja and Sen Gupta (1990) had confirmed the presence of DDT and its metabolites, DDD and DDE, in their study on samples obtained from three stations in a transect off Mumbai. In this study, DDD was the major product formed in zooplankton, indicating DDT metabolism in zooplankton. They observed that DDT concentrations showed a declining trend from near-shore to offshore while DDD concentrations increased from the coast to offshore. The concentration of DDT was higher in zooplankton than in both plankton-feeding and carnivorous fish from coastal as well as open ocean regions of the Arabian Sea. Bivalves have been widely accepted and used as sentinel organisms to monitor the concentration of pollutants in coastal marine environments. Different species of oysters, mussels and clams have been used as bio indicators for Mussel Watch Programme in different countries to monitor marine pollution from pesticide residues. Also, Ramesh et al. (1990b) suggest that the bioaccumulation of OCPs by mussels might have implications for human exposure, because mussels are marketed immediately following collection and without depuration. Ramesh et al. (1990b) measured the concentrations of OC residues in green-lipped mussels *Perna viridis* L. (Mollusca: Bivalvia) collected from nine locations along the South Indian Coast, which includes the east and west coasts covering the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, respectively. They found that HCH isomer (α , β and γ) concentrations ranged from 4.3 to 16 ng/g whereas DDT (the sum of pp'-DDT, pp'-DDE, pp'-DDD and op'-DDT) varied from 2.8 to 39 ng/g. Mussels collected from the west coast had higher levels of DDT, suggesting DDT used for vector control in urban locales, eventually dispersed or areas is in storm water run-off from coastal cities. However, in Ratnagiri and Raigad district, HCH levels were slightly higher than DDT, which is indicative of the use of HCH for agricultural purposes in the nearby areas. Ramesh et al. (1989, 1991) observed considerable pesticide contamination in air and water, especially in agricultural areas.

Number of reports on the effect of pesticides on bivalves are available (Stainken and Rollwagen, 1979). Oysters, in particular, were studied by Emmanuelsen et al. (1978). They have suggested that relatively short term exposures of low levels of dieldrin do not cause histo-pathological damage to *Crassostrea virginica*. Toxicological studies were carried out in mussels by various authors (Cowan, 1978; Dybern and Jensen, 1978; Frenne, 1978; Krieger et al. 1978; Salanki and Varankal, 1978). The reaction of the marine bivalves *Katelysia opima* and *Donax cuneatus* (both commercially important species in India) to various pesticides and narcotants were studied under laboratory conditions by Mane et al. (1979). Physiological studies were done on mussels i.e. the oxygen uptake by the hepatopancreas, mitochondria of mussels in the normal condition and when affected by DDT (Golovenko and Petrov, 1979). Lethality of aminocarb and the components of aminocarb formulation to a fresh water clam was reported (McLeese et al. 1980). It was experimentally proved that the mussel sensitivity to DDT depends on the age of molluscs, duration of their contact with the pesticides and concentration of the pesticide (Zaitsev et al. 1981). The changes in the carbohydrate metabolism in selected tissues of freshwater mussel, *Lamellidens marginalis*

were studied during induced toxicity of phosphamidon, an organophosphorus pesticide (Moorthy et al. 1983).

With reference to above mentioned work done it was so important to study the level of pesticides in edible bivalve & it is one of important parameter for export hence present work was undertaken.

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TABLE : 1

Seasonal variation of Pesticides in bivalve.														
From Ratnagiri District														
Sr. No	Name of the species	Study Area	MANSOON				WINTER				SUMMER			
			HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan
1	Perna viridis	1	0.80	2.10	1.50	3.35	0.61	1.80	1.14	2.85	0.31	1.30	1.01	1.70
		2	0.65	2.15	1.45	3.40	0.42	1.76	1.20	2.78	0.34	1.10	0.91	1.79
		3	0.85	2.30	1.58	3.66	0.72	2.00	1.38	2.96	0.40	1.43	1.20	1.93
2	Crossostrea cuttukensis	1	1.56	2.10	1.12	2.57	1.29	1.53	1.36	2.22	1.08	1.12	0.76	1.24
		2	1.45	1.94	1.36	2.92	1.22	1.68	1.15	2.11	0.98	1.17	0.86	1.17
		3	1.96	2.18	1.66	3.36	1.80	1.98	1.21	3.10	1.47	1.20	0.95	2.14
3	Saccostrea cuculatta	1	1.28	3.24	2.56	1.80	1.13	2.89	2.47	1.33	0.97	1.98	1.92	1.07
		2	1.36	3.10	2.68	1.12	2.87	2.14	1.84	0.88	2.37	1.94	1.15	0.68
		3	1.47	3.92	3.20	4.42	1.13	3.10	2.86	3.90	0.94	2.82	2.16	2.46
4	Meretrix meretrix	1	1.48	2.69	2.36	3.68	1.13	2.17	1.96	3.19	0.96	1.92	1.36	2.58
		2	1.72	2.99	2.23	3.43	1.60	2.14	1.97	2.94	1.22	1.85	1.26	1.43
		3	1.85	3.24	2.73	4.94	0.57	1.62	2.18	2.86	0.29	0.93	1.67	1.96
5	Katelaysia opima	1	1.04	2.10	0.78	3.66	0.88	1.73	0.61	3.22	0.73	1.12	0.59	2.84
		2	0.97	2.18	0.87	3.98	0.77	1.96	0.65	2.93	0.65	1.14	0.53	1.84
		3	1.10	2.54	0.94	4.67	0.49	1.16	1.10	2.86	0.32	0.58	0.94	2.53

N.D. :- Note detected.

Result are expressed in ng/g wet. Basis

Study 1 :- Dapoli, Study area 2 :- Guhaghar, Study area 3 :- Ratnagiri

TABLE : 2

Seasonal variation of Pesticides in bivalve.														
From Sindhudurg District														
Sr. No	Name of the species	Study Area	MANSOON				WINTER				SUMMER			
			HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan
1	Perna viridis	1	1.20	3.43	2.34	5.10	0.81	1.20	1.85	3.20	0.44	0.93	1.21	1.43
		2	1.42	3.24	2.60	4.80	0.60	1.10	1.20	2.63	0.51	0.63	0.83	1.20
		3	1.63	3.94	3.22	6.20	1.10	1.50	1.28	3.38	0.72	1.25	1.42	1.80
2	Crossostrea cuttukensis	1	1.00	2.83	1.90	3.70	0.62	1.05	1.38	2.40	0.42	0.96	0.80	1.24
		2	1.18	2.38	1.92	3.65	1.12	1.86	1.19	2.45	0.88	1.23	1.15	1.12
		3	2.13	2.96	2.00	4.22	1.76	2.42	1.45	3.18	1.20	1.70	1.15	2.34
3	Saccostrea cuculatta	1	1.38	4.50	3.20	3.80	0.85	3.35	1.90	3.60	0.67	2.27	1.88	1.90
		2	1.45	4.76	2.38	5.40	1.25	3.17	2.12	4.38	1.12	2.60	2.48	2.35
		3	1.58	1.85	3.60	6.38	1.54	3.72	2.25	5.60	1.80	3.15	3.55	3.16
4	Meretrix meretrix	1	1.98	2.44	2.60	3.90	1.40	2.38	2.00	3.47	1.00	1.78	1.67	3.45
		2	1.90	2.35	2.10	4.36	0.45	1.20	1.87	2.45	0.25	0.94	1.25	1.80
		3	2.10	3.60	2.80	5.43	0.68	1.75	2.35	3.44	0.34	1.10	1.85	2.20
5	Katelaysia opima	1	1.00	1.49	1.17	3.13	0.48	0.96	1.13	1.97	0.30	0.39	1.00	1.28
		2	0.94	1.80	0.96	3.26	0.30	1.18	0.95	2.43	0.22	0.42	0.86	1.79
		3	1.20	2.68	1.27	5.73	0.56	1.47	1.26	3.22	0.34	0.67	1.10	2.30

Result are expressed in ng/g wet. Basis

Study 1 :- Vengurla, Study area 2 :- Malvan, Study area 3 :- Devgad

N.D. :- Note detected.

TABLE : 3

Seasonal variation of Pesticides in bivalve.
From Raigad District

Sr. No	Name of the species	Study Area	MANSOON				WINTER				SUMMER			
			HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan	HCH	DDT	PCB	Endosul fan
1	Perna viridis	1	0.68	1.42	1.12	1.68	0.58	1.32	0.96	1.35	0.47	1.10	0.76	1.12
		2	0.42	0.96	0.84	0.96	0.37	0.86	0.74	0.89	0.30	0.72	0.63	0.74
		3	0.75	1.16	1.36	1.26	0.66	1.10	1.06	1.13	0.54	0.97	0.94	1.10
2	Crossostrea cuttukensis	1	0.43	N.D.	0.23	0.45	0.20	N.D.	0.15	0.38	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	0.20
		2	0.54	0.92	N.D.	0.68	0.47	0.64	N.D.	0.53	0.34	0.32	N.D.	0.37
		3	0.84	0.58	N.D.	0.89	0.72	0.44	N.D.	0.66	0.54	0.22	N.D.	43.00
3	Saccostrea cuculatta	1	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	0.85	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	0.69	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	0.48
		2	0.35	0.64	N.D.	0.81	N.D.	0.52	N.D.	0.65	N.D.	0.46	N.D.	0.55
		3	0.53	0.47	0.22	0.65	0.34	0.24	0.14	0.41	0.25	0.14	N.D.	0.38
4	Meretrix meretrix	1	0.65	0.44	0.36	0.77	0.37	0.23	0.15	0.55	0.20	0.13	N.D.	0.29
		2	0.46	0.32	0.50	0.80	0.34	0.27	0.36	0.62	0.26	0.21	0.28	0.41
		3	0.52	0.43	0.36	0.63	0.39	0.28	0.23	0.51	0.26	0.18	0.14	0.35
5	Katelaysia opima	1	0.32	N.D.	N.D.	0.39	0.24	N.D.	N.D.	0.24	0.11	N.D.	N.D.	0.10
		2	0.28	0.14	N.D.	0.25	0.16	0.12	N.D.	0.18	0.10	0.09	N.D.	0.13
		3	N.D.	N.D.	0.14	0.20	N.D.	N.D.	0.10	0.16	N.D.	N.D.	0.12	0.17

N.D. :- Note detected.

Result are expressed in ng/g wet. Basis

Study 1 :- Shrivardhan, Study area 2 :- Alibag area, Study area 3 :- Uran.