

Freshwater Mollusks Assemblage (*Mollusca: Gastropoda*) with Notes on Invasive Species and its Environmental Parameters in Lake Oro, Esperanza, Mindanao, Philippines

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed to report the first freshwater molluscan faunal survey in Lake Oro, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, Philippines. Three (3) species from three families were identified. Of the 3 species documented, one *Belamaya angularis* is Philippine endemic, one *Cristaria plicata* native, and one *Pomacea canaliculata* is considered an invasive species. All of the physico-chemical parameters documented were within the acceptable normal limits. Local residents utilized the whole lake particularly for inland fishing (*Tilapia*) and aquaculture, use for domesticated animals, and recreational activities (e.g. bathing and washing of clothes in the lake). We highlight ecological and environmental threats particularly conversion to agricultural land, pollution, increasing human settlers in the riparian areas, and overfishing. Lake Oro the home of 2 endemic molluscan species and should therefore be better managed and protected.

Keywords: Abundance, Anthropogenic, Endemic, Lake Oro, Mollusks