Naididae (Clitellata : Oligochaeta) and Aeolosomatidae (Polychaeta : Aphanoneura) Species associated with aquatic plants in Tigris River/ Baghdad / Iraq

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Abstract:

339 individuals, were sorted from 22 samples collected from three sites in Tigris River including, Al- Sarafiya district (S1), Al- Jaderiyah district (S2) and Al-Za'afaraniya district (S3), in addition to one site in the irrigation canal of the Al-Jaderiyah campus of the University of Baghdad (S4), and in Al-Jeish canal(S5) east Baghdad. The sorting results revealed that the highest number of individuals of 102 was recorded at S4, whereas the lowest number of 24 individuals was recorded at S2. Regarding the sites, site S4 was the richest site with 30% of the total number represented 16 species, while each of S3 and S5 had 8 species only with 17.11% and 28.60% of the total individuals number respectively. The values of Jaccared Similarity Index, shows that the highest similarity index of 81% was recorded between S2 & S4.Sorted Naididae worms comprised, 17 species of the subfamily Naidinae with 59% of the total number .10 species of them are new record to Iraq, and 6 species are new records to Tigris River. Four species of the Subfamily Pristininae were identified, with a percentage of 25% of the total number, two of them are new record to Iraq, while the other two are new records to Tigris River, in addition to two species of Aeolostomatidae (Aphanoneura: Polychaeta), with16% of the total number , both of them are new records to Iraq. Nine genera were recorded , from which Nais was the most abundant genus, followed by genus Pristina. These two genera were found in all study sites. Four species of *Chaetogaster* were observed including, *C*. cristallinus; C. diastrophus; C.Limnaei and C. langi, The first two species are new record to Iraq, and they are the most abundant species within the *Chaetogaster* collections . Uncinais minor, Slavina appendiculata and Allonais inaequalis were three species new record to Iraq. The first species was found in S5 and, second species in S1, while the third one was found in S1& S5. Three species of *Dero* were identified, including, D.dorsalis, D. obtusa and D. digitata, the first two species are new record to Iraq, and the last one is new record to Tigris RiverTwo species of Stylaria were observed including, S. lacustris and S. fossularis. Latter species was new record to Tigris River.Regarding the genus Nais, five species were recorded, including Nais varaibilis; N. comminus; N. simplex; N. paradalis and N. elinguis; The first three species are new record to Iraq, while the last two species are new record to Tigris River. According to subfamily Pristininae, Four species of Pristina were identified, P.aequiseta, P.longiseta, P. Proboscidea, and P. foreli. The first two species were the most abundant species of **Pristina** . **P. foreli** is new record to Iraq, while the other three species were new recods to Tigris River.Finally, a number of 55 individuals of genus Aeolosoma were recorded in S5 only, with two species including A. quarternarium and Aeolosoma leidyi, The two species are new record to Iraq.According to above results, it is clear that there were 14 & 8 species new records for Iraq and Tigris River in this investigation respectively.

Key words: Naididae, Aeolosomatidae, Tigris River, Oligochaeta

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Introduction:

Naididae are small. transparent aquatic worms. of **Subclass** Oligochaeta; Class Clitellata, Phylum Annelida, usually less than 2 cm long; characterize by asexual reproduction by paratomy (budding), forming a individuals; chain of mature individuals occur seldom [1] They are an ecologically diverse family of worms common in both running and standing waters. Many naidids are sediment dwellers, but other species are characteristically found among aquatic macrophytes [2] with mosses and liverworts [3] and with filamentous algae [4] Presence of Naididae species may be associated with the sponge Metania spinata [5]or with gastropoda [6]. Wetzel& Taylor [7]recorded some Naididae spp. from caves in Illinois and Missouri, USA

traditionally, has been 'Naididae' treated as a family, but phylogenetic based analysis on 18S rDNA sequences support the premise that all members of the former Clitellate family Naididae are phylogenetically nested within the former family Tubificidae [8, 9, 10, 11]. Erèus & Gustavsson [12] had proposed that these taxa together should be regarded as a single family to ovoid this paraphyly of Tubificidae, suggesting that all Niadides should be classified as members of Tubificidae.. and for this reason. Ersèus et al. [13] submitted an application to the ICZN commission requesting to use its power to give precedence to Tubificidae Vejdovesky 1876 over Naididae . Ehrenberg 1828, but the members of ICZN voted against it, Since the family-group name Naididae is older than Tubificidae, and thus, according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, should have precedence over the latter. [14]

Naidinae comprised 21 known genera widespread in the world [15] They are

easily identified by their external morphological characters such as chaetae, proboscis, and gills. The chaetae are considered as a very important feature for the identification of genera and species of Naidinae, including the segment on which dorsal chaetae commence; the number of chaetae per bundle; relative sizes of teeth of bifid chaetae, and presence or absence of hair chaetae. Niadinae are characterize by the presence of needle chaetae accompanied with hair chaetae in the dorsal bundles [15, 16, 17]. Pristina spp. were excluded from family Naididae by [16] and arranged them in a separate family named as family Pristinidae, which are very small worms have a dorsal setae beginning in segment II as in breeding Tubificinae, mostly by budding (paratomy) like Niadinae ; Sexually mature individual, which occur seldom, reveal forward position of reproductive system, with male pores and clitellum mostly in VIII, and spermathecae in VII; Living on bottom surface and water plants, but never swimming [16] According to [15] Genus Pristina consist of 23 species (with and without Proboscis) with P. longiseta, Ehrenberg, 1828 as a type species. Pristina species, without a proboscis, were placed in the genus Pristinella by [18] to separate them from other Pristina species with a proboscis. This separation was later suppressed by [19] . [16] considered Pristine, which have prostomium with proboscis, and Pristinella, which have simple prostomium ,without proboscis, as subgenera

An aberrant family, Aeolosomatidae, may be treated as a separate class, **Aphanononeura**, which are representative of Calss Polychaeta [20] *Aeolosoma* with broad, ventrally ciliated prostomium bearing lateral sensory pits. They have coloured cutaneous glands, irregularly distributed, hair chaetae of different size found in both dorsal and ventral bundles [16].

The aim of this study is to sort and identify microdrile worms associated with emergent plants and filamentous algae collected from Tigris River in Baghdad, and Al-jeish canal, east of Baghdad. Few investigators, have studied Oligochaeta species in Iraq [21,22,23] Most of these studies referred to Naididae, as a family group within the macrobenthic community samples [24,25,26,27,28]

Materials and Methods:

22 samples of aquatic plants, *Ceratophyllum*, and filamentous algae were collected from five sites on different aquatic habitats within Baghdad city, using a long hand digger to eradicate the plants. The sites include:

S1- On the Tigris river at Al-Sarafyia district

S2- On the Tigris river at Al-Jaderyia district (at the bank of Al-A'aras island)

S3- On the Tigris river at Al-Za'afaranyia district

S4- from the irrigation canal inside Al- Jaderyia campus of the University of Baghdad. This irrigation canal derives its water from Tigris river in Al- Jaderia.

S5- On Al- Jeish canal east Baghdad. This irrigation canal connect Tigris river, North Baghdad to River Diyala, before its connection with River Tigris, South of Baghdad After S3The eradicated plants and algae were collected in large containers containing water from the site, and transferred to the laboratory, where they were distributed into three glass aquarium of (40X20X20 cm.), and left for about 7-10 days to allow the worms to settle down. Air pump was used to aerated water in each aquarium. the settled sediment on the bottom of aquarium was collected with care by fine dropper, and transferred to a Petri dishes of 10cm diameter. The worms then sorted carefully using dissecting microscope, and transferred to a clean Petri dish containing little amount of tap water . 10 % formalin was then added drop by drop to the dish to kill the worms. The sorted worms then preserved in 70% alcohol. Wet-funnel was also used for sorting the remaining small worms in the aquarium, as described by [16] Permanent slides were prepared as [15,16]Worms of family Aeolosomatidae should be identified alive since tending to burst and lose most taxonomically important structures at fixation[16] worms were identified according to [15,16,17,29]

The similarity between the sites was calculated by Jaccard Index (ISj) according to the [30]

Results and Discussion :

339 individuals of 23 species were sorted belonging to the family Naidinae (17 species); Pristininae (4 species) and Aeolosomatidae

(2 species) in different study site

(Table 1). Table (1) also shows all data concerning the identified species, the number of individuals of each species in each study site and their percentage occurrence frequencies. It was clear that Nias variabilis was the most abundant species, which shows 100% occurrence frequency, the other species of Nais were N. elinguis; N simplex , N paradilus, and N. communis, with frequencies of 4.5; 36; 18; and 27 % respectively. Four species of each of *Chaetogaster*,(cristallinus; С. diastrophus; C. langi) and C.Limnaei and Pristina, (P. longiseta; P aequiseta; P. proboscidea and P foreli) and three species of Dero. D.dorsalis, D. digitata and D. obtuse. Each of Slavina,

Allonais and Uncinais were represented by only one species with occurance frequencies. low The highest number of individuals collected from S4 & S5 of 102 & 97 individuals respectively, and comprised 30.1 & 28.6% of total number (Fig 1). Higher diversity was recorded in S4 , in which the community comprised 16 species, 14, 13 species were recorded in S1 and S2 respectively, while each of S3 and S5 have 8 species only (Fig 1).Sorting Naididae worms comprised 17species of the subfamily Naidinae, and 4 species of subfamily Pristininae, in addition to 2 species of Aeolostomatidae. They were recorded a percentage of 59, 25 and 16% respectively (Fig 2).Fig (3) shows that nine genera were recorded, in which Nais was the most abundant genus, followed by genus **Pristina** which had four species These two genera found in all study site in addition to Dero, which found in all sites except S5. The genus Allonais was found in S1 & S5. While Slavina and uncinais were found in one site only, S3 & S5 respectively. individuals of 55 Aeolosoma were recorded in S5 only.Fig (4) shows the numbers of , paratomic and normal sexual individuals for all sorted worms during the study months. The lowest total worms was sorted in September, then it increased progressively in October and November, decreased again during the cold months of December, January and February . Starting from March the number increased progressively to reach its peak in June.. It was clear from this figure that the paratomic individuals started their appearance during March and then increase in number progressively during April, May and June, while the sexual individuals were very rare, and few individual of them appeared in the sample of June which belong to N.

variabilis. This result is confirmed by [6,31] who indicated that the mature individuals occur seldom . Members of subfamily Niadinae, reproduce both asexually and sexually. In populations that reproduce sexually, there is apparently one sexual generation a year, usually occurring during the summer and autumn. Adults die soon after laying their cocoons [1]Asexual reproduction is employed by species of Naididae during favorable conditions. environmental Cocoon deposition allows a population to survive period of environmental stress [32] This fact discussed our result which shows a decline in numbers of individuals during winter season December, during January and February.In Iraq very little data are available about this group of invertebrate to compare with our results, but our result is closely related with Turkish fauna recorded by [33,34] . In Iraq Stylaris species was recorded by many authers [26,27,28], due to their large size and activity and they can swim, so they may be easily detected with benthic fauna, while species like Slavina is always incrusted with foreign matter and is difficult to detect by naked eyes. Other genera also recorded separately by were. some authors, such as [26,27] Pristina **Chaetogaster** [22.23] and [21][35]referred to the presence of Aeolosoma sp. in Al-Diwanyia river. Acoording to he above results, 14 species were considered as new records for Iraq, they are never

records for Iraq, they are never recorded in any Iraqi litreture. and eight speies as new record to Tigris River, which were previously recorded in different sites other than Tigris River.According to the study sites , Jaccard similarity test indicated that the similarities in the community of Tigris river Stations (S1,S2, S3) were ranged between 40-60%, while there was a higher similarity between S2 (Tigris river in Al-Jaderyia) and S4 (irrigation canal of Al-jaderyia campus of the Univ. of Baghdad, which reach to 81%. S5 was the most different site which recorded a range of similarity index between 14.3- 23.5% with other sites. (Table, 2).

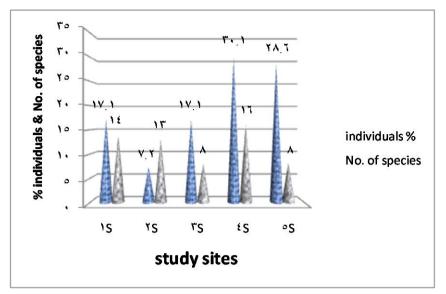
	Table(1): N	umbers of N	aidinae, Pristi	ninae, and	Aeolosotomatidae	species			
Identified in different sites of freshwater habitat in Baghdad City									
	family	species	Study Total	Frequency					

family	species	Study	Total	Frequency				
		Sites	(ind.)	%			-	-
		S1	S2	S3	S 4	S 5		
	Chaetogaster*	2	1	0	3	0	6	27
	cristallinus							
	C. limnaei**	0	0	0	1	0	1	4.5
	C.langi**	0	0	0	0	1	1	4.5
	C. diastrophus*	2	1	0	4	0	7	31.8
	Uncinais	0	0	0	0	2	2	4.5
	minor*							
	Dero dorsalis*	1	1	0	2	0	4	18
	D. digitata**	5	2	5	5	0	17	50
	D. obtusa*	0	2	5	4	0	11	36
Naidinae	Stylaria	10	2	9	9	0	30	54
	lacusrtis							
	S. fossularis**	6	1	8	7	0	22	59
	Slavina	2	0	0	0	0	2	4.5
	appendiculata*							
	Allonaias	1	0	0	0	1	2	9
	inaequalis*							
	Nais variabilis*	11	5	13	21	14	64	100
	N.elinguis**	0	0	0	1	0	1	4.5
	N. simplex*	4	2	0	8	0	14	36
	N. paradalis **	0	2	0	5	0	7	18
	N. communis*	0	0	4	4	0	8	27
	Pristina	9	2	8	12	13	44	81
Pristininae	longiseta**							
	P. aequiseta*	4	2	6	8	11	31	68
	P. foreli*	0	1	0	8	0	9	27
	<i>P</i> .	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.5
	proboscidea**							
Aeolosomatidae	Aeolosoma	0	0	0	0	20	20	18
	aquaternarium*							
	A. leidyi*	0	0	0	0	35	35	18
Total	-	58	24	58	102	97		
No. of species		14	13	8	16	8	339	
* New record for Iraq ** New record for Tigris Piver								

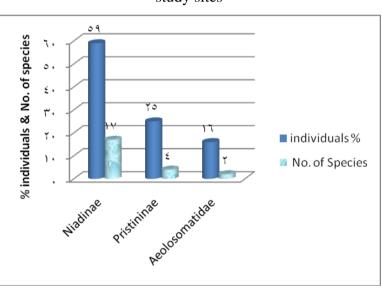
* New record for Iraq. ** New record for Tigris River.

Table(2): Values of Jaccard simmilaty index

	S 1	S2	S 3	S4
S 2	0.625			
S 3	0.400	0.500		
S 4	0.526	0.813	0.500	
S5	0.235	0.167	0.231	0.143



Fig(1): percentage of total worms and number of species collected from different



study sites

Fig (2): Percentages of identified number of individuals of each Aquatic worms families.

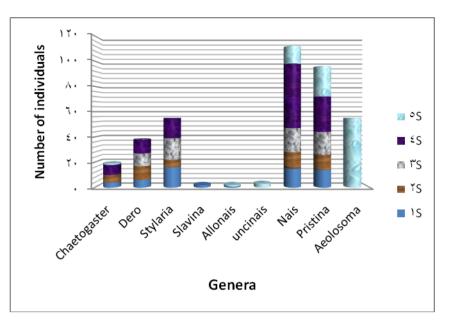


Fig (3): Number of identified individuals of different genera collected from different study sites.

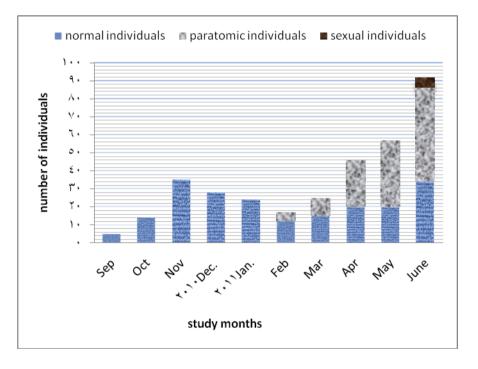


Fig (4) : Number of normal , paratomic and sexual individuals for all sorted worms during the study months.

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انواع العائلة نايديدي (السرجيات : قليلة الاهلاب) والعائلة ايليوستوماتيدي (عديدة الاهلاب : افانيورا) المرتبطة بالنباتات المائية في نهر دجلة – مدينة بغداد / العراق

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الخلاصة:

تم عزل 339 فرد من 22 عينة جمعت من ثلاثة مواقع على نهر دجلة شملت S1 في منطقة الصر افية وS2 في منطقة الجادرية و 33 في منطقة الزعفرانية بالإضافة إلى موقع واحد لكل من القناة الأروائية لجامعة بغداد / مجمع الجادرية S4 وقناة الجيش شرق بغداد S5 أوضحت نتائج العزل أن أعلى عدد أفراد 102 سجل في S4 بينما اقل عدد 24 في S2 وفيما يخص المواقع, كان الموقع S4 هو الموقع الأغنى حيث سجل %30 من عدد الأفراد المعزولة متمثلة في 16 نوع بينما سجلت 8 أنواع فقط في كل من 33 و 55 بنسب 17.11% و %28.60 من العدد الكلُّي للأفراد المعزولة وعلى التوالي أوضحت نتائج قيم معامل جاكارد للتشابه أن أعلى درجة تشابه 81% سجلت بين الموقعين S2 و S4 تضمن عزل ديدان العائلة Naididae نوع ينتمي إلى العائلة الثانوية Naidinae بنسبة %59 من العدد الكلي , 10 منهم تسجل لأول مرة في العراق و6 أنواع تسجل لأول مرة في نهر دجلة. شخصت أربع أنواع تابعة للعائلة الثانوية Pristininae بنسبة 25% من العدد الكلي. اثنان منها تسَّجل لأول مرة في العراق بينما النوعين الأخرين هما نوعيين جديدين في نهر دجلة . بالإضافة إلَّي الجنس Aeolosoma من العائلة (Aphanoneura : Aeolostomatidae) بنسبة 16% من العدد الكلي . سجلت 9 أجناس كان أكثر ها سيادة الجنس Nais يليه الجنس Pristina. وجد هذان الجنسان في جميع مواقع الدر اسة .. سجل الجنس Allonais في S1و S1 بينما سجل الجنسان Slavina و uncinais فقط في S1 و 55 على التوالي لوحظ أربع أنواع تابعة للجنس Chaetogaster تضم الأنواع C. cristallinus و .S diastrophus و C. Limnaei و C. Limnaei يعتبر النوعان الأولان تسجيل جديد في العراق وهما أكثر الأنواع سيادة ، بينما يعتبر النوعين الآخرين هما تسجيل جديد لنهر دجلة . سجلت الأنواع Uncinais minor و Slavina appendiculata و Allonais Inaequalis كتسجيل جديد في العراق وجد النوع الأول في 55 والنوع الثاني في S1, بينما النوع الثالث وجد في S1 وS5 . تم تشخيص ثلاث أنواع تابعة للجنس Dero تضم الأنواع D.dorsalis و D. obtusa و D. digitata النوعين الأولين تسجيل جديد للعراق تمثلت بنسب ، بينما النوع الأخير تسجيل جديد لنهر دجلة . لوحظ نوعين تابعين للجنس Stylaria هما S. lacustris و S. Nais تسجيل جديد لنهر دجلة وفيما يخص الجنس S. fossularis fossularis. يعتبر الجنس فقد سجلت خمسة أنواع تضمنت Nias varaibilis و N. simplex و N. comminus و N. simplex و N. elinguis , تعتبر الأنواع الثلاث الأولى تسجيل جديد للعراق, بينما النوعين الآخرين تسجيل جديد لنهر دجلة بالنسبة للعائلة الثانوية Pristininae شخصت أربع أنواع تابعة للجنس Pristina وتضم P.aequiseta و P. foreli و P. longiseta و P. biserrata يعتبر النوعين الأولين الأكثر تواجد وتسجيل جديد لنهر دجلة, بينما النوعين الآخرين تسجيل جديد للعراق. وأخيرا سجل 55 فرد من الجنس Aeolosoma في 55 وضم الأنواع A. quarternarium و A.leidyi , ويعتبر النوعان تسجيل جديد للعراق. توضح النتائج اعلاه تسجيل 14 نوع جديد للعراق و 8 أنواع جديدة لنهر دجلة.