

## Article Info

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## Variation in Food Composition of Common Teal (*Anas crecca*) in Different Wetlands of Punjab, Pakistan

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### Abstract:

The present study was conducted to evaluate the food preference in common teal collected from six different locations throughout Punjab, Pakistan. A total of 40 guts samples (20 male, 20 female) were collected from the slaughtered duck. The overall total weight of gut ( $43.46 \pm 3.180$ ), total weight of gizzard ( $16.34 \pm 1.109$ ), and Gizzard weight without food material ( $13.84 \pm 1.062$ ), which were highly significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) in males and females. The overall weight of food material ( $3.10 \pm 0.176$ ), weight of seeds ( $1.37 \pm 0.098$ ), weight of vegetation ( $1.50 \pm 0.087$ ), and weight of other material ( $0.41 \pm 0.047$ ), was non-significant ( $P > 0.05$ ) in males and females. A total of 11 species of plants from seven families were identified from the gut analysis. The overall prevalence of plants occurring in gut content was *Oryza sativa* (62.5%), *Hydrilla verticillata* (60.0%), *Nymphaeaceae nouchali* (52.5%), *Vallisneria spiralis* (45%), *Ceratophyllum demersum* (42.5%), *Echinochloa stagnina* (37.5%), *Schoenoplectus littoralis* (35%), *Najas graminea* (32.5%), *Polygonum barbatum* (27.5%), *Nymphoides cristata* (22.5%) and *Arundo donax* (20%). The current study will be helpful for conservation, improvement of habitat, and future planning for migratory birds.

**Keywords:** Ducks, gut, plant species, wildlife, threatened species.

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