

Abstract

Large branchiopods have a worldwide distribution, occurring in some of the most remote places on earth. Like the global level, the patterns of diversity, distribution and conservation status of these taxa are still poorly known. In this respect, we conducted a study on distribution and status of large branchiopod crustaceans in the Bazargan area, Maku, West Azerbaijan, during the spring 2015. Two Anostracans species were collected, including *Branchinecta orientalis* and *Branchipodopsis affinis*. *B. orientalis* have been recorded previously from Iran, but *B. affinis* is recorded for first time. From the collected data it is easily to deduce that local ecological parameters are the mean factors for the diversity of species and intraspecies within the regional scale. This information can be applied for designing land management and conservation strategies for dryland regions.

Keywords: Anostraca, *Branchinecta orientalis*, *Branchipodopsis affinis*, Maku, Bazargan.