

PREFACE

Deep involvements in the investigations^{-on}/mucosub- /stances, lipids, and highly active enzymes such as B-glucoronidase, acid phosphatase, non-specific esterases etc. in the different organ systems of the chordates and non chordates are the merits of recognition of Zoology Department of Shivaji University. The investigations included in this dissertation shares the part of this extensive involvement and deals with the histological and histochemical characterization of mucosubstances of the digestive tract of the marine snail Cypraea arabica arabica.

The present dissertation is divided into five chapters. The first chapter enumerates the review of the morphological, histological and histochemical work done on digestive tract of various gastropod - prosobranch in general. This chapter tried to exploit the significance of present problem and also avaluates the nature of critical observations to be done. Detailed description of the material and histological histochemical techniques employed in the present investigations has^{been} listed in chapter second. Third chapter explains in detail the histological observations and localization and characterization of mucosubstances in different organs mentioned above. Efforts have been made to discuss the observations that are seen in the investigation in chapter four.

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Fifth and last chapter sums the concluding remarks.
The last pages of the dissertation list bibliographical
illustrations. The observations made are supplemented
with tabulated forms, photomicrographs, ^{and -} line drawn
figure.
