## **INDEX**

1		INTRODUCTION	01
	1.1	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	14
	1.2	FLOW OF THESIS	14
	MATERIALS AND METHODS		16
2	2.1	STUDY SITES	16
	2.2	SITE CHARACTERISTICS	17
	2.3	SUB-SITE AND SAMPLING POINTS	17
	2.4	STUDY PERIOD	20
	2.5	SAMPLING TECHNIQUE	20
	2.6	IDENTIFICATION OF KEY SPECIES	21
	2.7	COMPUTATION OF DATA	21
3		RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	29
	3.1	MOLLUSCAN DIVERSITY	35
	3.2	POPULATION ECOLOGY AND SPECIES	39
	3.3	ABIOTIC FACTORS	43
4		REFERENCES	74