

Table 1. Natural food of different life stages of the Indian white prawn, *Fenneropenaeus indicus*

Type of food	Life stage/ Size class					
	Nauplius	Zoea	Mysis	Postlarvae	Juvenile	Adult
Yolk	endogenous ⁴					
Algae		phytoplankton ^{3,5}	phytoplankton ³	phytoplankton ^{3,6}		Yes ⁷
Detritus					Yes ⁸	Yes High ⁷
Zooplankton		zooplankton ⁵	zooplankton ^{3,4}	zooplankton ^{3,4}		
Crustaceans					Yes ^{9,10}	Yes ^{7,12}
Fish						
Plant					25— 521,911	
Bivalves					56—891	Yes ⁷
Gastropods					44—831	
Amphipods					16—711	
Polychaetes					4—291	Yes ⁷
Foraminiferans					20—441	
Diatoms		Yes ²	Yes ²		4—231	

1. Angsupanich, Chiayvareesajja and Chandumpai (1999)

2. Preston, et al. (1992) (*F. merguensis*)

3. Kumlu (1997)

4. Rothlisberg (1998)

5. Emmerson (1984)

6. Khan, Aravindan and Kalavati (2001) (microalgal cells)

7. Zarshenas, Emadi and Seraji (2002)

8. Panikkar (1952)

9. Gopalakrishnan (1952)

10. Hall (1962)

11. The vegetable matter included diatoms like *Coscinodiscus*, *Pleurosigma*, *Rhizosolenia*, the planktonic alga *Trichodesmium* and cuttings of seaweeds

12. The crustaceans included copepods, ostracods, amphipods, tiny decapods (penaeids) and their larval stages and brachyurans