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Q29

Consider the following : 1. Butterflies 2. Fish 3. Frogs How many of the above have poisonous species among them ? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2024 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology

Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Only one. Poisonous butterflies, fish and frogs all exist.

(b)

Only two. Under-counts.

(c) Official key

All three. Monarchs and others; puffer/stonefish; poison-dart and some Indian frogs.

(d)

None. Each group has toxic species.

Summary

Official key is (c) all three. Some butterflies sequester plant toxins. Many fish are venomous or poisonous (puffer, stonefish). Frogs include poison-dart species and other toxic amphibians. So butterflies, fish and frogs all have poisonous species.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Aposematism

Warning colours in toxic butterflies and frogs.

Tetrodotoxin

In pufferfish and some newts; a classic animal poison.

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