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GENERAL SPECIES OF PHYTOPLANKTON COMMUNITY OF THE MAIN TRIBUTARIES OF LAKE SEVAN BASED ON INDEX OF FREQUENCY OCCURRENCE

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There are 28 rivers flows to the Lake Sevan from which the highest influence on the limnoecosystem have rivers Dzknaget (22 km), Gavaraget (50 km), Lichk (8 km), Makenis (26 km), Vardenis (28 km), Argitchi (51 km) and Masrik (69 km). Study of phytoplankton community of mentioned rivers were carried out in autumn of 2015. During the study, 127 species of algae were recorded in the phytoplankton community of the investigated rivers. The 96 % of recorded algae were belonging to the three major groups of phytoplankton: diatoms (Bacillariophyta), green (of Chlorophyta) and blue-green algae (Cyanophyta). The other 4 % of registered algae were belonging to the groups of Xanthophyta, Euglenophyta, Dinophyta.

During the study, the highest diversity of algae- 72 species was registered in the river Lichq, in the river Masrik was registered 54 species and in the river Vardenis was registered 48 species. The lowest diversity of algae was registered in the river Makenis- 34 species.

The 65 % of species composition had lowest frequency occurrence indices. The 20% of species composition had average value of frequency occurrence indices.

The 15 % of species composition was recorded high values of frequency of occurrence (85-100%). These are mainly diatomic algae with high quantity such as *Melosira varians*, *Cocconeis placentula*, *Ceratoneis arcus*, *Diatoma vulgare*, *D. hiemale*, *Fragilaria capucina*, *F. construens*, *Gomphonema olivaceum*, *Cymbella ventricosa*, *Amphora ovalis*, *Rhoicosphenia curvata*, *Navicula cryptocephala*, *N. gracilis* ect.. The species *Aphanothece clathrata*, *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Spirulina sp.* from the group of blue-green algae was recorded high value of frequency of occurrence.

The base of the floristic structure in all investigated rivers was the above mentioned species.

Thus, the high percentage of frequency of occurrence in the phytoplankton community mainly had species with high values of quantity and biomass. These species have wide range of ecological adaptation to the environmental conditions.

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