

Benthic Macroinvertebrates of Bafa Lake in Buyuk Menderes Basin (Mugla, TURKEY)

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Aim of Study: Bafa Lake is important wetland area in Buyuk Menderes Basin. Bafa Lake is a shallow lagoon, located into southeastern part of Turkey and the largest coastal shores lake near Aegean Sea. Bafa Lake is a private wetland area and give many benefit for the livelihood of the people around this region. The aim of this study was to given benthic makroinvertebrates in the evaluation of biological datas in Bafa Lake.

Materials and Methods: This study was carried out at Bafa Lake, which is located boundaries of Aydin and Mugla, in between April 2013 and March 2014. Macro-invertebrates were collected from 5 stations in Bafa Lake monthly to determine taxonomy and distribution of macro benthic invertebrates. Benthic macroinvertebrate were collected by nets, hand and ekman grab. The collected benthic macroinvertebrates were identified by their species or genus levels. Then Frequency, Dominancy (Kocatas, 1994) and Similarity analysis were determined (Birol, 2007). It was given that Bafa Lake has 2nd class water quality (Sasi et al., 2017).

Results and Discussion: In this study, 18 taxons and 26509 individuals which are consist of 6 classis and 12 species that are belonged Crustacea, Gastropoda, Bivalvia, Polychaeta, Arachnida and Insecta at the stations determined to the benthic macroinvertebrates. The most predominant group among the benthic samples in Bivalvia and representative of the group is *Mytilus marioni* (Locard, 1889). Also the analyses of Frequency, dominancy and Similarity of the benthic samples were given. According to the study results.

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Keywords: Bafa Lake, Buyuk Menderes basin, Benthic, Macroinvertebrate, Crustacea