

The State of the Mayfly Species in the Eastern Black Sea Region

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Aim of the study: The aim of this study is, to contribute and to evaluate the Ephemeroptera species spreading in the Eastern Black Sea region in terms of the mayfly fauna of Turkey.

Material and Methods: In the field studies carried out in 2009, mayfly larvae were sampled from the Eastern Black Sea region (including Artvin, Bayburt, Giresun, Gümüşhane, Ordu, Rize and Trabzon provinces) using sieves and hand net. They were examined and identified to species level. A distribution list of mayfly species of Turkey was prepared and species in the Eastern Black Sea region were evaluated qualitatively and quantitatively.

Results: As a result, 25 species have been determined and seven of these species are new record for the region. First mayfly records (18 species) from Ordu province were given for the first time in this study. Also, ten of the identified species were first records for Artvin, two for Bayburt, three for Giresun, five for Gümüşhane, three for Rize and two for Trabzon. Turkey Ephemeroptera fauna consists of 157 species. The Eastern Black Sea region represents the turkey fauna with 56 species. Accordingly, the Eastern Black Sea region represents 35.7% of Turkey mayfly fauna. Of these, 46% belong to Heptageniidae and 29% belong to the family Baetidae. The remaining 25% is composed of other species belonging to 6 families. The Heptageniidae species are dominant because of the high amount of rainfall and flow in the region. Due to the scarcity of aquatic plants and sandy areas the diversity of habitat is limited.

Keywords: The Eastern Black Sea Region, Ephemeroptera, Fauna, Turkey