

Influence of Water Chemistry on the Structure of Planktonic Ciliate Communities across a Freshwater Ecotone in the Eutrophic Dam Reservoir (Eastern Poland) – Tomasz Mieczan, Monika Tarkowska-Kukuryk

Summary

The aim of the present study was to examine changes in species composition and density of ciliates in an adjacent river, ecotone and reservoir zone (Zemborzycki Reservoir, Eastern Poland). Quality and quantity structure of planktonic ciliates showed visible differences between studied zones; the highest species diversity and abundance were observed in the ecotone (water/water). The lowest species diversity and abundance were noted in the Bystrzyca River. Independent on the zone, ciliates community was dominated by bacterivorous species with the lowest proportions of algivorous taxa. The present study showed that density of protozooplankton rose with the increase of nutrients delivery and TOC concentration in water.