



Using Insects as Bio-Indicators to Assess Water Quality of Albanian Rivers[#]

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Abstract: The communities of aquatic insects are affected by several factors related to water quality, stream morphology, food availability and quality. Among aquatic insects, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera (EPT) are very important in assessing water quality. As well as chemical indicators, bio-indicators are used in to define the water quality. EPT (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera) richness biotic index and TV are used to classify the water quality level of three Albanian rivers (Vjosa, Shkumbini and Buna-north center and south Albania). Our data prove that SEPT is 15 and Biotic Index 2.55 for Vjosa River; SEPT 13 Biotic Index 1.98 for Shkumbini River; SEPT 19 and Biotic Index 2.67 for Buna River. Related to these results we can conclude that the water quality of those rivers is still very good.

Key words: *EPT, TV, Biotic index, water quality.*

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