

Abstract

The present study was carried out to investigate the benthic invertebrates of the Mehtabi Lake, Changa Manga, Forest, Kasur, Pakistan.

The visits were planned periodically from December 2015 to August 2016 (Total 9 visits) at the study site. The zooplankton samples were taken by the Plankton Net. The benthos samples were taken by the Ekman Dredge. The mud was sieved and the animals were separated and preserved in formalin. The specimens were identified with the help of identification key.

The physico-chemical parameters of water were also measured. These include temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, carbon dioxide, electrical conductivity and total dissolved solids.

The macroinvertebrates found in the lake were *Paludestina*, *Lymnaea*, *Gyraulus*, *Pyrgulopsis*, Unionoida (two species), *Corbicula*, *Gammaras*, Oligochaeta, Chironomidae Larvae and Diptera Pupa. Total species of benthic invertebrates found were 11.

The diversity of species was calculated by Shannon's Diversity Index and Simpson's Diversity Index. The results showed that there is not too much diversity in the lake. The number of different species fluctuated during different months of the year depending upon the physico-chemical parameters of lake water. The presence and absence of different species in different months was also observed.