

**PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS OF DOMINANT GROUPS OF THE
MACROZOOBENTHOS OF MAVROVO LAKE**

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Abstract: The samples for this research were collected during one year (2015/16), seasonally from 5 different localities – Old church (village Mavrovo), Mavrovo Lake and River, Nikiforovo Lake and River, Leunovo Lake and River, and the Dam and Mavrovi Anovi. We found presence of 5 different groups of macrozoobenthos in the Mavrovo Lake: *Gastropoda* (snails), *Oligochaeta* (earthworms), *Hirudinea* (leech), *Crustacea* (crabs) and *Insecta* (insects).

In the winter season, we discovered presence of the class *Hirudinea* (fam. *Erpobdellidae*) and class *Insecta* (order *Ephemeroptera* and *Plecoptera*); in the spring season there was found class *Hirudinea* (fam. *Erpobdellidae*), class *Insecta* (order *Ephemeroptera* and *Trichoptera*), class *Crustacea* (genus *Gammarus*) and class *Oligochaeta*; in the summer season we found the group snails - class *Gastropoda* (fam. *Lymneidae*) and insects (order *Coleoptera*); and also, in the fall season we had the biggest diversity: snails, (fam. *Lymnaeidae*, *Helicidae*, *Planorbidae*) earthworms (*Oligochaeta*), class *Hirudinea* (*Erpobdellidae*) and insects (order *Ephemeroptera*, *Diptera*, *Coleoptera*). The dominant group in all four seasons were the the class *Insecta* (insects).

According to the physico-chemical analysis of the water, lake belongs to the 2nd water category, according to the Regulation of Water Classification. The water is with good quality. This is in terms of the samples taken from the coastal zone of the lake.

Key words: Mavrovo Lake, macrozoobenthos, quality composition

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