

Stygologia in press

PRODUCTION OF A HARPACTICOID MEIOFAUNA COMMUNITY OF A SECOND  
ORDER MOUNTAIN STREAM  
(RITRODAT-LUNZ study area, Austria)

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Abstract:

As a part of the long term project RITRODAT-LUNZ the production of a harpacticoid copepod *Limnocalanus macrurus* (Mrázek) is investigated. The study area (Ritrodat area) is a part of the Oberer Seebach the inflow of the Lunzer Untersee. This stream is a second order gravel brook dominated by Chironomids. Harpacticoids form 11% of the whole river fauna and *Limnocalanus macrurus* is about 70% of the harpacticoid copepods occurring in the stream. Production of this copepod, the most important member of the meiofauna, is compared with production of Chironomids to give an impression of the trophic importance of meiofauna in this mountain stream. Abundance is based on freezing core samples taken from February, 1986, to February, 1987. As reproduction occurs over the whole year no cohorts can be distinguished. To make an estimation of production possible, development-periods are determined in the laboratory and compared with field data. On this basis elimination rates are calculated. With abundances, dry weight, and elimination rate production is estimated using the instantaneous growth rate method.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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