



## A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF THE PHYTOPLANKTON IN THE EUPHRATES RIVER (MIDDLE EUPHRATES), IRAQ

Dunia Bahel Gadaan Al- Ghanimy\* and Hussain Yousif Kalaf Al-Rekabi\*\*

\*Department of Biology, College of Education, Al-Qadisiyah University, Iraq.

\*\* Department of Community Health, Technical Institute, South technical university, Al-Nassiriah, Thi- Qar, Iraq  
Dunia.Gadaan@qu.edu.iq

### Abstract

The current study has applied on the Euphrates River for a full year from May 2013 until April 2014. Four sites selected along the river within three provinces; Babylon, Najaf, Al-Qadisiyah. The number of diagnosed species of Phytoplankton was 295 species, belonging to 74 genera. The Diatoms (Bacillariophyceae) won the biggest part of it as it formed 160 species- 35 genera (54.24%), followed by green algae (70 species belonging to 24 genera) and blue green algae (52 species belonging to 11 genera) then Euglenophyceae (10 species belonging to two genera). While golden brown algae and Pyrrophyceae were, less algal groups registered two species. Some types of phytoplankton existed in most of the duration of the study, including *Bacillaria paxillifera*, *Cocconies placentula*, *Cyclotella meneghiniana*, *Diatoma elongatum*, *Fragilaria virescence*, *Melosira ambigua*, *Synedra acus*.

**Keywords:** phytoplankton , Euphrates River (Middle Euphrates) ,Iraq.

### Introduction

Phytoplankton is the first part in the food chain and has used extensively by many scientists to monitor the quality and health of aquatic ecosystems as used to assess the effectiveness of water monitoring programs (Eyo *et al.*, 2013). Phytoplankton is highly sensitive to environmental changes and is low in cost when combined. Their Samples can be preserve for a long time and this sample remains with the same analysis results if new samples are collected. In addition, preserved samples require little space to store them (Kane, 2004; Al-Gahwari, 2003; Schindler, 1987). Phytoplankton has also distinguished from other organisms that used in water quality indices by shortening their life cycle, their re-growth and their rapid response to human changes (Wu *et al.*, 2012). Phytoplankton is the main source of energy in aquatic ecosystems. Zooplankton is the link between the primary product and fish (Tátrai *et al.*, 1997). The abundance, distribution, composition, and diversity of phytoplankton are the most bioindicators of water status (Townsend *et al.*, 2000). Phytoplankton reflects nutrient status in the environment and because of its limited movement, it has frequently used as evidence of the state of water systems (Barnes, 1980).

Abagair *et al.* (2011); Leelahakriengkrai & Peerapornpaisal (2010) emphasis on the role of plankton as evidence of water quality because of the limit of their life cycle and their ability to respond to changes in the environment, thus their quantitative and qualitative composition is reflective to the quality of water. The abundance and types of phytoplankton vary due to many factors such as discharge rates, hydrological properties, nutritional status and abundance of light (Kolayli & Sahin, 2009; Reynolds, 2006).

Some algae species used evidence of heavy element contamination for their ability to accumulate these elements (Al-Gahwari, 2003). Diatom has

promised good environmental evidence in estimating the environmental status of different water bodies, including rivers, because of their widespread abundance and being a major food source for many invertebrates and fish larvae that found in the water system (Blinn & Herbst, 2003; Stevenson & Pan, 1999).

There is some study in the world that use phytoplankton as bioindicator to estimate the environmental state of the water body. In southern Brazilian, Phytoplankton has used to detect organic and inorganic pollutants in Tibagi river. Since the distribution of these organisms depends on the quality of the water. The samples have collected from six sites in a quarterly manner. The number of phytoplankton species was 202, Zygothryx (Desmidiaceae) was the highest (48.5%) followed by Bacillariophyceae (25.0%), Chlorophocales (Chlorophyceae) (10%) and the other groups (Euglenophyta, Cyanophyta, Volvocales-Chlorophyceae, Chrysophyceae, and Tribophyceae) (16.5%). It has found that light was the most important physical factor affecting the distribution and composition of the plankton. The effect of the plants near-river on the plankton did not show (Bittencourt & Nascimento, 2001).

Vuuren & Pieterse (2005) studied the relationship between spatial changes in the composition of phytoplankton and the change of environmental factors in the Vaal River in South Africa. The most important environmental factors affecting algae abundance are Turbidity, conductivity, nutrient concentration, and nutrients (phosphates, nitrogen, and silica). Conductivity has spatially changed in concentrations as nutrients concentration decreased downstream while connectivity increased.

In China, phytoplankton has adopted as a bioindicator for determining the environmental condition of the Yongjiang River. The results showed

that the state of the river was good especially at the beginning of the river (Teng *et al.*, 2014).

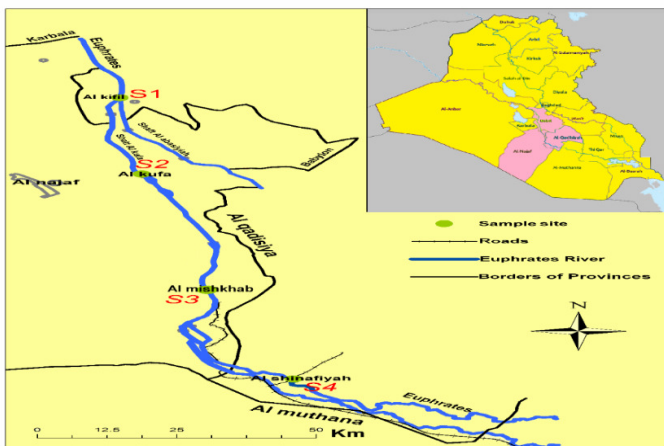
Local studies also use the phytoplankton for the same purpose above. Maulood *et al.* (2011) applied phytoplankton to estimate the environmental status of several marshes, southern Iraq.

Al-Janabi (2011) used phytoplankton in the index of biological integrity, which has applied to the Tigris River. It identified 223 species of phytoplankton and Bacillariophyceae (64.12%). The IBI has calculated using eight units and the value of the guide ranged from poor-marginal.

This study has applied on Euphrates River to explain the algal species present in this river and to know the factors affecting them greatly.

### Material and Method

The Euphrates River is one of the longest rivers in the Middle East and ranks 24th among the longest rivers in the world and stems from the mountainous region of southeastern Turkey. It was estimated to be about 2290 km long (Al-Massoudi, 2000) and has carried out within Iraqi territory for a distance of 1159 km without any tributaries. In these study four sites have selected on the Euphrates River to collect the study samples according to Figure (1).



**Fig. 1 :** A map showing sampling sites

The phytoplankton collection by the net with pores 20 micrometers in a diameter it used by towing in a direction opposite to the current of the water stream for 10-15 minutes. The filtration process has then taken and 250 ml was taken and placed in plastic bottles in refrigerated containers after have been saved by Lugol's solution in the field as explained by (Vollenweider 1974)

Temporary slides were prepared on X40 for the diagnosis of non-diatomic algae by using an optical microscope (type CYAN, Belgian) using some diagnostic sources including:(Wehr & Sheath, 2003; Belcher & Swale, 1976; Prescott, 1973; Desikachary, 1959)

The diatomic algae have diagnosed after dissolving the organic matter and explaining the diatom structures using concentrated nitric acid. The test has performed on 100X and the diagnosis was based on the diagnostic sources (Lavoie *et al.*, 2008; Germain 1981).

### Results and Discussion

The number of species identified in this study was 295 species, belonging to 74 genera. The predominance of Bacillariophyceae was the highest number of species, with 160 species belonging to 35 genera (54.24%) While Chlorophyceae was the second and recorded, 70 species of 24 genera (23.73%) followed by Cyanophyceae, 52 species returning to 11 genes, (17.63%). While Euglenophyceae reached 10 species belonging to two genera (3.39%). Chrysophyceae algae Pyrrophyceae has fewer species compared to other varieties and two species were returning to one genus (0.68%) and one species back to one genus (0.34%) respectively (Table 1).

The predominant of the diatom is a common condition in Iraqi waters such as (Hassan *et al.*, 2010 a, b; Al-Saadi *et al.*, 2000; Al-Lami *et al.*, 1998) on the same river under study. Leelahakriengkrai & peapornpisal, (2010), Moonsyn *et al.* (2009) noted that the dominance of diatoms is due to its ability to bear harsh environmental conditions such as lack of light as well as its ability to grow in different aquatic environments due to the silica cell wall. Because of the close relationship between them (Eyo *et al.*, 2013) and the effect of some physical and chemical factors on the growth and distribution of diatoms directly such as pH, electrical conductivity, oxygen and dissolved ions and turbidity (Hassan *et al.*, 2010a). Some species achieved significant dominance in some months of study such as *Microcystis aeruginosa* in the first site in August and *Bacillaria paxillifera* in the third and fourth sites in December and *Gomphonema lanceoatum* in third place in December and *Nitzschia sp.* In the fourth site in January and April and *Cocconeis sp.* In the first site in February and the first and second sites in April and *Melosira sp.* in the second, third and fourth sites in April and *Cyclotella sp.* In the fourth site in April.

**Table 1 :** Number, types, and percentages of phytoplankton species recorded in the study sites

The total number of species recorded in the study			4			3			2			1			Sites
%	Sp.	G.	%	Sp.	G.	%	Sp.	G.	%	Sp.	G.	%	Sp.	G.	Groups
17.63	52	11	16.31	23	9	21.14	37	10	16.86	29	11	13.24	27	10	Cyanophyta
23.73	70	24	17.02	24	13	22.86	40	19	21.51	37	17	23.53	48	22	Chlorophyta
3.39	10	2	2.84	4	2	1.71	3	1	2.91	5	1	1.96	4	2	Euglenophyta
0.34	1	1	0.71	1	1	-	-	-	0.58	1	1	0.49	1	1	Pyrrophyta
0.68	2	1	0.71	1	1	0.57	1	1	0.58	1	1	-	-	-	Crysophyta
54.24	160	35	62.41	88	27	53.71	94	28	57.56	99	25	60.78	124	33	Bacillariophyta
100		295/74	100	141/53	100	175/59	100	172/56	100	204	68				Total

The presence of some diatom species such as *Cyclotella*, *Nitzschia*, and *Gomphonema* indicates the presence of organic pollution and an increase in human activity and its negative effect (Albagair *et al.*, 2011) this is consistent with the study Hassan *et al.* (2010b) they reached the same results in a study of them on the river itself. Lind, (1979), confirmed that the increase of *Cyclotella meneghiniana* might be due to the presence of high concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>S gas. *Melosira* is also blooming to increase sulfate and silica (Mustapha, 2010).

Some of the phytoplankton recorded dominance in the number of species in some study sites, such as blue-green algae *Oscillatoria*, (20) species and green algae (*Pediastrum*, *Scenedesmus*, *Spirogyra*) recorded (6, 10, 8), respectively. *Euglena* recorded nine species, while diatoms showed seven species, including,

*Melosira* (Centrales), which recorded seven species and species (*Cymbella*, *Gomphonema*, *Navicula*, *Nitzschia*, *Surirella*, *Synedra*) include (17, 12, 21, 27, 6, and 6) species respectively (Table 2).

The increase in blue-green algae is due to its ability to compete with important nutrients such as phosphates and their ability to withstand temperatures (Kadhim, 2005) while Euglenophyta algae are associated with increased organic matter (Hassan *et al.*, 2014).

Most of the phytoplankton species found in the present study have a benthic origin, where they migrate with the water column by water currents, causing a large number of species, such as *Cymbella*, *Navicula*, *Nitzschia*, *Fragilaria*, *Cymbella Surirella*, *Oscillatoria*, and *Cymatopleura*. (Hosmani & Mruthunjaya, 2013; Udayashankara *et al.*, 2013; Karacaoglu *et al.*, 2004; Al-Lami *et al.*, 2000).

**Table 2 :** List of algae species identified in study sites

4	3	2	1	Taxa	Sites
<b>Cyanophyta</b>					
-	-	+	+	<i>Anabaena affinis</i> Lemmermann.	
+	+	+	-	<i>Anabaena sp.</i>	
+	-	+	+	<i>A.variabilis</i> Ktz.	
-	+	+	+	<i>Aphanocapsa endophytica</i> G.M.Smith.	
-	+	-	+	<i>A.rivularis</i> (Carm.) Rabenhorst.	
-	+	+	+	<i>Chroococcus dispersus</i> (Keissl) Lemmermann.	
+	+	+	+	<i>C.dispersus var.minor</i> G.M.Smith.	
-	+	-	-	<i>C.limneticus</i> Lemmermann.	
-	-	+	+	<i>C.minutus</i> (Kutz.) Naegeli.	
-	-	+	-	<i>C.varius</i> A.Braun.	
+	-	+	-	<i>Gloeocapsa aeruginosa</i> (Garm) Keutzing.	
-	+	+	-	<i>Lyngbya major</i> Meneghini.	
-	-	-	+	<i>L.hieronymusii</i> Lemmer.	
+	-	+	-	<i>L.nordgardhii</i> Wille.	
-	-	+	-	<i>L.taylorii</i> Drouet & Strickland.	
-	+	-	-	<i>L.versicolor</i> (Wartmann) Gomont.	
-	-	-	+	<i>Merismopedia convolute</i> de Brebison.	
+	+	+	+	<i>M.elegans</i> A.Braun.	
-	+	+	+	<i>M.glauc</i> (Ehr.) Naegeli.	
+	+	+	+	<i>M.punctata</i> Heyen.	
+	+	+	+	<i>M.tenussima</i> Lemmermann.	
-	+	+	+	<i>Microcystis aeruginosa</i> Kuetzing.	
-	-	+	-	<i>Nostoc commune</i> Vaucher.	
+	+	+	+	<i>N.linckia</i> (Roth) Bornet & Thuret.	
+	+	-	+	<i>Oscillatoria amoena</i> (Ktz.) Gomont.	
-	+	+	+	<i>O.amphibia</i> Agardh.	
-	+	-	-	<i>O.angusta</i> Koppe.	
-	+	+	-	<i>O.angustissima</i> West and West.	
-	+	+	-	<i>O.chalybea</i> Mertens.	
+	+	-	+	<i>O.curviceps</i> Agardh.	
+	+	+	+	<i>O.formosa</i> Bory.	
+	+	-	+	<i>O.granulata</i> Gardner.	
+	+	-	+	<i>O.lacustris</i> (Klebahn) Geitler.	
+	+	-	+	<i>O.limnetica</i> Lemmermann.	
-	+	-	-	<i>O.limosa</i> Roth Agardh.	
+	+	-	-	<i>O.minima</i> Gicklhorn.	
+	+	-	-	<i>O.nigra</i> Vaucher.	
-	+	-	-	<i>O.princeps</i> Vaucher.	
-	+	-	-	<i>O.rubescens</i> de Candolle.	

-	+	-	-	<i>O.sancta</i> (Ktz.) Gomont.
-	+	+	+	<i>Oscillatoria</i> sp.
+	+	+	-	<i>O.subbrevis</i> Schmidle.
+	+	+	+	<i>O.tenuis</i> Agardh.
+	+	-	-	<i>O.tenuis</i> var. <i>tergestina</i> Rabenhorst.
+	-	-	+	<i>Phormidium ambiguum</i> Gomont.
-	+	-	-	<i>P. inundatum</i> Ktz.
-	-	+	-	<i>P. tenue</i> (Menegh) Gom.
-	+	-	-	<i>Spirulina laxa</i> G.M.Smith.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. major</i> Ktz.
+	-	-	-	<i>S.nordstedtii</i> Gom.
-	-	-	+	<i>S.platensis</i> (Nordst.) Geitler.
-	-	+	-	<i>S. subsalsa</i> Oersted.
<b>Chlorophyta</b>				
+	+	+	+	<i>Actinastrum hantzschii</i> Lagerheim.
-	-	+	+	<i>Ankistrodesmus falcatus</i> (Corda.) Ralfs.
+	-	+	+	<i>A.falcatus</i> var. <i>mirabilis</i> G.S.West.
-	+	+	+	<i>Asterococcus limneticus</i> G.M.Smith.
-	-	-	+	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i> Beijerinck.
-	-	-	+	<i>Cladophora crispate</i> (Roth.) Ktz.
-	-	+	+	<i>C. fracta</i> (Dillw.) Ktz.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.glomerata</i> (L.) Ktz.
-	+	+	-	<i>C.insignis</i> (Ag.C.A) Kg.
-	-	+	-	<i>Clamydomonas epiphytica</i> G.M.Smith.
-	-	-	+	<i>C.polypyreoideum</i> Prescott.
-	+	+	+	<i>C.snowiae</i> Printz.
-	+	-	+	<i>Closterium acerosum</i> (Schrank.) Ehrenberg.
-	+	-	-	<i>C.acutum</i> Brébisson.
+	-	-	-	<i>C. lunula</i> (Muell) Nitzsch.
-	+	+	+	<i>Coelastrum microporum</i> Naeg.
-	-	-	+	<i>C.reticulatum</i> (Dang.) Senn.
+	+	+	+	<i>Cosmarium granatum</i> de Brebisson.
-	-	-	+	<i>Crucigenia irregularis</i> Wille.
-	-	-	+	<i>C.quadrata</i> Morren.
+	+	+	-	<i>C. rectangularis</i> A.Braun.
-	+	-	-	<i>Gonium</i> sp.
-	+	+	+	<i>Microspora stagnorum</i> (Ktz.) Lagh.
-	+	-	-	<i>Mougeotia genuflexa</i> (Dillwyn.) C.Agardh.
+	+	+	-	<i>M. scalaris</i> Hassal.
-	-	-	+	<i>Mougeotia</i> sp.
-	+	-	-	<i>M.viridis</i> (Ktz.) Wittrock.
-	-	-	+	<i>Mougeotiopsis calospora</i> Palla.
+	+	+	+	<i>Oedogonium crissum</i> (Hass.) Wittrock.
-	+	-	-	<i>O.gracilius</i> (Wittr.) Tiffany.
-	+	+	-	<i>O.intermedium</i> Wittrock.
-	-	-	+	<i>O.varians</i> Wittrock & Lundell.
-	-	-	+	<i>Oocystis borgei</i> Snow.
+	-	-	-	<i>O.solitaria</i> Wittrock.
-	-	-	+	<i>Pediastrum duplex</i> Meyen.
+	-	-	-	<i>Pediastrum duplex</i> var. <i>gracillimum</i> West & G.S.West.
-	-	+	+	<i>P. duplex</i> var. <i>reticulatum</i> Lagerh.
+	+	+	+	<i>P.simplex</i> Meyen.
-	+	-	+	<i>P.simplex</i> var. <i>duodenarium</i> (Bailey) Rabenh.
-	-	+	+	<i>P.simplex</i> var. <i>radians</i> Lemm.
-	-	-	+	<i>Scenedesmus abundans</i> (Kirch.) Chodat.
-	-	+	-	<i>Scenedesmus abundans</i> var. <i>longicauda</i> G.M.Smith
+	+	-	+	<i>S.acuminatus</i> (Lag.) Chodat.
+	+	+	+	<i>S.bijuga</i> (Turp) lagher.
+	+	+	+	<i>S.dimorphus</i> (Turp) Ktz.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. quadricauda</i> (Turp.) de Brebisson.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. quadricauda</i> var. <i>longispina</i> (Chodat) G.M.Smith.

+	+	+	+	<i>S.quadricauda var.maximus</i> West & West.
-	+	-	+	<i>S.quadricauda var. parvus</i> G.M.Smith.
-	+	+	-	<i>S.quadricauda var. quadrispina</i> (Chodat) G.M.Smith.
-	+	-	-	<i>Spirogyra crassa</i> Ktz.
-	-	+	-	<i>S.collinsii</i> (Lewis) Printz.
+	-	+	+	<i>S.deadaloides</i> Czurda.
-	+	-	+	<i>S.pratensis</i> Transeau.
+	+	-	+	<i>S.porticalis</i> (Muell.) Petit.
+	+	+	+	<i>Spirogyra</i> sp.
-	+	+	+	<i>S. subsalina</i> Cederereutz.
+	+	+	+	<i>S.varians</i> (Hassall) Ktz.
-	+	-	+	<i>Staurastrum gracile var. nanum</i> . Wille.
-	-	+	+	<i>S. paradoxum</i> Meyen.
-	-	+	-	<i>Tetraedron minimum</i> (A.Braun) Hansg.
+	-	+	+	<i>T.muticum</i> (A. Braun.) Hansg.
+	+	-	+	<i>T. regulare</i> Ktz.
-	+	-	-	<i>Ulothrix cylindricum</i> Prescott.
-	-	-	+	<i>Ulothrix</i> sp.
-	-	+	-	<i>Ulothrix subtilissima</i> Rabenhorst.
+	+	+	+	<i>U.variabilis</i> (Ktz.) Kirchner.
-	+	+	-	<i>U.zonata</i> (Weber & Mohr. ) Ktz.
-	+	-	-	<i>Volvox aureus</i> Ehren.
-	-	-	+	<i>Zygnema pectinatum</i> (Vauch.) Agardh.
<b>Euglenophyta</b>				
-	+	+	-	<i>Euglena acus</i> Ehrenberg.
-	-	+	-	<i>E.convoluta</i> Korshikov.
-	-	-	+	<i>E. deses</i> Ehrenberg.
-	-	+	-	<i>E.elastica</i> Prescott.
+	-	-	-	<i>E. gracilis</i> Klebs.
-	+	-	-	<i>E.oxyuris var. minor</i> De Flandra.
+	-	-	+	<i>E.polymorpha</i> Dangeread.
+	+	+	+	<i>E.proxima</i> Dangeread.
-	-	+	-	<i>Euglena</i> sp.
+	-	-	+	<i>Phacus acuminatus</i> Stoken.
<b>Pyrophyta</b>				
+	-	+	+	<i>Ceratium hirundinella</i> (Muell.) Du Jardin.
<b>Chrysochyta</b>				
+	-	+	-	<i>Dinobryon sertularia</i> Ehrenberg.
-	+	-	-	<i>D. sociale</i> Ehrenberg.
<b>Bacillariophyceae</b>				
<b>Centrales</b>				
+	+	+	+	<i>Aulacoseria ambigua</i> O.Muller.
+	+	-	+	<i>A.distans</i> ( Ehr.) Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>A. granulata</i> Her. Ralfs.
+	+	+	+	<i>A.granulata var. angustissima</i> Mueller.
+	+	+	+	<i>A. italic</i> ( Ehr.) Kutz.
-	+	+	+	<i>Coscinodiscus lacustris</i> Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>Cyclotella comta</i> ( Ehr. ) Kuetzing.
-	+	+	+	<i>C. glomerata</i> Bachmann.
+	+	+	+	<i>C. meneghiniana</i> Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.ocellata</i> Pantocsek.
+	-	+	+	<i>C.stelligera</i> (Cl.Et Grun.) Van Heurck.
-	+	-	+	<i>Melosira jurgensis</i> Agardhi.
-	+	+	+	<i>M.varains</i> Agardh.
+	-	-	+	<i>Rhizosolenia longiseta</i> Zacharias.
+	+	-	+	<i>Stephanodiscus astaea</i> (Ehr.) Grun.
-	-	-	+	<i>Cyclostephanos novaezeelandiae</i> (Cleve) Round Zacharias.
-	-	-	+	<i>S.hantzschii</i> Grunow.
-	+	+	+	<i>Thalassiosira weissflogii</i> (Grunow) G.Fryxell & Hasle.
<b>Pennales</b>				
+	+	+	+	<i>Achnanthes affine</i> (Grunow) Zarnecki.

-	+	-	+	<i>A.conspica</i> A.Mayer.
-	+	-	-	<i>A.delicatula</i> (Ktz.) Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>Amphipleura pellucida</i> (Ktz.) Kuetzing.
+	+	-	-	<i>Amphiprora alata</i> (Ehr.) Kuetzing.
-	-	+	-	<i>Amphora ovalis</i> (ktz.) Kuetzing.
-	-	-	+	<i>A. pediculus</i> kuetz.
+	+	+	+	<i>A. veneta</i> Kuetzing.
-	+	-	+	<i>Asterionella Formosa</i> Hass.
-	-	-	+	<i>A. japonica</i> Cl.And Mueller.
+	+	+	+	<i>Bacillaria paxillifer</i> (Muell.) Hendey.
+	+	+	+	<i>Caloneis amphisbaena</i> (Bory) Cleve.
+	-	-	-	<i>C. bacillum</i> (Grun.) Cleve.
+	+	+	-	<i>C.permagna</i> (Bail.) Cleve.
-	-	+	-	<i>C.ventricosa</i> (Ehr.) Meister.
+	+	+	+	<i>Cocconeis disculus</i> (Schumann) Cleve.
-	+	+	+	<i>C. pediculus</i> Ehrenberg.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.placentula</i> Ehrenberg.
-	+	+	+	<i>C.placentula var.euglypta</i> (Ehr) Cleve.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.placentula var. lineata</i> (Ehr.) Cleve.
+	-	-	+	<i>Cymatopleura elliptica</i> (Breb.) W.Smith.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.solea</i> (Berb.) W.Smith.
+	+	+	+	<i>Cymbella affinis</i> Kuetzing.
-	-	+	+	<i>C.amphicephala</i> Naegeli.
-	-	+	-	<i>C.caespitosa</i> Kuetzing.
+	-	+	+	<i>C.cesati</i> Grun.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.cistulal</i> (Ehr.)Kirchn.
+	-	-	-	<i>C. cymbiformis</i> (Ktz.) Van Heurck.
-	-	+	+	<i>C.gracilis</i> (Rabenhorst) Cleve.
+	-	-	+	<i>C.helvetica</i> Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.lanceolata</i> (Ehr.)
+	+	+	+	<i>C.leptoceros</i> (Ehr.) Grunow.
-	+	+	+	<i>C.microcephale</i> Grunow.
-	+	+	+	<i>C.obtusiucula</i> Kutz.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.parva</i> (W.Smith) Kitchn.
-	-	-	+	<i>C.prostrate</i> (Hrek.) Cleve.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.tumida</i> (Breb.) van. Heurck.
-	+	+	+	<i>C.turgida</i> (Greg.) Cleve.
+	+	+	+	<i>C.ventricosa</i> Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>Diatoma elongatum</i> ( Lyngb ) Agardh .
-	+	-	+	<i>D.hiemale var. mesodon</i> ( Her.) Grum.
+	+	+	+	<i>D. vulgare</i> Bory.
-	-	+	+	<i>D.vulgare var. producta</i> Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>Diploneis ovalis</i> (Hilse) Cleve.
-	+	-	+	<i>Eunotia pectinalis var. undulata</i> (Ralfs) Rabenhorst.
+	+	+	+	<i>Fragillaria capucina</i> Desmazieres.
-	-	+	+	<i>F.construnes var. subsinalia</i> Hustedt.
+	+	+	+	<i>F. crotonensis</i> Kitton.
-	-	+	-	<i>F.intermedia</i> Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>F.virescens</i> Ralfs.
-	-	-	+	<i>Gomphoneis olivaceum</i> (Horne) P.Dawson ex Ross et sims.
-	-	+	-	<i>Gomphonema abbreviatum</i> C.Agardh.
+	-	+	+	<i>G. angustatum</i> (Ktz) Rabenhorst.
+	+	+	+	<i>G.angustatum var.productum</i> Grunow.
+	-	+	+	<i>G.constrictum</i> Ehrenberg.
-	-	+	+	<i>G.constrictum var. capitata</i> (Ehr.) Grunow.
-	-	-	+	<i>G. fanesis</i> Maillard.
+	-	-	-	<i>G. gracile</i> Ehrenberg.
-	+	+	+	<i>G. intricatum</i> Kuetzing.
-	-	+	+	<i>G. intricatum var. lunata</i> nov.
+	+	+	+	<i>G.lanceolatum</i> Ehr.
-	+	-	+	<i>G.longiceps</i> Her.

+	+	-	+	<i>G.tergestinum</i> (Grun.)
+	+	+	+	<i>Gyrosigma acuminatum</i> (Ktz) Rabenhorst.
+	+	+	-	<i>G. attenuatum</i> (Ktz.) Rabenhorst.
+	-	-	-	<i>G. balticum</i> (Ehr.) Cleve.
+	+	-	+	<i>G.macrum</i> ( W.Smith) Griff et.Henfr.
+	+	+	+	<i>G.spenceri</i> var. <i>nodifera</i> Grunow.
+	-	-	-	<i>G.strigilis</i> (W.Smith). Griff et. Henfr.
+	-	-	-	<i>Mastogloia smithii</i> Thw. Ex W.Sm.
+	-	+	+	<i>Navicula anglica</i> Ralfs.
-	-	+	+	<i>N.cincta</i> (Ehr).
-	-	-	+	<i>N. cincta</i> var. <i>houfleri</i> Grunow.
-	+	-	-	<i>N. crucicula</i> (W.Smith) Donkan.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.cryptocephala</i> Kuetzing.
+	-	-	-	<i>N. cymbula</i> Donk.
+	+	-	+	<i>N. dicephala</i> Ehrenberg.
-	+	+	-	<i>N. fraglaroides</i> Krasska.
-	+	-	+	<i>N.gastrum</i> (Ehr.) Kuetzing.
+	-	-	-	<i>N.gracilis</i> (Ehr.).
+	-	+	+	<i>N.grimmei</i> Krasske.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.halophila</i> (Grun.) Cleve.
-	+	+	-	<i>N.lanceolata</i> (Ag.) Kuetzing.
-	-	+	-	<i>N.pupula</i> Kuetzing.
-	-	+	-	<i>N.pygmaea</i> Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.radiosa</i> var. <i>tenella</i> (Breb.) Grunow.
+	+	-	+	<i>N.rhycocephala</i> Kuetzing.
-	+	-	+	<i>N. spicula</i> (Hickie) Cleve.
-	+	-	+	<i>N. travials</i> Betalot.
+	-	-	-	<i>N. tuscula</i> Ehr.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.viridula</i> var. <i>rostellata</i> Kutz.
-	+	+	+	<i>Neidium affine</i> (Ehr.) Pfitz.
+	-	-	-	<i>N.iridis</i> (Ehr.) Cleve.
-	+	+	+	<i>Nitzschia acicularis</i> (Ktz.) W. smith.
-	-	-	+	<i>N.apiculata</i> (Greg.) Grunow.
+	-	+	-	<i>N.clausii</i> Hantzsch.
-	+	-	-	<i>N.closterium</i> (Ehr.) W.Smith.
-	+	+	+	<i>N.dissipata</i> (Ktz) Grunow.
-	-	-	+	<i>N.dubia</i> W.Smith.
-	-	-	+	<i>N. fasciculate</i> (Grun.) Grunow.
-	-	-	+	<i>N.fonticola</i> Grunow.
-	-	-	+	<i>N.frustulum</i> (Ktz.) Grunow.
+	-	-	-	<i>N.gracilis</i> Hantzsch.
-	-	-	+	<i>N.hantzschiana</i> Rabenhorst.
-	+	+	+	<i>N.hungarica</i> Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.ignorata</i> Krasske.
+	-	-	-	<i>N.intermedia</i> Hantzsch ex Cleve et Grun.
-	+	-	+	<i>N.linearis</i> W.Smith.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.longissima</i> (Breb.) Ralfs.
-	-	-	+	<i>N. microcephala</i> Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>N.navicularis</i> (Breb. ex Ktz.) Grun.
+	+	+	+	<i>N. obtusa</i> W.Smith.
-	+	+	+	<i>N.palea</i> (Ktz.)W.Smith.
+	-	-	-	<i>N. pusilla</i> (Ktz.) Gruno.
+	+	-	+	<i>N.romana</i> Grunow.
-	-	+	-	<i>N.sigma</i> (Kutz.)W.Smith.
+	+	+	+	<i>N. sigmoidea</i> (Ehr.) W. Smith.
+	-	+	+	<i>N.trybionella</i> Hantzsch.
-	-	+	+	<i>N.trybionella</i> var. <i>levidensis</i> (W.Smith) Grunow.
+	+	+	+	<i>N. vermicularis</i> (Ktz.). Hantzsch.
-	-	+	+	<i>Peronia fabula</i> Ross.
+	-	-	-	<i>Pinnularia biceps</i> Gregory.
-	+	-	+	<i>P. gentilis</i> (Donk.) Cleve.

-	+	-	-	<i>P. viridis</i> (Nitzsch.) Ehrenberg.
+	+	+	+	<i>Rhoicosphenia curvata</i> (Ktz.) Grunow.
-	-	-	+	<i>R. curvata</i> var. <i>marina</i> (W. Smith) Grunow.
+	-	-	+	<i>Rhopalodia gibba</i> (Ehr.) O. Mueller.
-	-	+	-	<i>R. gibberula</i> (Ehr.) O. Mueller.
-	-	-	+	<i>Stauroneis anceps</i> Ehrenberg.
+	-	+	-	<i>Surirella capronii</i> de Brebisson ex. Ktz.
+	+	-	+	<i>S. ovata</i> Ktz.
-	-	+	-	<i>S. ovalis</i> de Brebisson.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. robusta</i> Ehrenberg.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. robusta</i> var. <i>splendida</i> (Ehr.) Van Heurck.
-	+	-	-	<i>S. tenera</i> Gregory.
+	+	+	+	<i>Synedra acus</i> Kuetzing.
-	-	+	+	<i>S. affinis</i> Kutz.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. capitata</i> Ehrenberg.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. pulchella</i> (Ralfs) Kuetzing.
+	+	+	+	<i>S. ulna</i> (Nitzsch.) Ehrenberg.
-	-	+	+	<i>S. ulna</i> var. <i>danica</i> (Ktz) Van Heurck.
-	-	-	+	<i>Tabellaria fenestrata</i> (Lyng.) Kuetzing.

(+ species present, - species not found))

The results emphasize that the first site obtained the highest number of species, 204 species belonging to 68 genera, while the fourth site has recorded the lowest number of species, 141 species belonging to 53 genera. This may be due to different environmental conditions such as the presence of aquatic plants that help the growth of varied numbers of algae that attached to them and their separation cause increase in the number of phytoplankton. The density of residential, industrial plant, wind and deep of water bodies also effect on the variety of phytoplankton. (Karacaoglu *et al.*, 2004).

### References

- Abagair, T.; Tiseer, F.A.; Balarabe, M.L.; Tanimu, Y. and Tanko, D. (2011) Seasonal Survey of Phytoplankton as Bioindicators of Water Quality in the Stream of Kagoro Forest, Kaduna State- Northern Nigeria. International Symposium on Environmental Science and Technology, published by Science Press, USA, 37–41.
- Al-Gahwari, Y.A. (2003). Use of Phytoplankton abundance and species diversity for monitoring Coastal Water quality. MSc. Thesis, University Sains Malaysia.
- Al-Lami, A.A.; Al-Saadi, H.A.; Kassim, T.I. and Al-Aubaidi, K.H. (1998). On The Limnological Features of Euphrates River, Iraq. J. Edu. Sci. 29: 38–50.
- Al-Lami, A.A.; Kassim, T.I. and Salman, S.K. (2000). Phytoplankton of Tigris river, Iraq. First Scientific regional conf. for Ecosystem Pollution and its protection, Baghdad 5-6 October.
- Al-Saadi, H.A.; Kassim, T.I.; Al-Lami, A.A. and Salman, S.K. (2000). Spatial and Seasonal Variations of Phytoplankton Populations in the Upper Region of the Euphrates River, Iraq. Limnologica, 30: 83-90.
- Al-Janabi, Z.Z. (2011). Indices Application of Water Quality and Biological Integrity for Tigris River with in Baghdad City. M.Sc. Thesis in Ecology, University of Baghdad -College of Science for Women. (In Arabic).
- Al-Massoudi, R.M.A. (2000). Water Resources and Their Role in Agricultural Production in Karbala Governorate, Master Thesis, Baghdad University - Faculty of Education (Ibn Rushid). (In Arabic).
- Barnes, R.S.K. (1980). Coastal Lagoons. Part of Cambridge Studies in Modern Biology. 2nd Edn. Cambridge University Press, London, U.K, 120 pp.
- Belcher, H. and Swale, E. (1976). A beginner's guide to Freshwater Algae. Printed in England by McCorquodate, Ltd, London, 48.
- Bittencourt-Oliveira, M.D.C. and Nascimento, M.A.D. (2001). Influence of abiotic variables and polluting source in the structure of the phytoplankton community in the Tibagi River Parana state, South Brazil. Algological Studies 101 = Archiv für Hydrobiologie, Supplement, Arch. Hydrobiol. Suppl. 137: 75–95.
- Blinn, D.W. and Herbst, D. (2003). Use of Diatoms and Softalgae as Indicators of Stream Abiotic Determinants in the Lahontan Basin. Final report to the California Regional water Quality control Board, Lahontan region and the California state water Resource control Board, 1-10.
- Desikachary, T.V. (1959) Cyanophyta, University Botany Laboratory. Madras, 686.
- Eyo, V.O.; Ekpo, P.B.; Andem, A.B. and Okorafor, K.A. (2013). Ecology and Diversity of Phytoplankton in the Great Kwa River, Cross River State, Nigeria. International Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Studies, 1(2): 1-7.
- Germain, H. (1981). Flora des Diatomees Diatom phyees eau deuces et summates dumassif Americiom et des contrees voisines d Europe occidentale. Societe nouvelle des Edition Boubee, paris. 443.
- Hassan, F.M.; Al-Tae, M.M. and Mohammed, A.B. (2010a). A limnological study in Euphrates River from Al - Hindiya Barrage to Al - Kifil city, Iraq. Basrah journal of Science, 28(2): 273- 288.
- Hassan, F.M.; Salman, J.M.; Alkam, F.M. and Jawad, H.J. (2014). Ecological Observations on Epipellic Algae in Euphrates River at Hindiya and Manathira, Iraq. International Journal of Advanced Research, 2 (4): 1183-1194.
- Hassan, F.M.; Taylor, W.D.; Al-Tae, M.S. and Al-Fatlawi, H.J.J. (2010b). Phytoplankton composition of Euphrates river between Al-Hindiya Barrage and Kifil city, Iraq. J. Environ. Biol., 31: 343 -350.



- Hosmani, S.P. and Mruthunjaya, T.B. (2013). Impact of Plankton diversity on the Water Quality Index in a Lake at Thirumakudal Narasipura Mysore District. *International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology*, 2(5): 1434–1441.
- Kane, D.D. (2004). The Development of Planktonic Index of Biotic Integrity for Lake Erie. Ph.D. Thesis, The Ohio State University, Columbus. 299 pp.
- Karacaoglu, D.; Derer, S. and Dalkiran, N. (2004). A Taxonomic Study on the Phytoplankton of Lake Uluabat (Bursa). *Turk. J. Bot.*, 28: 473–485.
- Kolayli, S. and Sahin, B. (2009). Species composition and diversity of epipelagic algae in Balikli dam reservoir, Turkey. *J. Environ. Biol.*, 30(6): 939–944.
- Lavoie, I.; Hamilton, P.B.; Campeau, S.; Grenier, M. and Dillon, P.J. (2008). *Diatomées, Guide d'identification des rivières de l'Est du Canada*. Presses de l'Université du Québec, Canada, 244.
- Leelahakriengkrai, P. and Peerapornpisal, Y. (2010). Diversity of benthic diatoms and water quality of the ping river Northern Thailand. *Environment Asia*, The international journal published by the Thai Society of Higher Education Institutes on Environment, 3(1): 82–94.
- Lind, O.T. (1979). *Hand book of common method in limnology*. C. V. Mosby co., St. Louis. 199.
- Maulood, B.K.; Alobaidy, A.H.M.J.; Alsaboondi, A.; Abid, H.S. and Alobaidy, G.S. (2011). Phytoplankton Index of Biological Integrity (P-IBI) in Several Marshes, Southern IRAQ. *Journal of Environmental Protection*, 2: 387–394.
- Moonsyn, P.; Peerapornpisal, Y.; Swasdipan, N. and Pimmongkol, A. (2009) Benthic diatom diversity and water quality in the Mekong river in the Vicinity of Ubon Ratchathani province. *Journal of Microscopy society of Thailand*, 23(1): 47–51.
- Mustapha, M.K. (2010). Seasonal Influence of Limnological Variables on Plankton Dynamics of a Small, Shallow, Tropical African Reservoir. *Asian J. Exp. Biol. Sci.*, 1(1): 60–79.
- Prescott, G.W. (1973). *Algae of the western Great lake Area*. William. C. Brown Dubuque. 977.
- Reynolds, C.S. (2006). *The ecology of phytoplankton*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK. 535.
- Schindler, D.W. (1987). Detecting Ecosystem Response to Anthropogenic Stress. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*, 44: 6–25.
- Stevenson, R.J. and Pan, Y. (1999). Assessing environmental conditions in rivers and streams with diatoms. pp: 57–85. A chapter No.4 in the original book "The Diatoms: Applications for the Environmental and Earth Sciences". Edited by: Stoermer, E.F. & Smol, J. P. (1999) Cambridge University Press.
- Kadhim, N.F. (2005). Study of Algal Diversity and their Correlation with Some Physical and Chemical characterizes for Hilla River. MSc. Thesis. Babylon University -College of Science. (In Arabic).
- Tátrai, I.; Oláh, J.; Paulovits, G.; Mátyás, K.; Kawieka, B.J.; Józsa, V. and Pekár, F. (1997). Biomass dependent interactions in pond ecosystems: responses of lower trophic levels to fish manipulation. *Hydrobiologia*, 345(2): 117–129.
- Teng, L.; Zhang, B.; Liu, X.; Bai, C.; Zhang, J.; Tan, D. and Huang, P. (2014). Development and use of a Phytoplankton-Index of Biotic Integrity to assess Yongjiang River Ecosystem Health. *Polish Journal of Environmental Studies*, Pol. J. Environ. Stud. 23(3): 901–908.
- Townsend, C.R.; Begon, M. and Harper, J.D. (2000). *Essentials of Ecology*. 3rd Edn., Blackwell Science London, U.K. 532.
- Udayashankara, T.H.; Anitha, K.G.; Rao, S.; Shifa, A. and Shuheeb, M. (2013). Study of Water Quality and Dynamic analysis of phytoplanktons in four fresh water lake of Mysore India. *International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology*, 2(7): 2600–2609.
- Vollenwieder, R.A. (1974). *A manual on methods measuring primary production in aquatic environment*. IBP Hand Book. No. 12. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 225 pp.
- Vuuren, S.J.V. and Pieterse, A.J.H. (2005). The influence of downstream changes in water quality on phytoplankton composition in the Vaal River, South Africa. *African Journal of Aquatic Science*, 30(1): 11–16.
- Wehr, J.D. and Sheath, R.G. (2003). *Freshwater Algae of North America, Ecology and Classification*. Academic Press, Elsevier Science (USA), 918.
- Wu, N.; Schmalz, B. and Fohrer, N. (2012). Development and testing of a phytoplankton index of biotic integrity (P-IBI) for a German lowland river. *Ecological Indicators*, 13: 158–167.