



A Preliminary Study on Zooplankton Fauna of Kızılca Pond (Konya-Seydişehir/Turkey)

Meral APAYDIN YAĞCI*

İsmail ERBATUR

Abdullah DEMİR

Abdulkadir YAĞCI

¹ Fisheries Research Institute, Eğirdir, Isparta, Turkey

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* <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2108-1853>
 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1613-6650>
 <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8881-2932>
 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7897-1734>

***Corresponding author's:**
Meral APAYDIN YAĞCI
Fisheries Research Institute, Eğirdir, Isparta,
Turkey
 meralyagci@gmail.com

Abstract: Kızılca Pond has the most intensive population of Giant Spring Minnow fish (*Pseudophoxinus anatolicus*). To draw attention to the distribution area of the Anatolian endemic species, this pond was chosen as the study area and this preliminary study was carried out on one-time zooplankton species diversity in July 2018. Zooplankton samples were taken from the pelagic part of the lake at 8 m depth (sampling just once from this depth). Also, samples were collected with Hydro-Bios model plankton net with 55 µm mesh size. Physicochemical parameters of the lake (pH, conductivity, water temperature, dissolved oxygen concentration, saturation of dissolved oxygen) were measured. The zooplankton fauna of the pond consist of Rotifera (87%) and Cladocera groups (13%). The dominant species were recorded as *Asplanchna priodonta*, *Keratella cochlearis* and *Testudinella patina*.

Keywords: Cladocera, freshwater, kızılca pond, physicochemical parameters, rotifera.

Kızılca Göleti (Konya-Seydişehir/Türkiye) Zooplankton Faunası Üzerine Bir Ön Çalışma

Öz: Kızılca Göleti en yoğun yağ balıkları (*Pseudophoxinus anatolicus*) popülasyonuna sahiptir. Anadolu endemik türünün yayılış alanına dikkat çekmek amacıyla çalışma alanı olarak bu gölet seçilmiş ve bu ön çalışma Temmuz 2018'de tek seferlik zooplankton tür çeşitliliği üzerinde gerçekleştirilmiştir. Zooplankton örnekleri 8 m derinlikte (bu derinlikten sadece bir kez örnekleme) gölün pelajik bölgelerinden alınmıştır. Ayrıca, örnekler 55 µm göz açıklığındaki Hydro-Bios model plankton kepçesi ile toplanmıştır. Gölün fizikokimyasal parametreleri (pH, iletkenlik, su sıcaklığı, çözünmüş oksijen konsantrasyonu, çözünmüş oksijen doygunluğu) ölçülmüştür. Göletin zooplankton faunası Rotifera (%87) ve Cladocera gruplarından (%13) oluşmuştur. Baskın türler *Asplanchna priodonta*, *Keratella cochlearis* ve *Testudinella patina* olarak kaydedilmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Cladocera, fizikokimyasal parametreler, kızılca göleti, rotifera, tatlısu.

INTRODUCTION

In the lake ecosystem, zooplanktonic organisms transfer carbon and energy from the primary producers to the living beings at higher trophic levels, such as invertebrates, fish and waterfowl, and limit the presence of phytoplankton. Rotifera is a large group of zooplankton

(Apaydın Yağcı et al., 2015; Bulut & Saler, 2018; Tasevska et al., 2017). Some zooplankton types, especially Rotifers, are used as indicators to determine the water quality of freshwater ecosystems (Jeppesen et al., 2011; Saksena, 1987).

Turkey inland zooplankton checklist consists of a total of 661 taxa including 417 Rotifera, 103 Cladocera and 141 Copepoda (Ustaoğlu, 2015). In Turkey, there are studies on zooplankton fauna in some ponds such as Tadım, Beytepe, Topboğazı, TMİ 12, Aliç, Şeker-Reşadiye-Zincidere, Orduzu, Kaldırıım and Halikan, Keçiborlu and Kapıaçmaz (Apaydın Yağcı et al., 2017; Bozkurt & Dural, 2005; Bulut, 2018; Bulut & Saler, 2016; Güher & Erdoğan, 2008; Gürel & Saler, 2015; Kaya et al., 2009; Korkmaz & Korkmaz, 2002; Saler & Arslan, 2007; Saler & Şen, 2002). The purpose of this study is to conduct zooplankton study for the first time in Kızılca pond and to contribute to the biodiversity of zooplankton in Turkey.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The body height of the Kızılca pond, which was built for irrigation purposes in Seydişehir District Kızılca Village by the Konya special provincial directorate of administration in 2010, is 22 m, its body length is 294 m, the maximum water elevation is 15 m and its area is 14.55 ha. The average depth is 6-8 m. Length of the pond: 943 m, width of the pond: 186 m (KOP, 2011). Classified as endangered in The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, Giant Spring Minnow or Anatolian Minnow (*Pseudophoxinus anatolicus* Hanko, 1925) has a range that includes the Beyşehir-Seydişehir / Konya region (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Anatolian endemic Giant Spring Minnow fish (*Pseudophoxinus anatolicus*).

Zooplankton samples were taken from the pelagic part of the lake at 8 m depth (from this depth, one time) in July 2018 (Figure 2, 3). The samples were collected horizontally with Hydro-Bios model plankton net with 55 µm mesh opening and fixed with 4% formaldehyde solution. Then they have been checked and diagnosed in invert, stereo and research microscope using the related resources for zooplankton species (Koste, 1978; Negrea, 1983; Nogrady & Segers, 2002; Segers, 1995; Smirnov, 1996; Ustaoğlu, 2004; Ustaoğlu et al., 2012; Ustaoğlu, 2015).

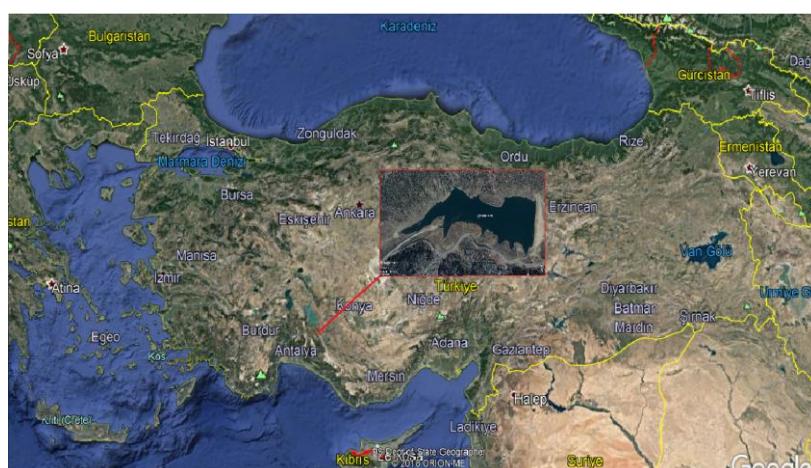


Figure 2. Study area (Coordinate; 37° 32' 44.05"N, 31° 42' 34.84"E).



Figure 3. Kızılca pond.

RESULTS

At the end of the study, a total of 15 species, 13 from Rotifera and 2 from Cladocera, were identified. The distribution of the identified species is provided in Table 1. In the pond, pH 8.58, conductivity 194 µmhos/cm, water temperature 27.1 °C, dissolved oxygen 7.9 mg/L, and dissolved oxygen saturation was measured as 94%. Zooplankton species show a distribution in two groups. Rotifera (87%), Cladocera (13%) (Figure 4).

Table 1. Kızılca pond zooplankton species.

Species	Density
Rotifera	
<i>Ascomorpha</i> sp.	▲
<i>Asplanchna priodonta</i>	▲▲▲
<i>Colurella</i> sp.	▲
<i>Keratella cochlearis</i>	▲▲
<i>Keratella testudo</i>	▲
<i>Lecane bulla</i>	▲
<i>Lecane luna</i>	▲
<i>Lecane ludwigi</i>	▲
<i>Lecane lunaris</i>	▲
<i>Polyarthra dolichoptera</i>	▲
<i>Synchaeta pectinata</i>	▲
<i>Testudinella patina</i>	▲▲
<i>Trichocerca similis</i>	▲
Cladocera	
<i>Bosmina longirostris</i>	▲
<i>Daphnia cucullata</i>	▲

▲▲▲: Most Abundant; ▲▲: Abundant; ▲: Few

The maximum number of species was identified in the Rotifera group (13 species). Dominant species were identified as *A. priodonta*, *K. cochlearis* and *T. patina* from Rotifera.

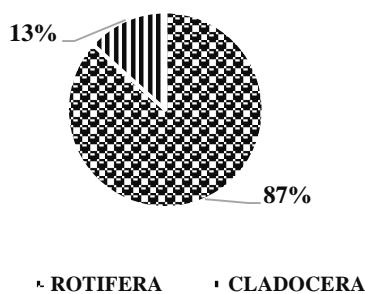


Figure 4. Distribution of zooplankton groups in Kızılca Pond.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Biotic and abiotic factors have been reported to be effective in the density and distribution of zooplankton species. Of these factors, especially temperature, oxygen, nutrients, competition and predation affect zooplankton (Tasevska et al., 2017). Zooplankton is important in the change of ecological and trophic conditions of lakes related to nutrient elements and changes caused by climate in lakes (Jeppesen et al., 2011). Among the Zooplankton species, especially the Rotifera group organisms are used as

indicators of lakes (Gannon & Stemberger, 1978). In the study on zooplankton fauna (Gürel & Saler, 2015) in the Orduzu (Malatya) pond, a total of 47 zooplankton species were reported, 7 of them (*A. priodonta*, *K. cochlearis*, *L. luna*, *L. lunaris*, *P. dolichoptera*, *S. pectinata*, *T. similis* and *B. longirostris*) are compatible with the zooplankton fauna of Kızılca pond. Additionally, a total of 24 species were identified in the seasonal change study of zooplankton in the Kapıaçmaz pond (Kovancılar, Elazığ), among which *A. priodonta*, *K. cochlearis*, *L. luna*, *P. dolichoptera*, *S. pectinata* and *B. longirostris* species were also identified in Kızılca pond (Bulut, 2018). In the study conducted on the Rotifera species of zooplanktonic organisms in some of the wetlands of Kayseri, Reşadiye-Şeker and Zincidere ponds, *K. cochlearis*, *L. luna*, *L. lunaris*, *P. dolichoptera* and *S. pectinata* species were also detected in Kızılca pond (Kaya et al., 2009). *Polyarthra* sp., *Keratella* sp., *Lecane* sp., *Bosmina* sp. and *Daphnia* sp. species detected at the genus level in Beytepe (Ankara) pond are also similar to zooplanktonic organisms detected in Kızılca pond (Korkmaz & Korkmaz, 2002). In the study conducted on the Kaldırım and Halikan ponds, a total of 52 zooplankton species were identified in the Kaldırım pond, and 45 zooplankton species were identified in the Halikan pond, and 11 zooplankton species identified in the Kaldırım and Halikan ponds (*A. priodonta*, *K. cochlearis*, *L. luna*, *L. bulla*, *L. lunaris*, *P. dolichoptera*, *S. pectinata*, *T. similis*, *B. longirostris* and *D. cucullata*) have also been identified in the Kızılca pond (Bulut & Saler, 2016). In the research conducted in the Üçpinar (Uşak) pond, a total of 30 zooplankton species were identified, and *P. dolichoptera* and *T. similis* species were also found in the Kızılca pond (Ertosun et al., 2010). The zooplankton study conducted in Kızılca pond is the first one and all of the determined zooplankton species contributed to the region and zooplankton species diversity. It has become important that the biodiversity of the Kızılca pond ecosystem be studied thoroughly in the future in terms of ensuring the sustainability of the population of Anatolian endemic Giant Spring Minnow fish, which has a dense population in the region.

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