Project Information for the ATBI Aquatic Oligochaeta Project

Project Details

Principal Investigator: Mark J. Wetzel

Project Description: Aquatic Oligochaete inventory sampling, including environmental (water quality) parameters taken at collection sites.

Project Dates: Start Date: End Date:

Protocol: Values for field water quality parameters were determined using a calibrated YSI 556 multimeter (pH, DO, specific conductivity, water temp., TDS, salinity, and barometric pressure), Hanna HI93703 turbidity meter, and red fluid thermometer (ambient-air temperature). Sampling methodology: with the exception of larger specimens (crayfishes, larger insects and annelids - which were removed by hand or large forceps then placed in sample jars for preservation) all netted samples were elutriated in copious volumes of water in 2-5 gallon buckets (to remove large detritus, fine silt, and mineral substrates) prior to straining through fine-meshed aquarium nets; these netted, strained samples were then placed in containers for relaxation (5-10% ethanol for 10-30 minutes) prior to preservation (>80% ethanol) or fixation (10% buffered formalin).
Specimen preparation protocol: after return to lab, all samples (previously relaxed, preserved or fixed in the field) were rinsed with tap water (to get rid of formalin fixative), drained of excess water, then preserved and stored in ethanol (>80%, undenatured) in suitable containers (vials and/or screw-capped jars). Methodology used for slide-mounted specimens: Aquatic oligochaete specimens (already being stored in 80% ethanol) were dehydrated (ethanol series), then placed into 50/50 ethanol/xylene mixture prior to slide-mounting in Canada balsam.

Project Notes: For more information see the Primary Investigator web site at http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/~mjwetzel/AOGSMNP.home.html

Summary:

Data Summary

Data Collection Year(s):

Number of Sites Sampled:	58
Number of Samplings:	58
Number of Orders Identified:	4
Number of Families Identified:	4
Number of Genera Identified:	28
Number of Species Identified:	27
Number of Specimens Identified to Species:	124
Number of Specimens not Identified to Species:	160
Total Number of Individuals Counted (actual or estimated):	2136
Percentage of Major Watersheds Sampled:	39 %