THE INVESTIGATION ON THE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE OF MOGAN LAKE, BEYTEPE POND AND DELİÇE RIVER (KIZILIRMAK)

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ABSTRACT. In this study Cyanobacteria species of Mogan Lake, Beytepe Pond and Delice River were taxonomically investigated. The cyanobacteria specimens have been collected by monthly intervals from Mogan Lake and Beytepe Pond between October 2010 and September 2011. For the Delice River the laboratory samples which were collected by monthly intervals between July 2007-May 2008 have been evaluated. Totally 15 genus and 41 taxa were identified, 22 species from Mogan lake, 19 species from Beytepe pond and 13 species from Delice river respectively. During the study species like Planktolyngbya limnetica and Aphanocapsa incerta were frequently observed for all months in Mogan Lake, Chrococcus turgidus and Chrococcus minimus were abundant in Beytepe Pond while Kamptonema formosum was dominant in Delice River. As a result species diversity and density were generally rich in Mogan Lake during fall and summer season while very low in the Delice River during winter season.

1. INTRODUCTION

Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) are microscopic bacteria found in freshwater lakes, streams, soil and moistened rocks. Even though they are bacteria, cyanobacteria are too small to be seen by the naked eye, they can grow in colonies which are large enough to see. When algae grows too much it can form “blooms”, which can cause various problems. Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms (CyanoHABs) are dangerous to humans, animals, and, the environment and can lead to a depletion of oxygen in the water and a release of toxins, as well as taste and odour problems [1-3]. Many studies have been done in Mogan lake since 1974 including hydrobiological aspects [4]; seasonal changes of phytoplankton and physico-chemical variables [5]; littoral algea [6]; algae of Mogan lake [7]; plankton composition [8]; phytoplankton communities and water chemicals [9-10]; macrophyte-dominated clear water status [11]; trophic status of the lake [12];
planktonic algae except Bacillariophyta [13]. Ünal [14] studied the composition of phytoplankton and bentic algae of Beytepe pond between June 1978-December 1979. Akbulut [15] listed 16 cyanobacter species from Beytepe pond. Atıcı et al. [16] observed 11 cyanobacteria species which consisted %16.1 of the total algea in the Delice River.

The aim of the present study is to investigate cyanobacteria in the ecologically different three habitats which were natural lake, man made lake and running waters to identify cyanobacteria species and observe the effect of the environmental variables.

2. Material And Methods

2.1. Study Area
This study has been carried out in three different water bodies (Mogan Lake, Beytepe Pond and Delice River). Mogan Lake is located 20 km south of Ankara within Gölbaşı province and one of the shallow lake, the area is approximately 6.35 km², average dept is 2-2.5 m and altitude is 972 m. The lake has been formed by tectonic activity. The major inflows to Lake Mogan (Gölbaşı) are Sukseven, Gölcük and Gölova brooks. Lake Mogan is Specially Protected Area since 1990 Akbulut and Akbulut [8] (Figure 1.a). Beytepe Pond is a man-made pond at approximately 970 m above sea level in Ankara province (Figure 1.b). To investigate cyanobacteria of Delice River, laboratory samples which were collected from three station in Kırşehir and Yozgat between July 2007-May 2008 (Project 07D06601001 Hacetepe University Research Fund) have been evaluated (Figure 1.c).
Table 1. Study area and sampling locality

| Sampling Locality | Lake      | Province | Altitude (m) | Coordinates      |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Station        | Mogan     | Ankara   | 976          | 39°47'17.18"N 32°47'59.44" E |
| 2. Station        | Mogan     | Ankara   | 975          | 39°46'42.19"N 32°47'48.26" E |
| **Pond**          | **Province** | **Altitude (m)** | **Coordinates** |
| 1. Station        | Beytepe   | Ankara   | 982          | 39°52'52.52 N 32°44'22.90" E |
| **River**         | **Province** | **Altitude (m)** | **Coordinates** |
| 1. Station        | Delice River | Kırşehir | 702          | 39°48.161 N 34°06.139 E |
| 2. Station        | Delice River | Yozgat   | 1154         | 39°38.414 N 34°28.183 E |
| 3. Station        | Delice River | Kırşehir | 702          | 39°42.924 N 34°15.379 E |

Figure 1. Sampling Localities a) Mogan Lake, b) Beytepe Pond, c) Delice River.
2.2. Sampling
Sampling was carried out from one locality from Beytepe pond and two localities in Mogan Lake one is located in littoral while the other station is located in the open water. Sampling was carried out between October 2011–September 2012. For Delice river laboratory samples from three different localities have been evaluated. During the study, samples were collected with a plankton net of 33μm mesh size and patala sampler (volume capacity of 17 litres). Algae samples were also collected by scraping from stones and macrophyte and the specimens were fixed in 4% formaldehyde.

Dissolved oxygen, conductivity, salinity, pH and temperature were also measured at the sampling stations using field instruments (CONSORT C 933) and Secchi disc transparencies were measured using a 20 cm diameter secchi disc [17,36].

3. Results

Dissolved oxygen, temperature, salinity, Conductivity, pH and Secchi Dept were the measured environmental parameters. Dissolved oxygen is an important environmental parameter.

During the study measured dissolved oxygen value was 5,09 mg/l in May 2012 and 15,68 mg/l in March 2012 at the 1. Station in Mogan Lake; 2,21 mg/l in July 2007 and 12,68 mg/l in October 2007 in the Beytepe Pond while 0,86 -10,3 mg/l in Delice River. Temperature was fluctuated between 0,6-27,27 °C in Mogan lake; 0,6-27,2 °C in Beytepe Pond and 1,4-32 °C in Delice river in winter and summer seasons respectively. High dissolved oxygen was recorded during winter season all the study sites, it may be due to low temperature and photosynthetic rate of phytoplankton communities that may results in higher values of dissolved oxygen.

pH value was generally alkali condition in the three habitats and were changed between 7,3 8,6. PH value was increased generally in August in the three sampling area, while slightly decreased in the winter periods. Conductivity and salinity values
were the highest value in Delice River, while the lowest value was measured in Beytepe Pond (Table 2).

Totally 15 genera and 41 taxon were identified from three different sampling locations (Table 3). Among them 22 species were identified in Mogan Lake, 19 species in Beytepe Pond and 13 species in Delice River respectively (Table 4-6). Species list is given according to www.algaebase.org. [18] The number of species were highest in Mogan lake, followed by Beytepe pond and Delice river, respectively. *Chroococcus turgidus*, *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Oscillatoria tenuis* were the common species which were observed in the three habitat too.

**Table 2.** The min-max and mean values for the physical parameters (Temperature (°C), D.O (mg/l), pH, Cond. (µS/cm), Salinity (%), Secchi Depth (cm)) measured during the study.

| Locality | Temperature (°C) | D.O (mg/l) | pH | Cond.(µS/cm) | Salinity (%) | Secchi D(cm) |
|----------|------------------|------------|----|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| **Mogan L.** |                  |            |    |              |              |              |
| 1. Station | 1-27,27          | 5,09-15,68 | 7,7-8,6 | 800-1933 | 0,6-0,9 | 35-62         |
|           | 14,53            | 9,36       | 8,2  | 1450         | 0,76         | 49,7          |
| 2. Station | 0,6-27,6         | 5,18-14,64 | 7,3-8,6 | 825-1966 | 0,4-0,9 | 37-69         |
|           | 13,83            | 9,17       | 8,3  | 1445         | 0,75         | 53,7          |
| **Beytepe P.** |                |            |    |              |              |              |
| 1. Station | 0,6-27,2         | 2,21-12,68 | 7,4-8,2 | 110,5-805 | 0-0,4 | 64-194         |
|           | 14,29            | 8,56       | 7,8  | 683          | 0,3          | 115           |
| **Delice R.** |               |            |    |              |              |              |
| 1. Station | 1,4-32           | 3,39-10,12 | 8,13-8,6 | 1100-7000 | 1,0-5,0 | 2,6           |
|           | 18,9             | 7,79       | 8,3  | 3277         | 1,5          |               |
| 2. Station | 2,5-23,6         | 1,51-10,3  | 8,0-8,5 | 800-2100 | 0,9-1,8 |               |
|           | 14,6             | 7,77       | 8,3  | 1277         |              | 1,5           |
| 3. Station | 2,83-29          | 0,86-10,15 | 8,0-8,5 | 800-2100 | 0,9-1,6 |               |
|           | 14,7             | 7,93       | 8,2  | 1397         | 1,2          |               |
Table 3. Identified taxa of Cyanobacteria

| Kingdom:  |  |  |
|-----------|---|---|
| Phylum: Cyanobacteria |  |  |
| Classis: Cyanophyceae |  |  |
| Ordo: Chroococcales |  |  |
| Family: Chroococcales |  |  |
| 1. Chroococcus turgidus |  |  |
| 2. Limnococcus limneticus |  |  |
| 3. Chroococcus minimus |  |  |
| 4. Chroococcus minor |  |  |
| Family: Microcystaceae |  |  |
| Genus: Microcystis |  |  |
| 1. Microcystis aeruginosa |  |  |
| 2. Microcystis flos-aquae |  |  |
| Family: Gomphosphaeriaceae |  |  |
| Genus: Gomphosphaeria |  |  |
| 1. Gomphosphaeria aponina |  |  |
| Ordo: Synechococcales |  |  |
| Family: Merismopediaceae |  |  |
| SubFamily: Merismopedioidae |  |  |
| Genus: Merismopedia |  |  |
| 1. Merismopedia glauca |  |  |
| 2. Merismopedia minima |  |  |
| 3. Merismopedia punctata |  |  |
| 4. Merismopedia tenuissima |  |  |
| Ordo: Synechococcales |  |  |
| Family: Anabaenales |  |  |
| Genus: Anabaena |  |  |
| 1. Anabaena catenula |  |  |
| 2. Dolichospermum affine (S:Anabaena affinis) |  |  |
| 3. Dolichospermum flos-aquae |  |  |
| Ordo: Spirulinales |  |  |
| Family: Spirulinae |  |  |
| Genus: Spirulina |  |  |
| 1. Glaucospirina laxissima (S:Spirulina laxissima) |  |  |
| 2. Spirulina major |  |  |
| 3. Spirulina nordstedtii |  |  |
| Ordo: Pseudanabaenales |  |  |
| Family: Pseudanabaenaceae |  |  |
| Genus: Leptolyngbya |  |  |
| 1. Leptolyngbya notata (S:Plectonema notata) |  |  |
Table 4. Seasonal distribution of the species in Mogan Lake.

| Species                     | Sept. 2011 | Nov. 2011 | Dec. 2011 | Jan. 2012 | Feb. 2012 | March 2012 | April 2012 | May 2012 | June 2012 | July 2012 | Agst. 2012 | Sept. 2012 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Microcystis aeruginosa      | +         | +         |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Microcystis flos-aquae      | +         | +         |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Chrococcos turgidus         |           |           | +         |           |           | +          | +           |           | +         |           |            |           |
| Limnococcus limneticus      | +         | +         |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Chrococcus minimus          | +         | +         |           |           |           | +          | +           |           |           |           |            |           |
| Gomphosphaeria aponina      |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Merismopedia tenuissima     |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Merismopedia minima         |           |           |           | +         | +         |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Dolichospermum affine       |           |           |           |           |           | +          | +           |           |           |           |            |           |
| Dolichospermumflos-aquae    |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Anabaenopsis elenkini       |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Pseudanabaena limnetica     |           |           |           | +         | +         | +          | +           |           |           |           |            |           |
| Spiulina major              |           |           |           | +         | +         |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Glaucospira laxissima       |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Oscillatoria limosa         |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           | +         | +          |           |
| Planktothrix rubescens      |           |           |           |           |           | +          | +           |           |           |           |            |           |
| Oscillatoria tenus          | +         | +         |           | +         | +         |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Oscillatoria sp.            |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Kamptonema formosum         |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Planktolyngbya limnetica    |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Lyngbya sp.                 |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
| Aphanocapsa incerta         |           |           |           |           |           |            |             |           |           |           |            |           |
### Table 5. Seasonal distribution of the species in Beytepe pond.

| Species                  | Sept. 2011 | Nov. 2011 | Dec. 2011 | Jan. 2012 | Feb. 2012 | Marc 2012 | April 2012 | May 2012 | June 2012 | July 2012 | Augst. 2012 | Sept 2012 |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Aphanocapsa grevillei   |            | +         |           |           |           |           |            | +         |           | +         |             |           |
| Microcystis aeruginosa   | +          |           | +         |           |           |           |            |           | +         | +         |             |           |
| Microcystis flos-aquae   | +          |           |           | +         | +         | +         | +          |           |           | +         |             | +         |
| Chroococcus turgidus     | +          | +         | +         |           |           | +         | +          | +         | +         | +         |             | +         |
| Chroococcus minor        | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         |           | +          | +         |           | +         |             | +         |
| Chroococcus minimus      | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         | +         | +          | +         |           | +         |             | +         |
| Merismopedia tenassa     |            | +         |           |           |           |           |            |           |           | +         |             |           |
| Merismopedia punctata    |            | +         |           |           |           |           |            |           |           | +         |             |           |
| Oscillatoria limosa      |            |           |           |           |           |           |            |           |           | +         |             |           |
| Pseudoanabaena limnetica | +          |           |           | +         | +         | +         |            |           |           |           |             |           |
| Phormidium breve         |            |           |           |           | +         |           |            |           |           |           |             |           |
| Oscillatoria amphibia    |            |           |           |           |           |           | +          |           |           | +         |             |           |
| Planktothrix prolifica   | +          |           |           | +         | +         | +         | +          |           |           |           |             |           |
| Oscillatoria tenus       | +          |           |           |           | +         | +         |            |           |           |           |             |           |
| Anabaena catenula        |            |           |           |           |           |           | +          |           |           |           |             |           |
| Calothrix sp.            | +          |           |           |           |           |           |            |           |           |           |             |           |
| Oscillatoria major       |            | +         |           |           |           |           |            |           |           |           |             |           |
| Lyngbya sp.              | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         | +         | +          |           |           |           |             |           |
| Planktoelyngbya limnetica|            | +         | +         | +         | +         |           | +          |           |           |           |             | +         |
Table 6. Seasonal distribution of the species in Delice river.

| Species              | July 2007 | Aug 2007 | Sept. 2007 | Oct. 2007 | Nov. 2007 | Dec. 2007 | Jan. 2008 | Feb. 2008 | Mach 2008 | April 2008 | May 2008 |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Microcystis aeruginosa | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         | +         | +         | +         | +        |
| Merismopedia glauca   | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |          |
| Chroococcus turgidus  | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |          |
| Oscillatoria major    | +         | +        | +          |           |           | +         |           |           |           |           |          |
| Oscillatoria princeps | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |           |          |
| Oscillatoria tenius   | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |          |
| Kamptornema formosum  | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |           |          |
| Phormidium ambiguum   | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |           |          |
| Leptolyngbya notata   | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |          |
| Gomphosphaeria sp.    | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |          |
| Spirulina nordstedti  | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |          |
| Microseira wolsei     | +         | +        | +          | +         | +         |           |           |           |           |           |          |
| Planktolyngbya concorta |         |          |            |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |          |

4. Discussion

The water temperature is of vital importance for living things in an aquatic environment. The water temperature in lentic habitats varies depending on the air temperature, the amount of dissolved matter, depth, surface area and the geographic location of the habitat [19]. In recent years, the discharge of domestic, agricultural and industrial wastes into aquatic ecosystems has led to increased nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus in aquatic habitats. This situation is known to increase primer production and especially the blue-green cyanobacteria population in the waters, thus altering the structure of phytoplankton communities [20-23]. Many problems may arise if blue green algae increase excessively due to eutrophication in aquatic systems. Cyanobacterial blooms (CBs) are generally triggered by eutrophic conditions due to anthropogenic nutrient inputs to local waters (wastewater or
During the bloom, some species produce toxic secondary metabolites (cyanotoxins) that are dangerous for humans and animals [24]. Some of the cyanobacter species produce neurotoxins which are harmful to biota [25]. *Microcystis aeruginosa* which is one of the important toxin producing algae and could be harmful when rich the high numbers in the water bodies [26]. In addition *Phormidium* genera can produce Anatoxin-a; *Lyngbya* can produce Saxitoxsin, Dermatoxin, Lyngbyatoxsin-a and Aplysiatoxsin [27].

According to Manav and Yerli, Mogan is one of the eutrophic lake character [12]. The temperature was increased from May to September and reached to maxima in July. Dissolved oxygen levels exhibited an inverse relationship with temperature. Alkaline waters promotes high primary productivity [28]. During the study conductivity was high in January and pH was between 7.3-8.6 which was suitable for the growing cyanobacteria.

Akbulut and Akbulut [8] observed 15 cyanobacteria species from this lake while 22 taxa have been listed in our study and population density were increased generally in fall and summer season. *Chrococcus sp.*, *Merismopedia minima* and *Microcystis aeruginosa* were the common species especially *Chrococcus turgidus* comprised %70.27 of the population in May and October when the water temperature was between 14-15 ºC. *Lyngbya sp.* was also increased at the same period too. Many researchers have reported that cyanobacteria are predominant during summer and early autumn [29]. This situation has also been observed in our work.
During the study, 17 species and 2 genera have been observed from Beytepe pond while 5 species have been listed in the previous work and *Chrococcus, Oscillatoria* were the common genera Ünal [14]. According to the our results *Chrococcus, Oscillatoria, Microcystis,* and *Lyngbya* were the main taxa especially *Chrococcus minutus* was the most abundant species.

Although diversity was high in May, density was linearly increased in November (%60,06) and in September (%53,75). Temperature levels fluctuated between 6,4 -20,4 °C from September to November and pH changed between 7.8 and 7.9. During the study benthic taxa were slightly increased in April 2012 composed %16,41 of total population.

Delice River, is one of the branches of Kızılırmak River, which is the longest river of Turkey (1,355 km) and used for irrigation purposes in agricultural areas [30]. There are various studies on this stream ecosystem [31-35]. Water current is one the most important limiting parameter in the running waters. Sediment load increases in the rivers, the growth of phytoplankton decreases. During the study at least number of species recorded from river to compare lentic habitats. Atıcı [16] observed 11 cyanobacter taxa from Delice River and population composed %16,1 of total algea. According to this study *Chroococcus turgidus* and *Merismopedia elegans* were the common species. In our study 12 species and 1 genera have been identified among them *Chroococcus turgidus* and *Oscillatoria formosa* were the common species.

The physico-chemical parameters are the major factors that control the dynamics and structure of the phytoplankton of aquatic ecosystem (37-38). According to the
results, there was no dangerous situation in terms of cyanobacteria bloom in the examined three habitats but it is beneficial to carry out monitoring studies of algae population together with major elements especially in the lentic habitats.

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