

Middle-term changes in caddisfly (Trichoptera) communities of the Hungarian part of Dráva river during the years 1992–2004

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UHERKOVICH Á. & NÓGRÁDI S.: *Middle-term changes in caddisfly (Trichoptera) communities of the Hungarian part of Dráva river during the years 1992–2004.*

Abstract: 113 species are known from the Dráva region. All the collections were quantitative. Some sites were examined during a longer period (i.e. middle term), thus the change of caddisfly communities or collectives are to be studied. The longest and most complete series of data is from Vízvár, the most abundant caddisflies of this site are presented and analysed.

Key words: Trichoptera, Dráva river, communities, quantitative samples

Introduction

The study of caddisfly (*Trichoptera*) fauna of Dráva region dates back to the beginning of the eighties, when ÚJHELYI (1981) and NÓGRÁDI (1985a) went on to collect materials at the waters of the Barcs Juniper Woodland. Their papers introduced 65 caddisfly species from that area. Later – mostly after 1991 – we could extend our activity over the whole area of the Dráva region, mainly around the river and its tributaries. Between 1992 and 2004 we examined the caddisfly fauna and communities of the river systematically. Four papers were published about the results (NÓGRÁDI, UHERKOVICH 1995, 1998, UHERKOVICH 2005, UHERKOVICH, NÓGRÁDI 1992).

Altogether 113 species were recorded out during these years from the whole region, some of them occurred here first: *Orthotrichia tragetti* Mosely, *Oxyethira flavicornis* (Pictet), *Micrasema setiferum* (Pictet) (NÓGRÁDI 1985b); *Orthotrichia angustella* (McLachlan), *Hydroptila forcipata* (Eaton), *Adicella syriaca* Ulmer (NÓGRÁDI 1986); *Helicopsyche bacescui* Orghidan & Botosaneanu, *Limnephilus stigma* Curtis (NÓGRÁDI 1988); *Limnephilus subcentralis* Brauer (NÓGRÁDI 1992) and *Hydroptila pulchricornis* (Pictet) (NÓGRÁDI 2001).

It is unquestionable that the fauna of Dráva river and its region is rather rich in species. We can remark that only 85 species have been detected so far from the well-known 'Szigetköz', upper Danube region (UHERKOVICH, NÓGRÁDI 2004), or 74 species from the Szatmár-Bereg Plain (UHERKOVICH, NÓGRÁDI 1998).

Not only the species but the quantitative relations were also recorded in all samples as well. Thus we could study the change of composition of caddisfly communities or collectives of each sites.

Method and materials

During the last thirteen years we visited many sites along Dráva river several times. Besides the occurring species we always ascertained and made notes about the quantity of each species, thus all the samples were quantitative or near quantitative.

The site Vízvár (XM70; $17^{\circ}13'30''$ E, $46^{\circ}05'15''$ N) is known very well, as between 1992 and 2004 we collected there yearly. Here the river runs in its natural bed, some branches formed during times, and many shoals formed and changed year by year. Maybe this is the most valuable section of the river owing to its ancient state (Figs. 2-3).

The quantitative results of some years (1992, 1994-1999) were not satisfactory, as we visited the site only a few times. In 1993 and during the years 2000-2004 we sampled there with good results, as those samples contain thousands of caddisflies (Fig. 1). During these thirteen years altogether 20 675 specimens of 60 species were determined from the samples (see Table 1). In some years we did not take larger samples but only occasional ones with few adults (1992, 1994-1998), while in the other years fruitful night capturings were carried out, in 1993 and mostly since 1999 (Fig. 4).

There were some other sites, where we collected larger materials, but we did not visit those regularly. In Drávapalkonya (BR87; $18^{\circ}11'35''$ E, $45^{\circ}47'15''$ N) and Vejti (YL37; $17^{\circ}59'00''$ E, $45^{\circ}47'35''$ N) we collected several times in the first half of the nineties. At Drávaszátra (YL17; $17^{\circ}49'45''$ E, $45^{\circ}48'40''$ N) we collected in many years during the period 1992-2004, but not in all years (Fig. 6). The river was regulated at these sites more than a century ago: many bends were cut, thus the bed became shorter. The samples collected in three sites contain about 24 000 caddisfly adults in this period. We also visited some sites a little bit farther from the river, e.g. Barcs and Darány environs, the "Barcs Juniper Woodland" (XL99; $17^{\circ}33'25''$ E, $45^{\circ}59'35''$ N), where we collected many times near a forest fen (Fig. 5). In this site a very different fauna formed.

These series of collections were uneven in every sites. It is fact that the circumstances of collections always influence the species composition and mostly the number of adults considerably. The main factor is the actual meteorological situation. The activity depends on the temperature, humidity, clouds and over all the meteorological fronts. Prior to cold fronts, when the air pressure is falling, the activity of insects shoots up considerably. After the passing through of the front, the activity reduces immediately. The intensity of moonlight (i.e. the moon phase) can also influence the activity. The effect of most factors are unforeseen in collections.

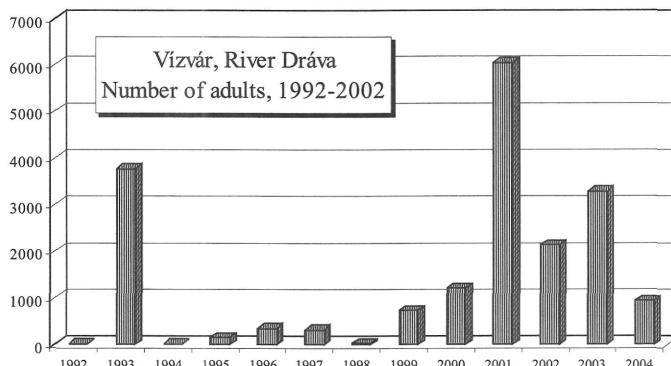


Fig. 1.: The number of caddisfly adults taken at site Vízvár, 1992-2004.

1. ábra: A fogott tegzes imágók példányszáma Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.



Fig. 2.: Branch of Dráva at Vízvár, permanent site of collections (1992)
2. ábra: A Dráva mellékága Vízvárnál, a gyűjtések állandó helye (1992)



Fig. 3.: Quickly forming pebble shoals at Vízvár (1993)
3. ábra: Gyorsan formálódó kavicsátonyok Vízvárnál (1993)

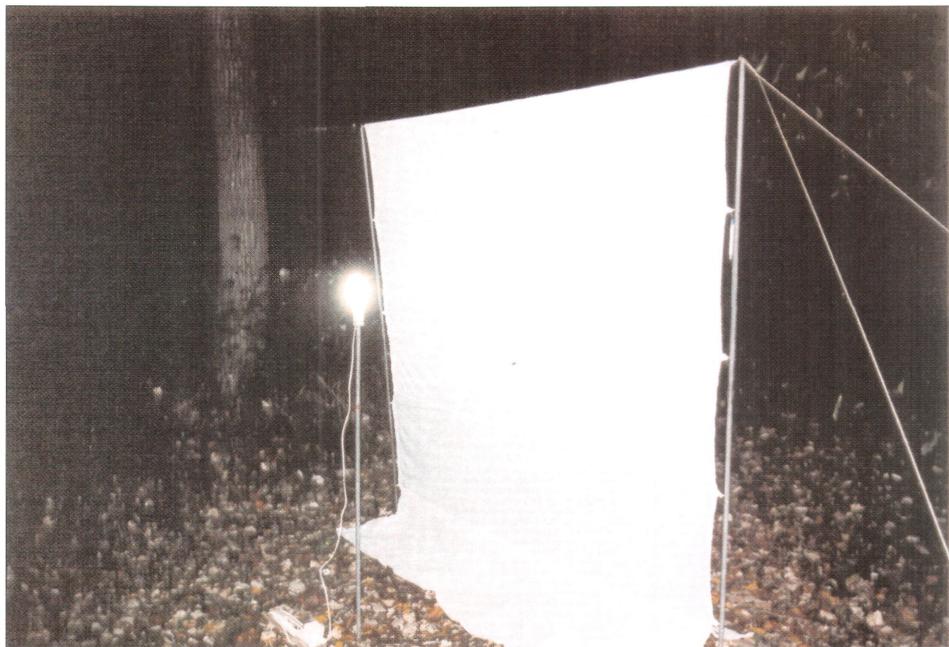


Fig. 4.: Equipment of the night collections at Vízvár (2004)

4. ábra: Az éjjeli gyűjtések felszerelése Vízvárnál (2004)



Fig. 5.: Darány, Nagyberek – forest fen (1992)

5. ábra: Darány, Nagyberek – erdei láp (1992)

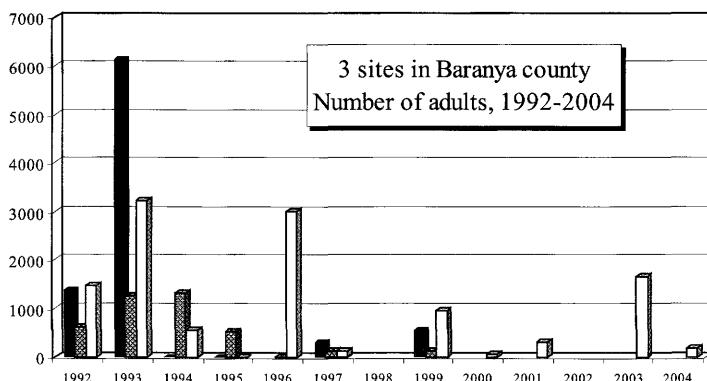


Fig. 6.: The number of caddisflies of some important collecting sites in the Dráva region, 1992-2004 (Drávapalkonya: black, Vejti: grey and Drávasztára: white columns)

6. ábra: A tegzesek egyedszáma a Dráva mente néhány jelentékenyebb gyűjtőhelyén, 1992-2004 (Drávapalkonya: fekete, Vejti: szürke és Drávasztára: fehér oszlopok)

Results

Above all the series of data of Vízvár are evaluated. However, we also have to remark that this series of data is not uniform (see the previous chapter). Mostly the results of the years 1992, 1994 and 1998 were not satisfactory. Taking these facts into consideration we may ascertain as it follows:

One of the most frequent species of these samples is *Hydropsyche contubernalis* McL. It is a widely distributed species all over the country, mostly along larger rivers. It is on wing from May throughout the summer and early autumn months, without characteristic maximum in its activity. At this site, Vízvár, the ratio of *H. contubernalis* is relatively even, only one peak can be observed in the yearly activity (Fig. 7). All the *Hydropsyche* adults – containing all species of genus and also the indetermined females – show a similar run (Fig. 8).

Hydroptila sparsa Curt. and *Psychomyia pusilla* F. are also permanent and frequent member of caddisfly community of the river, and they are also frequent in all larger rivers, mostly in quicker, upper sections (Fig. 9). The activity of *H. sparsa* was on a low level in 1999–2000, but later it became more frequent again. *P. pusilla*, as the most dominant species of the community, has permanent high ratio among the caddisflies (Fig. 10). We cannot show their dominance in the years, when the collected material was unsatisfactory.

The run of two leptocerids, *Ceraclea dissimilis* Steph. and *Setodes punctatus* F. are a little bit uneven. Although both species are frequent along larger and smaller rivers, and also along other types of waters, their hatching is not permanent but jerky. In very advantageous meteorological situation enormous mass of adults can hatch, thus these “peaks of activity” can disfigure the yearly activity (Figs. 11, 12).

The third discussed leptocerid, *Oecetis notata* Ramb. (Fig. 13) shows a higher activity in the years 2001-2004. Indeed, this species was not frequent here earlier, but it was not only frequent but sometimes dominant along the lower section of Dráva in the early nineties, at Drávapalkonya and Drávasztára.

Table 1.: Yearly quantitative data of each species at site Vízvár, 1992-2004.

1. táblázat: Az egyes fajok éves mennyiségi adatai Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

Table 1.: Yearly quantitative data of each species at site Vízvár, 1992-2004.**1. táblázat: Az egyes fajok éves mennyiségi adatai Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.**

	1998	%	1999	%	2000	%	2001	%	2002	%	2003	%	2004	%	össz.	%
1	0,00	2	0,28	4	0,34	121	2,00	31	0,85	2	0,06	81	8,68	241	1,17	
2	0,00		0,00		0,00	3	0,05	2	0,05	1	0,03		0,00	6	0,03	
3	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	3	0,01	
4	26	86,67	210	28,93	38	3,21	10	0,17	4	0,11	9	0,27	122	13,08	661	3,20
5	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,00	
6	0,00	1	0,14		0,00		0,00	2	0,05	1	0,03		0,00	4	0,02	
7	0,00		0,00	3	0,25	67	1,11	3	0,08	10	0,30	10	1,07	138	0,67	
8	0,00	1	0,14		0,00	9	0,15	4	0,11	6	0,18	2	0,21	28	0,14	
9	0,00	1	0,14	6	0,51	1	0,02	2	0,05		0,00		0,00	12	0,06	
10	0,00	39	5,37	6	0,51	155	2,57	71	1,95	66	2,00	3	0,32	423	2,05	
11	0,00		0,00	1	0,08		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,00	
12	0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,02	6	0,16	2	0,06		0,00	10	0,05	
13	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03	2	0,05		0,00	2	0,21	14	0,07	
14	0,00	7	0,96	4	0,34	22	0,36	49	1,34	14	0,43	4	0,43	116	0,56	
15	0,00	1	0,14	1	0,08	13	0,22		0,00	1	0,03	4	0,43	21	0,10	
16	0,00	15	2,07	29	2,45	183	3,03	114	3,13	52	1,58	26	2,79	460	2,22	
17	0,00		0,00		0,00	3	0,05		0,00		0,00		0,00	4	0,02	
18	0,00	8	1,10	100	8,44	16	0,26	1	0,03		0,00	4	0,43	158	0,76	
19	0,00		0,00	1	0,08	2	0,03	1	0,03		0,00		0,00	4	0,02	
20	0,00	2	0,28	4	0,34	1	0,02		0,00		0,00		0,00	8	0,04	
21	0,00	30	4,13		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	32	0,15	
22	0,00	6	0,83	4	0,34	22	0,36	8	0,22	4	0,12	3	0,32	188	0,91	
23	0,00	128	17,63	419	35,36	702	11,62	262	7,19	554	16,82	148	15,86	2394	11,58	
24	0,00	3	0,41	9	0,76	6	0,10	3	0,08	11	0,33		0,00	33	0,16	
25	0,00	20	2,75		0,00	108	1,79	18	0,49	2	0,06		0,00	158	0,76	
26	1	3,33	14	1,93	37	3,12	102	1,69	57	1,56	143	4,34	17	1,82	373	1,80
27	0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,02		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,00	
28	0,00	158	21,76	205	17,30	604	10,00	533	14,62	232	7,05	195	20,90	2301	11,13	
29	0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,02	6	0,16	2	0,06	1	0,11	10	0,05	
30	0,00		0,00	1	0,08		0,00		0,00	9	0,27	3	0,32	13	0,06	
31	1	3,33	2	0,28	3	0,25	274	4,54	160	4,39	42	1,28	35	3,75	1212	5,86
32	0,00		0,00		0,00	19	0,31	11	0,30	1	0,03		0,00	31	0,15	
33	0,00		0,00	5	0,42	3	0,05		0,00		0,00	1	0,11	10	0,05	
34	1	3,33		0,00		14	0,23		0,00	1	0,03		0,00	20	0,10	
35	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,00	
36	0,00		0,00	1	0,08	4	0,07	1	0,03		0,00	1	0,11	7	0,03	
37	0,00		0,00	1	0,08	2	0,03		0,00		0,00		0,00	5	0,02	
38	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03		0,00		0,00	6	0,64	9	0,04	
39	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03		0,00		0,00		0,00	3	0,01	
40	0,00	6	0,83	3	0,25	19	0,31	21	0,58	2	0,06	6	0,64	76	0,37	
41	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03	1	0,03	1	0,03		0,00	4	0,02	
42	0,00	2	0,28	1	0,08	5	0,08	16	0,44	6	0,18	3	0,32	120	0,58	
43	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,03		0,00	1	0,00	
44	0,00	3	0,41		0,00	11	0,18	4	0,11	6	0,18		0,00	25	0,12	
45	0,00		0,00		0,00	104	1,72	43	1,18	169	5,13	7	0,75	330	1,60	
46	0,00	2	0,28		0,00	2	0,03	6	0,16	9	0,27	1	0,11	29	0,14	
47	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	3	0,09		0,00	4	0,02	
48	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03	5	0,14	5	0,15		0,00	12	0,06	
49	0,00		0,00	2	0,17	4	0,07	18	0,49	11	0,33		0,00	39	0,19	
50	0,00		0,00	1	0,08	7	0,12	9	0,25		0,00	1	0,11	19	0,09	
51	0,00	1	0,14		0,00	2	0,03	1	0,03		0,00		0,00	4	0,02	
52	0,00	2	0,28	4	0,34	1	0,02		0,00		0,00		0,00	19	0,09	
53	1	3,33	2	0,28	10	0,84	6	0,10	1	0,03	4	0,12	9	0,96	36	0,17
54	0,00	39	5,37	241	20,34	3123	51,70	1851	50,78	1794	54,48	202	21,65	9946	48,11	
55	0,00		0,00	24	2,03	4	0,07		0,00		0,00		0,00	34	0,16	
56	0,00		0,00		0,00	150	2,48	304	8,34	49	1,49	2	0,21	583	2,82	
57	0,00		0,00	1	0,08		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	1	0,00	
58	0,00	11	1,52	16	1,35	110	1,82	12	0,33	67	2,03	30	3,22	246	1,19	
59	0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,01	
60	0,00		0,00		0,00	2	0,03		0,00	1	0,03	1	0,11	4	0,02	
61	0,00	10	1,38		0,00	12	0,20	2	0,05		0,00	3	0,32	27	0,13	
	30	100,00	726	100,00	1185	100,00	6041	100,00	3645	100,00	3293	100,00	933	100,00	20675	100,00

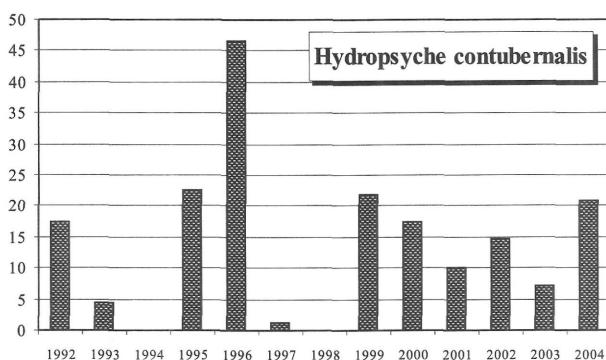


Fig. 7.: Activity of *Hydropsyche contubernalis* McL. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
7. ábra: A *Hydropsyche contubernalis* McL. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

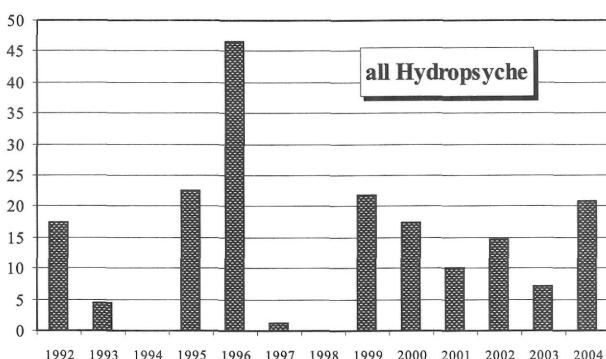


Fig. 8.: Activity of all *Hydropsyche* at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
8. ábra: Az összes *Hydropsyche* együttes aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

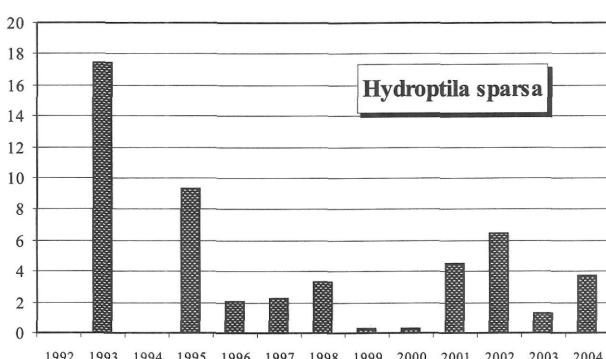


Fig. 9.: Activity of *Hydroptila sparsa* Curt. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
9. ábra: A *Hydroptila sparsa* Curt. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

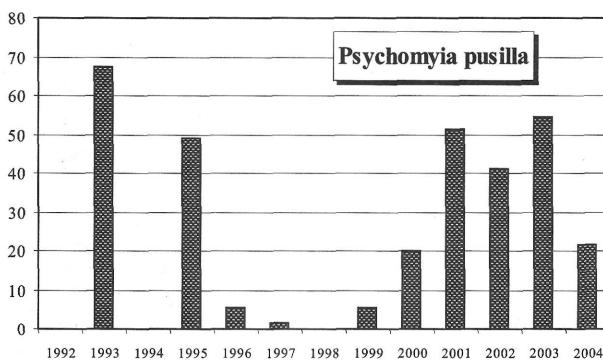


Fig. 10.: Activity of *Psychomyia pusilla* F. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
10. ábra: A *Psychomyia pusilla* F. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

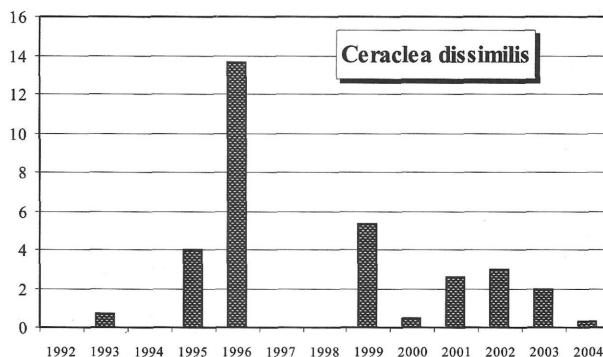


Fig. 11.: Activity of *Ceraclea dissimilis* Steph. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
11. ábra: A *Ceraclea dissimilis* Steph. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

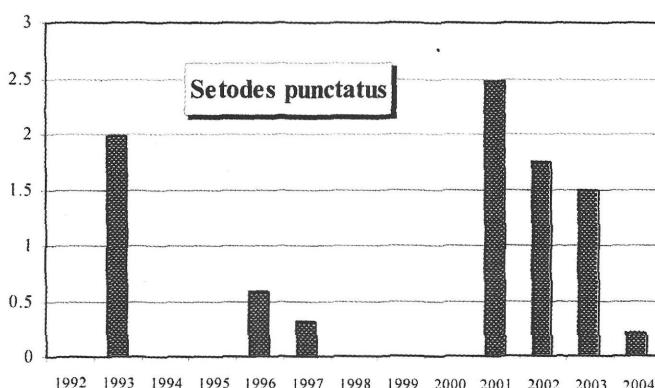


Fig. 12.: Activity of *Setodes punctatus* F. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
12. ábra: A *Setodes punctatus* F. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

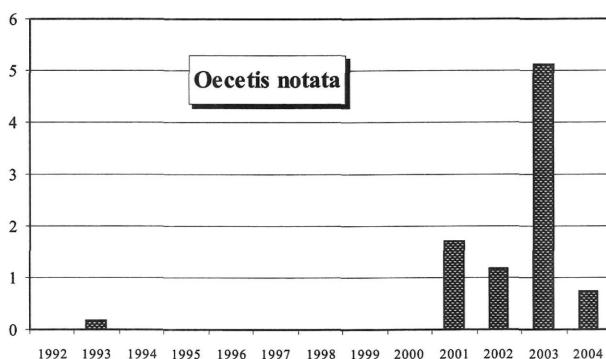


Fig. 13.: Activity of *Oecetis notata* Ramb. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
13. ábra: Az *Oecetis notata* Ramb. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

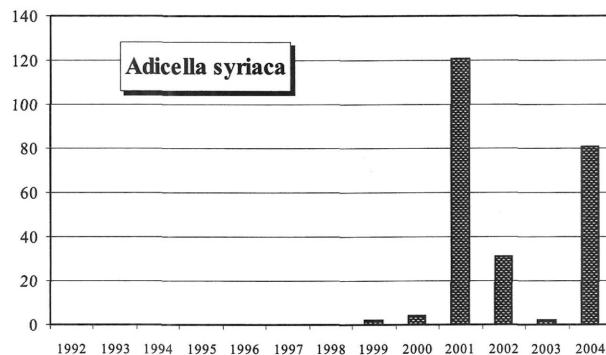


Fig. 14.: Activity of *Adicella syriaca* Ulmer at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
14. ábra: Az *Adicella syriaca* Ulmer aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

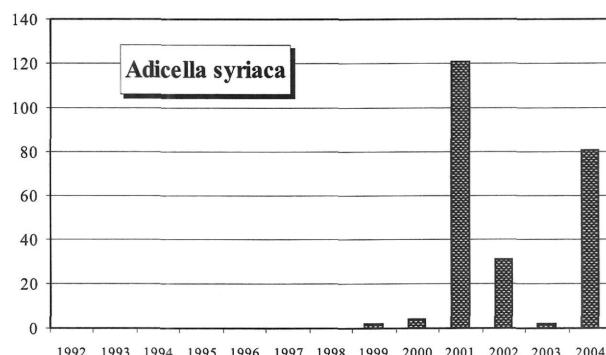


Fig. 15.: Activity of *Silo piceus* Brau. at Vízvár, 1992-2004.
15. ábra: A *Silo piceus* Brau. aktivitása Vízvárnál, 1992-2004.

There are a few species which became more frequent at Vízvár and along other sections of the river only in the last years. Both *Adicella syriaca* Ulmer (Fig. 14) and *Silo piceus* Brau. (Fig. 15) were unknown or very rare in the nineties. In 1999 they appeared and soon they became permanent and not rare members of community.

Although the quantity of collected material was considerable during some years at Drávapalkonya and Vejti, the collecting period was too short there, therefore changes were not shown clearly. At Drávasztára we sampled through years, but the collections of some years were not satisfactory. During the first half of nineties the quantity of *Oecetis notata* Ramb. was outstanding, later it became less frequent.

The other species discussed also in the previous sentences show similar run of activity, with few regularity.

The most valuable species of the Dráva river is the strictly protected *Platypylax frauenfeldi* Brau., which has a stable population between Szentborbás and Órtulos. Taking all data from this region into consideration we are presenting its activity, i.e. the graph of its all collected specimens. It seems that there were some outstanding years in the frequency: 1989 (when the light trap functioned at Szentborbás), 1992 and 1993 (light trap at Órtulos), 1996 (a very advantageous year for night collections) and 2000 (rather lucky meteorological situation in 30th and 31st October at Vízvár and Órtulos, when 46 specimens were collected on light). We also visited the sites in 1998 and in 1999, but no adults were caught, and the number of adults we only few in the years 2001-2004 (Fig. 16). This graph also shows that the circumstances influence the catch essentially.

We also try to show the activity of two other characteristic species, on the basis of all data of Drava region, from the year 1982. *Trichostegia minor* Curt. is a characteristic species of the region. It lives in forest fens mostly, and it is on wing from May until September, interrupted by a short summer diapause. Although it is not a rarity, we cannot collect its adults every year. *Limnephilus stigma* Curt. has a similar ecological character, but it is a very rare species. The first Hungarian specimens were collected only in 1995 (Jósvafő), first specimens were taken in 1996 along Dráva region (NÓGRÁDI 1998). We visited its site (Gyékényes) several times during last years, but it was collected only in few cases, most specimens in 2004 (Fig. 17).

Besides these four mentioned species we can sketch the graph of other species, as well. They do not show any regularity. We cannot settle whether either the unsatisfactory sampling or the changing circumstances cause the irregularity of graphs.

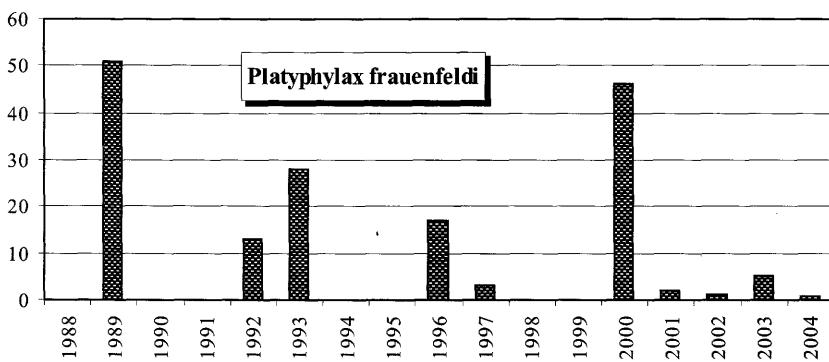


Fig. 16. Activity of *Platypylax frauenfeldi* Brau. in the Dráva region, 1989-2004.

16. ábra. A drávai tegzes (*Platypylax frauenfeldi* Brau.) aktivitása
a Dráva mentén, 1989-2004.

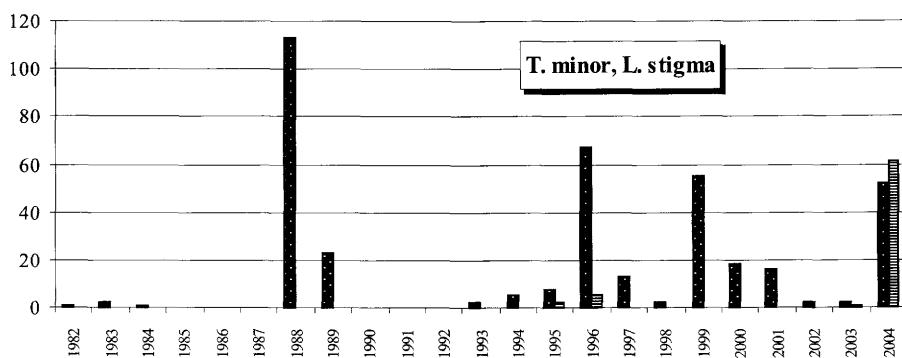


Fig. 17. Activity of *Trichostegia minor* Curt. and *Limnephilus stigma* Curt. in the Dráva region, 1982-2004.

17. ábra. A *Trichostegia minor* Curt. és a *Limnephilus stigma* Curt. aktivitása a Dráva vidékén, 1982-2004.

Conclusions

A middle term (13 years) series of samples is analysed by the activity of some caddisfly species. In the well-known locality of Vízvár some species show permanent and regular activity during the years, while others appeared in the second half of studied period. Activity of some species are also presented by taking into consideration all the data from Dráva region between 1982 and 2004.

As several unforeseen factors influence the activity, therefore these graphs cannot express the true activity. Permanent light traps functioning through many years can help us to study the changes of activity in its reality.

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Tegzes együttesek középtávú változásai a Dráva magyarországi szakasza mentén, 1992-2004 folyamán

UHERKOVICH ÁKOS és NÓGRÁDI SÁRA

A Dráva magyarországi szakasza mentén 1992 óta rendszeres vizsgálatokat folytatunk. Néhány lelőhelyen évente többször vettünk kvantitatív mintákat tegzesekből. Különösen Vízvárnál voltak eredményesek ezek a gyűjtések, ahol az eltelt 13 évből az utóbbi hatban állandóan mintáztunk, előtte alkalmilag. Ugyancsak sok minta származik a Dráva baranyai szakaszról is: Drávapalkonya és Vejti mellett a kilencvenes évek elején, Drávasztára mellett pedig 1992 és 2004 között rendszeresen, csaknem minden évben mintáztunk.

Néhány gyakoribb, Vízváron előforduló fajt vizsgálva megállapíthatjuk, hogy egyes fajok állandóan, nagy dominanciával jelen voltak a tegzes együttesekben (pl. *Hydropsyche contubernalis* McL., *Hydroptila sparsa* Curt., *Psychomyia pusilla* F., *Ceraclea dissimilis* Steph., *Setodes punctatus* F.), mások csak az időszak egy részében voltak dominánsak (*Oecetis notata* Ramb.). Két faj csak a vizsgálati időszak második felében, 1999 után jelent meg, de ezután viszonylag gyakorinak mutatkozott (*Adicella syriaca* Ulmer, *Silo piceus* Brau.).

A Dráva egyéb mintavételi helyein hasonló a helyzet, de a rövid adatsorok vagy a csekélyebb számú mintázás miatt az aktivitási diagramok kevésbé értékelhetők.

A Dráva legértékesebb faja, a *Platyphyax frauenfeldi* Brau. 1989 és 2004 között egyes években nagyobb példányszámban fordult elő (16. ábra). Ennek részben metodikai okai vannak (állandó, telepített fénycsapda működése), illetve 1996-ban és 2000-ben egészen kiváló időjárási körülmények között folytak a gyűjtések, a faj rövid, de erőteljes aktivitását így észlelni tudtuk.

Két másik jellemző faj (*Trichostegia minor* Curt. és *Limnephilus stigma* Curt.) esetén is megfigyelhető, hogy az aktivitás kiszámíthatatlan. Időnként kiugró nagy aktivitást észleltünk (pl. *T. minor*: 1988-89, *L. stigma*: 2004), máskor éveken át nem láthatók ezek a fajok (17. ábra).

A mintavétel körülményei: az időjárási helyzet (hőmérséklet, nedvesség, borultság és mindenekelőtt a fronthelyzet) és a zavaró holdfény (holdfázisok) nagyon változóak, az előbbiekknek hatásai kiszámíthatatlanok, ezért az egyes mintavételek rendkívül változó eredményt adnak. A belőlük levont következtetések is csak tájékozódásul szolgálnak, az aktivitás valódi mértékét nem fejezik ki hűen. Csak állandó, éveken keresztül működő fénycsapdák anyagának kiértékelésével jutnánk a valóságot megközelítő rajzási adatokhoz.