

EDITORIAL

100 articles published by Transitional Waters Bulletin: main achievements

A. Basset*, G. Carrada, M. Pinna, M. Renzi

Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences and Technologies,
University of the Salento, SP Lecce-Monteroni, 73100 Lecce, Italy.

*Corresponding author: Phone: +39 0832 298604; Fax: +39 0832 298604;
E-mail address: alberto.basset@unisalento.it

Editorial

Transitional Waters Bulletin is an international journal published by the University of the Salento (Italy) that has been indexed by SCOPUS® since October 2012. TWB is dedicated to rapidly publishing the results of innovative field and laboratory experiments, new techniques and creative ideas, as well as theoretical developments regarding all aspects of the ecology and conservation of transitional waters, including river mouth ecosystems, lagoons, coastal lakes and brackish wetlands. Its research and review topics include ecology, taxonomy, species distribution, bio-geochemistry, modelling, impact assessment case studies, the conservation, management and rehabilitation of habitats and communities, historical perspectives, socio-ecological adaptive management and the legal framework for conservation. Multi-disciplinary studies in any field at all levels of organization, from eco-physiology and ecotoxicology to ecosystem and landscape ecology, are also encouraged.

TWB is supported by specific editors for each eco-region, who collect and promote research papers from Northern Europe, the Mediterranean and Black Seas, North America, the Caribbean, South America and Oceania. Papers are peer-reviewed on the basis of an initial editor screening and

anonymous refereeing by at least two referees with clear experience of the subject treated in the article.

Since the publication of the first issue in 2007, TWB has published six volumes (18 issues) containing 100 original research papers, viewpoints and review articles. More than 80 different researchers published as first authors in the period 2007-2012, representing a wide range of nationalities. Italian institutions account for 55% of first authors, while the other 45% are affiliated with institutions based in other European countries (Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Norway, Russia, Spain, Turkey), America (Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, United States of America), Asia (China, Iran) and Africa (Tunisia).

The broad range of author nationalities is also reflected in the wide variety of both lagoon ecosystems and research fields considered. Figure 1 shows the frequency of research fields covered as a percentage of all published papers.

The most frequent research field (accounting for 20% of published articles) is benthic macroinvertebrates, including community and population structure in various transitional water ecosystems (e.g. Barbone *et al.*, 2007; Beqiraj *et al.*, 2007; Ponti *et al.*, 2009), temporary evolution, responses

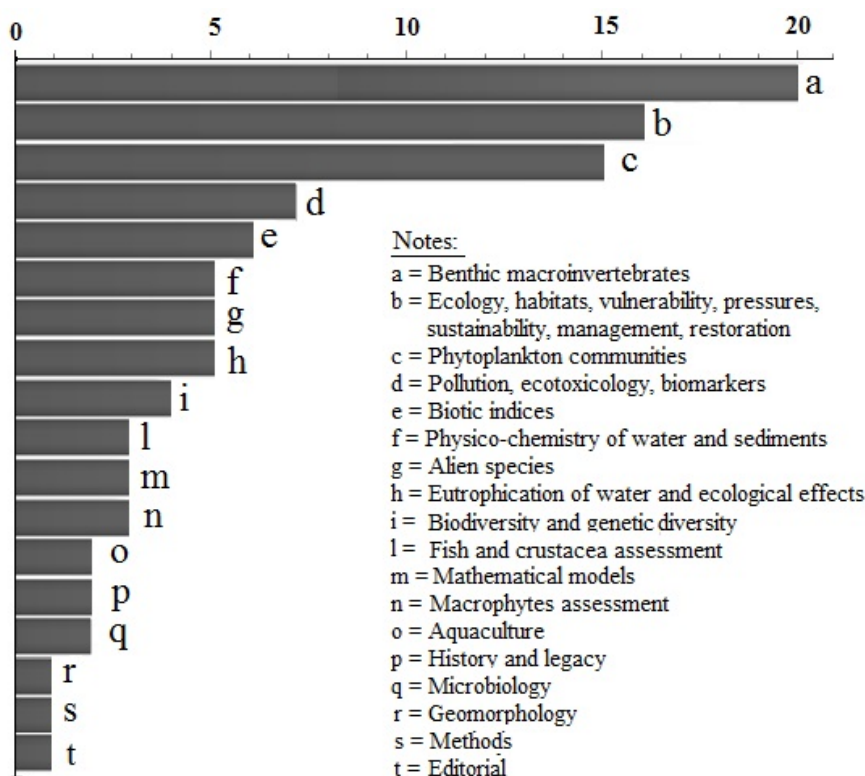


Figure 1. Frequency (as percentage) of research topics treated in 100 papers published in TWB. List of research topics is shown in notes.

to both human and non-human stressors, and relationships with eutrophication and dystrophy (e.g. Basset *et al.*, 2013). Topics concerned with the general ecology of transitional water ecosystems as well as habitat classification, vulnerability, the effects of various human pressures, sustainability, management activities and observed effects on communities, restoration strategies and evolution of the ecosystems under human management account for 16% of articles. Studies of phytoplankton, macrophytes and fish (e.g. Daoudi *et al.*, 2012; Orfanidis *et al.*, 2007; Cimmaruta *et al.*, 2010), together with functional studies (e.g. Sangiorgio *et al.*, 2007) account for more than 15% of articles.

The published papers have had about 300 citations in important journals on aquatic ecology (e.g. Pinna *et al.*, 2013, in Ecological

Indicators). The ten most frequently cited papers are shown in figure 2, which also shows that six of these have been published since 2009. These papers were authored by scientists from many different countries.

Transitional Waters Bulletin is the official journal of the National Network for Lagoon Research (LaguNet) and will soon also become a reference for the Euro-Mediterranean Federation on Coastal Lagoons (EuroMedLag).

Transitional Waters Bulletin is covered by the following indexing and abstracting databases: ULRICH'S Periodicals Directory, DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals, Google Scholar and Zoological Record. Furthermore, since October 2012, Transitional Waters Bulletin has been indexed by SCOPUS®, which was a key objective for TWB in terms of its international profile.

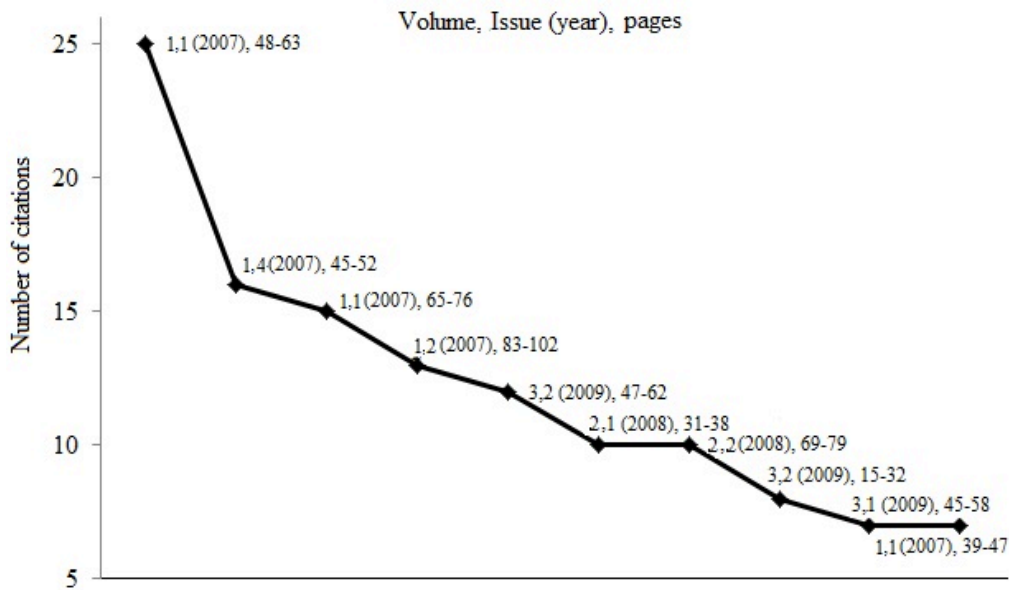


Figure 2. Ten most cited papers published in TWB.

Acknowledgments

The editorial board of TWB and especially A. Basset, editor-in-chief, thank all authors, the publishing team at Coordinamento SIBA – University of the Salento, and the anonymous referees for their collaboration with TWB.

References

Barbone E, Rosati I, Pinna M, Basset A 2007. Taxonomic and dimensional structure of benthic macroinvertebrate guilds in the Margherita di Savoia Salt Pans (Italy). *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 1(4): 21-31.

Basset A, Barbone E, Rosati I, Vignes F, Breber P, Specchiulli A, D’Adamo R, Renzi M, Focardi S, Ungaro N, Pinna M 2013. Resistance and resilience of ecosystem descriptors and properties to dystrophic events: a study case in a Mediterranean lagoon. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 7(1): 1-22.

Beqiraj S, Pinna M, Basset A, Nikleka E, Fetau B, Doka E, Ismailaj M, Barbone E, Sangiorgio F, Fedele L 2007. Preliminary data on the macrozoobenthos of the Albanian coastal lagoons (lagoons of Patok, Karavasta, Narta). *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 1(3): 37-43.

Cimmaruta R, Angeletti D, Pontremolesi A, Nascetti G 2010. Low microsatellite variation in *Aphanius fasciatus* from the Tarquinia Salterns.

Transitional Waters Bulletin 4(2): 83-93.

Daoudi M, Serve L., Rharbi N, El Madani F, Vouvé F 2012. Phytoplankton distribution in the Nador lagoon (Morocco) and possible risks for harmful algal blooms. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 6(1): 4-19.

Orfanidis S, Papathanasiou V, Sabetta L, Pinna M, Gigi V, Gounaris S, Tsiagga E, Nakou K, Theodosiou TH 2007. Benthic macrophyte communities as bioindicators of transitional and coastal waters: relevant approaches and tools. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 1(3): 45-49.

Pinna M, Marini G, Rosati I, Neto JM, Patrício J, Marques JC, Basset A 2013. The usefulness of large body-size macroinvertebrates in the rapid ecological assessment of Mediterranean lagoons. *Ecological Indicators* 29: 48-61.

Ponti M, Vadrucci MR, Orfanidis S, Pinna M 2009. Biotic indices for ecological status of transitional water ecosystems. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 3(3): 32–90.

Sangiorgio F, Basset A, Pinna M, Sabetta L, Abbiati M, Ponti M, Minocci M, Orfanidis S, Nicolaidou A, Moncheva S, Trajanova A, Georgescu L, Dragan S, Beqiraj S, Koutsoubas D, Evagelopoulos A, Reizopoulou S 2007. Ecosystem processes: litter breakdown patterns in Mediterranean and Black Sea transitional waters. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* 1(3): 51-55.