THE BENTHIC FAUNA ASSOCIATIONS FROM THE MEANDERS AREA OF DANUBE – SAINT GEORGE BRANCH, IN THE PERIOD 2016 - 2017

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Abstract. The study presents the results of qualitative and quantitative analysis of benthic fauna associations of Saint George branch meanders of Danube Delta, Romania, performed in June 2016 and September 2017, respectively. Following the anthropogenic hydromorphological changes suffered by the Saint George branch in '90s years caused by cutting its length with about 35%, along with the increasing of industrialization and agricultural activities favoured by the opening of the channel to the navigation, the benthic fauna underwent a series of changes in terms of diversity and abundance. Based on 43 samples collected in 2016 and 2017, a total of 51 taxa, belonging to 20 major groups in both years and average abundances of 265,440 ind.m⁻², in September 2016 and 12,402.4 ind.m⁻² in June 2017 were found. Our findings suggest that a slightly improving of the quality of the environment within the study area has occurred after 2000's years due to progressive reducing of impact generated by the abovementioned activities.

Key words: aquatic ecosystems, Danube River, Saint George branch, benthic fauna, diversity, ecological structure indices

1. INTRODUCTION

The Danube is the second longest European river, more than a third of the river's length flowing through Romania. Saint George is the southernmost of the three main branches through which the Danube flows into the Black Sea, carrying about 23% of the total water flow of the main river and 21% of the Danube sediment discharge (Jugaru Tiron *et al.*, 2009). St. George branch is part of the Danube Delta (UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, Ramsar and World Heritage site declared since 80's years), being surrounded in its lower part by strictly protected and buffer deltaic areas (Fig. 1).

However, during 80's and 90's decades, the Danube Delta has suffered major changes induced by transformation of large areas of natural land and water environments into artificial ecosystems used for agriculture, industry or navigation purposes. Thus, out of the thirty ecosystems types of the Danube Delta, seven of them were created by man. For instance, in order to improve the navigation, in the 1985-1990 interval, the Saint George branch was shortened from 108 km to 70 km by cutting six meanders along its length (Florescu *et al.*, 2013). This anthropogenic intervention led to creation of three distinct sections in the river branch: the free-flowing sector (FS), the meanders section (MS) and the newly built canal (NBC).

Several studies performed before showed that these changes had affected the quality of the environment (Humborg *et al.*, 1997; Vosniakos *et al.*, 2008; Vosniakos *et al.*, 2012; Giosan *et al.*, 2012, Stanescu *et al.*, 2013) and, in particular, the diversity and the abundance of benthic fauna of the Mahmudia and Murighiol sectors of the Saint George channel (Gheorghe *et al.*, 2013; Stoica *et al.*, 2013, 2014). Our study aims to present the biodiversity and the ecological structure in terms of abundance, dominance and frequency of benthic populations within the rectified meanders of the Saint George branch, in the period 2016-2017.

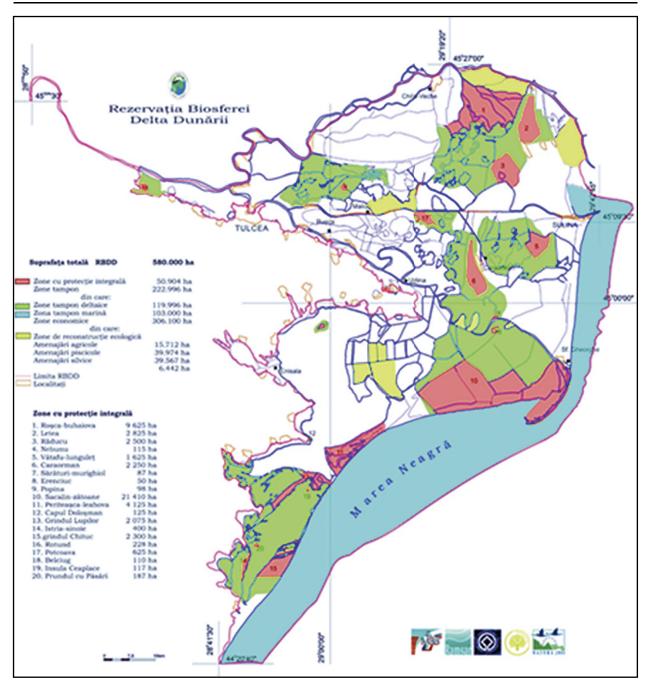


Fig. 1. The Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (red: strictly protected areas; green: deltaic buffer areas; blue: marine buffer areas; yellow: economic and ecological reconstruction areas). http://www.ddbra.ro/en/danube-delta-biosphere-reserve/danube-delta/location

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was focused on the area approximatively delimited by the Mahmudia – Dunavățul de Jos localities and comprised both the natural meanders and the cut off artificial canal used for navigation, as well as the Uzlina lake, which communicates with the one of the meander through a narrow channel (Fig. 2).

From ecological point of view, these areas differ significantly both in terms of hydrology and submerged vegetation coverage. The Mahmudia meander sampling area as well as the "big M" meander are characterized by a free flow water regime and rich vegetation along the banks. The navigable channel between Murighiol and the confluence point of "big M" meander with the Saint George channel has an active flow regime and no or little vegetation. The Uzlina Lake, on the other hand, represents a lotic eutrophicated system, rich in submerged vegetation, especially in the summer period.

In total, 43 quantitative and qualitative zoobenthos samples (Table 1) have been collected using a Van Veen grab and

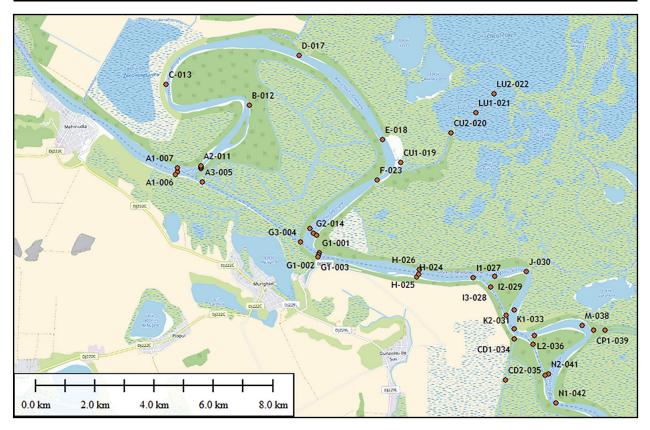


Fig. 2. Distribution of the stations on the Rectified Meanders Area of the Saint George Branch.

a limnological net, in order to gather, as much as possible, the diversity of the analysed ecosystem. On board of the R/V Istros, the samples were washed through a 0.125 mm sieve in order to remove the excessive sediment particles. A mixed solution of Rose Bengal and buffered formaldehyde 4% was used for fixation, staining and further preservation until subsequent analysis of benthic organisms in the laboratory. The sample processing and analysis were done according to the SR EN ISO 5661-1:2008.

In laboratory, the samples were sorted and the organisms were identified at the lowest taxonomical level possible using a Carl Zeiss SteREO Discovery V8 microscope and an Axiostar microscope. The taxonomic identification was done according to Godeanu, 2002. All organisms within a sample have been counted.

In order to characterize the dynamics of the benthic populations, the calculation of the structural unicriterial indices (total abundance, average and ecological density, frequency, dominance and indices of ecological significance) was done using Microsoft Office Excel 2017. The dendrograms and the cumulative dominance curves depicting the relationships between samples, on the one hand, and between species, on the other hand, as well as the ranked dominance of taxons after abundance were performed using the software PRIMER 6 & PERMANOVA + (Clarke and Gorley, 2006) and PAST (Hammer *et al.*, 2001).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The faunistic research performed in the studied sector highlighted the presence of 44 taxa of invertebrates in 2016 and 41 taxa in 2017, respectively, belonging to 20 major taxonomic groups (Table 2).

In the area of the meanders, the oligochaetes were the most numerous with an average abundance of 265,440 ind.m⁻² in 2016 and 12,402.4 ind.m⁻² in 2017, respectively.

The molluscs were represented by a small number of species, the most frequent being: *Dreissena polymorpha* (Pallas, 1771), *Esperiana esperi* (Férussac, 1823), *Lithoglyphus naticoides* (C. Pfeiffer, 1828), *Theodoxus danubialis* (C. Pfeiffer, 1828), *Viviparus viviparous* (Linnaeus, 1758), and *Stagnicola palustris* (O. F. Müller, 1774) (Table 2). Rarely found were *Bi-thynia leachi* (Sheppard, 1823), *Dreissena bugensis* (Andrusov, 1897), *Lymnaea stagnalis* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Unio pictorum* (Linnaeus, 1758) and *Corbicula fluminea* (O. F. Müller, 1774). The bivalves were found within the psamopeloreophilic biocoenosis (fine mud and fast water stream habitats) at low depths, with the exception of the species *D. polymorpha*, which inhabits the stony facies from depths of 3 to 25 m.

The gammarid and corophiid species among the crustaceans were represented by few species. The dominant species throughout the studied area was the Ponto-Caspian relict *Chelicorophium curvispinum* (G.O. Sars, 1895) constituting 72% of the total amphipods abundance. It inhabits

Table 1. Synopsis of the macrozoobenthos stations

Crt.		Depth	Coord	inates
no.	Station	(m)	Lat. (α)	Long. (λ)
1	G1-001	7.50	45002'45.9"N	29011′24.5″E
2	G1-002	15.70	45002′43.3″N	29011′23.2″E
3	G1-003	16.20	45002′41.3″N	29011′22.5″E
4	G3-004	21.36	45002′57.7″N	29010′56.4″E
5	A3-005	18.10	45004′06.2″N	29008'28.3"E
6	A1-006	10.20	45004′17.9″N	29007'49.6"E
7	A1-007	6.20	45004′21.9″N	29007′50.0″E
8	A1-008	10.50	45004'14.9"N	29007'47.3"E
9	A2-009	1.40	45004'20.7"N	29008'26.6"E
10	A2-010	0.70	45004′21.9″N	29008'26.7"E
11	A2-011	1.30	45004′23.2″N	29008'26.0"E
12	B-012	4.50	45005'28.0"N	29009'43.0"E
13	C-013	4.10	45005′53.0″N	29007′36.1″E
14	G2-014	4.50	45003'07.2"N	29011′15.9″E
15	G2-015	1.20	45003'04.6"N	29011′21.0″E
16	G2-016	4.20	45003'12.1"N	29011′11.1″E
17	D-017	4.20	45006′21.1″N	29011′02.1″E
18	E-018	4.10	45004'47.0"N	29013'07.0"E
19	CU1-019	8.10	45004′21.1″N	29013'33.9"E
20	CU2-020	2.40	45004′52.0″N	29014′52.6″E
21	LU1-021	1.20	45005′12.9″N	29015′32.0″E
22	LU2-022	1.20	45005'33.5"N	29016′00.0″E
23	F-023	14.40	45004′03.1″N	29012′57.2″E
24	H-024	4.50	45002′16.6″N	29013′53.5″E
25	H-025	4.30	45002′19.0″N	29013′56.4″E
26	H-026	4.40	45002'24.1"N	29013′57.8″E
27	l1-027	8.40	45002'13.8"N	29015′20.8″E
28	13-028	11.10	45002′03.2″N	29015′47.2″E
29	12-029	4.50	45002′14.9″N	29015′53.2″E
30	J-030	4.60	45002'18.9"N	29016′41.7″E
31	K2-031	4.30	45001′37.8″N	29016′22.1″E
32	K3-032	9.60	45001'32.2"N	29016'09.4"E
33	K1-033	18.80	45001′16.7″N	29016′21.1″E
34	CD1-034	3.30	45001′05.8″N	29016′21.0″E
35	CD2-035	3.50	45000′21.5″N	29016′05.9″E
36	L2-036	4.10	45001'09.0"N	29016′51.7″E
37	L3-037	14.30	45000'59.4"N	29016′49.4″E
38	M-038	2.10	45001′18.6″N	29018′05.3″E
39	CP1-039	1.60	45001′12.8″N	29018′22.9″E
40	CP2-040	1.60	45001′13.0″N	29018'40.0"E
41	N2-041	5.50	45000'27.1"N	29017′12.1″E
42	N1-042	12.50	44059′55.4″N	29017′21.6″E
43	N3-043	12.80	45000'25.4"N	29017′06.7″E

all the biocenoses in this sector, from depths of 1 to 30 m. Generally, the populations of C. curvispinum have been encountered associated with D. polymorpha, which is in accordance with Sebestyén (1938) observations in the Balaton Lake. On contrary, the highly successful invasion potential of the muddy tube-building C. curvispinum was associated by several authors with its capacity to outcompete the stony inhabiting species such as D. polymorpha (Van der Velde et al., 2000), several larvae of chironomid species, isopods and other amphipods, by exerting a mud swamping effect on their habitats. Also present, but in smaller quantities were found C. robustum (G.O. Sars, 1895), Dikerogammarus haemobaphes fluviatilis (Eichwald, 1841), D. villosus (Sowinsky, 1894), Chaetogammarus tenellus behningi, Uroniphargoides spinicaudatus (Cărăuşu, 1943), Pontogammarus obesus (Sars, 1896), Chelicorophium curvispinum (G.O. Sars, 1895), Euxinia sarsi (Sowinsky, 1898), Stenogammarus carausui (Derzhavin & Pjatakova, 1962) and S. compressus similis (Sars, 1894).

Two species of mysids - *Paramysis bakuensis* (G.O. Sars, 1895) and *P. ullskyi* (Czerniavsky, 1882) - were identified, whereas only one species of cumacean: *Pseudocuma cercarioides* (Sars, 1894).

The isopod species *Jaera istri* (Veuille, 1979) was found only sporadically in 2017, despite that the isopod is widespread in the Danube and recently has been reported as invader of many aquatic systems (Tittizer, 1997; Schleuter and Schleuter, 1995).

The ostracods were represented also by few species that reached very low abundances. Hence, in 2016 seven species were identified: *Darwinula stevensoni* (Brady & Robertson, 1870), *Cypria ophtalmica* (Jurine, 1820), *Pseudocandona albicans* (Brady, 1864), *Ilyocypris sp.* (Brady & Norman, 1889), *Cypridopsis vidua* (O. F. Müller, 1776), *Fabaeformiscandona fabaeformis* (Fischer, 1851), whereas only one species *Ilyocypris sp.*, in 2017, respectively. The difference could be explained, in part, by the collecting method. Thus, a limnological net instead of grab sampler was used in 2017 in some stations, the number of ostracods species that live usually in mud being smaller than in 2016.

The hydrozoan *Hydra vulgaris* (Pallas, 1766), a species spread throughout the lower Danube, reached an average abundance of 56 ind.m⁻² in the studied area, in 2016.

Among the Ponto-Caspian relicts, the polychaete *Hypania invalida* (Grube, 1960), with an average abundance of 9,352 ind.m⁻² in 2016 and 407 ind.m⁻², in 2017 respectively was present. It inhabits various substrate types (hard and soft bottoms), at depths ranging between 1 and 30 m.

The most important representatives of the Insecta group were the larvae of Chironomidae, Trichoptera and Ephemeroptera, and seldom Odonata (*e.g.*, Zygoptera) and Lepidoptera. Out of the Trichoptera group, species from Hydropsychidae, Polycentropodidae, Leptoceridae and Hydroptilidae families have been present. The Ephemeroptera larvae were represented by the Caenidae and Baetidae families. The insects belonging to the Diptera Group were dominated by the species of the Bezzia. Genus, with an average abundance of 336 ind.m⁻², in 2016 and the Heteroptera Group were dominated by the species *Coriza dentipes* (Thomson, 1869) and *Paracorixa Cincinnati* (Fieber, 1848), in 2017.

Overall, the average density of the benthic populations in the area of the rectified meanders of the Saint George's branch was of 481,868 ind.m⁻² in September 2016 and 58,467.4 ind. m⁻², in June 2017 respectively. The greatest abundances were found within the stations CP2-16-040 and LU1-16-021, in 2016 and within the stations N2-17-2-17 and LU2-17-2017, in 2017, respectively. This can be related to the presence of luxuriant submerged vegetation both in the stations located in Uzlina Lake and on the natural "big M meander" (Fig. 2). In 2016, the oligochaetes, polychaetes and gammarids dominated as abundance, whereas in 2017, the oligochaetes, crustaceans (Gammaridae and Corophiidae) and Chironomidae larvae prevailed (Fig. 3).

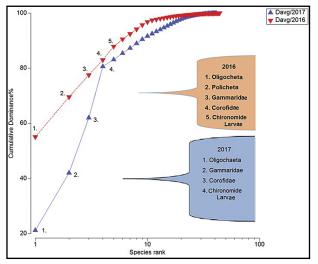


Fig. 3. The cumulative curve of the average density of benthic populations in the investigated area in 2016 and 2017.

The euconstant taxa were oligochaetes, gammarids and Chironomidae larvae in 2016 and oligochaetes, gammarids, corophiids, the gastropod *Lithoglyphus naticoides* and Chironomidae larvae, in 2017, respectively (Fig. 4 and 5).

Our results are similar to other outcomes studies, which showed that the oligochaetes, chironomids, gasteropods and bivalves are the dominant taxa within the Danube Delta branches (Ignat *et al.*, 1997, Vădineanu *et al.*, 2000, Tudorancea and Tudorancea, 2006, Martinovič-Vitanovič *et al.*, 2013, Dobrin *et al.*, 2013, Atanackovič *et al.*, 2013). These results evince a structure that is still influenced by the changes occurred in the years 80's - 90's, when a pronounced simplification of aquatic biocenoses was reported (Rîşnoveanu, 1993; Ignat *et al.*, 1997; Stănescu *et al.*, 2013). After 2000's, a period of slightly restoration of the structure and composition of benthic invertebrate fauna was highlighted, in spite of the evidences of presence of some remnant pollutants both in water and sediments (Stoica *et al.*, 2014).

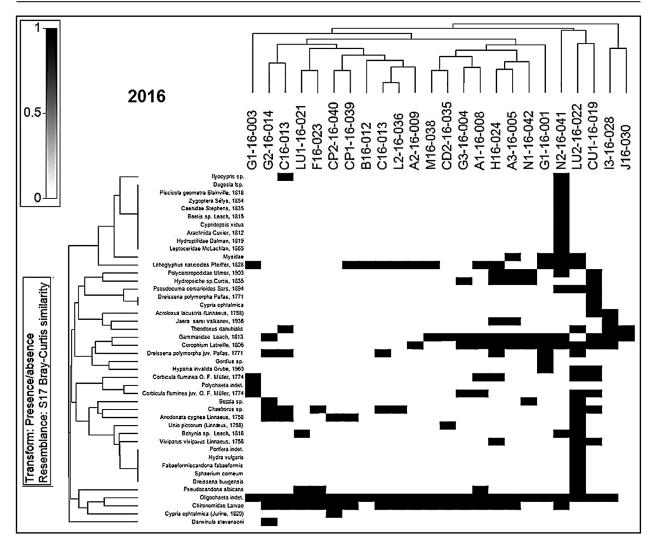


Fig. 4. The index of association between macrobenthic species (vertical) and stations based on the Bray-Curtis similarity (presence / absence transformation) (horizontally), in 2016.

CONCLUSIONS

The total average density of invertabrates determined in the Saint George rectified meanders area in September 2016 was eight times higher than in June 2017. Due to predominant use of limnological net in the stations with luxuriant vegetation in 2017, the abundance of phytophyllous species such as of insect larvae (Trichoptera, Ephemeroptera) was found higher, while the number of sediment inhabitant species was lower.

In 2016, the organisms with constant populations belonged to Oligochaeta and Chironomidae larvae and several pulmonary gastropods such as *Lymnea stagnalis*, *Planorbarius corneus*, and prosobranchs such as the genus *Viviparus sp.*, especially abundant in the stations located in the Murighiol area, probably because of rich organic matter and epiphyton presence at the surface of the sediments. Their high densities could also be related to their preferences for the muddy biocoenosis and their tolerance to a large variety of pollutants still remnant in the sediment and water (Stoica *et al.*, 2014; ICPDR, 2015). The highest values of the numerical density and diversity of benthic invertebrates were determined at the Uzlina Lake stations as well at the stations situated on the "big M" meander, where crustaceans, gastropods and chironomid larvae dominated.

Overall, taking into consideration the relatively high diversity of 51 species, comparable with that reported by other authors in the area (Stoica *et al.*, 2012, 2013) and the high abundances of groups such as crustaceans, gastropods and bivalves, the dynamic of the benthic populations both in September 2016 and June 2017 in the study area can be considered in accordance with the positive tendency recorded by several studies in the recent period that attest a slightly recovery process (IGCPR, 2008, 2015). However, attention should be drawn on the dominance of halophilous crustaceans *D. haemobaphes, D. villosus, Obesogammarus obesus, Echinogammarus trichiatus, E. ischnus, Chelicorophium curvispinum*, of polychaete *Hypania invalida*, the Ponto-Caspian species that have become highly invasive in other basins in the last decades, especially due to ship traffic. Anyway, the Danube and its reaches are also ex-

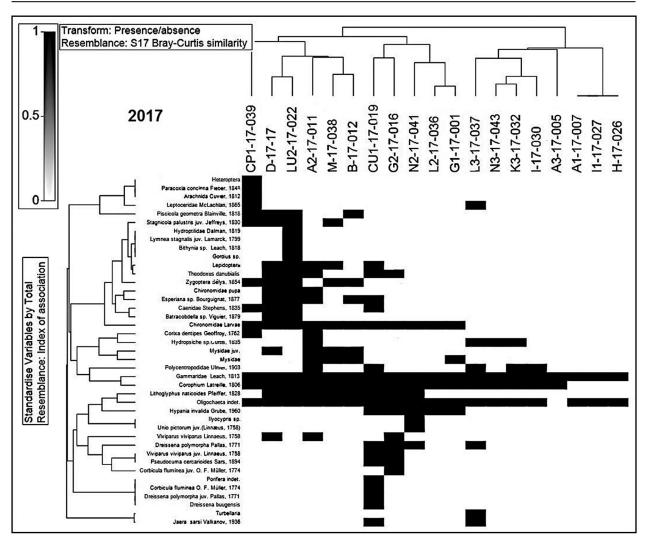


Fig. 5. The index of association between macrobenthic species (vertical) and stations based on the Bray-Curtis similarity (presence / absence transformation) (horizontally), in 2017.

posed to non-native species, 34 non-native aquatic macroinvertebrates being recorded in 2015 (Joint Danube Survey 3 report, 2015). Species like *C. fluminea*, for the first time reported in the Romanian Danube part in 1999 (Bij de Vaate and Hulea, 2000) and in the Romanian sector of the Danube delta in the winter of 1997 (Skolka and Gomoiu, 2001), was rarely present in the study area, but it is still very abundant in the main Danube stream and its tributaries as well as in the delta, where can reach hundreds to thousands of individuals per square meter (Hubenov *et al.*, 2013).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bithymics, leach, 181810640.2231242.56354.66163155.40.2612.2613.268.17Ithoglyphrs matcodes Petifier, 13281231531231231231231457.82.49842.1056.73Acolowas haarstroides Petifier, 13281120.02284.4855660.668511457.82.49842.1075.73Acolowas handbalis1120.02287122108.7818655.5317.915 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1480.0910000010106107107 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1120.0212179179179179179179 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1130.0000000000 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1180.010101010101010179179 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1180.00000000001010 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1180.000000000101010 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 118101010101010101010101010 <i>Hoodowas handbalis</i> 1181010101010<	10.	Batracobdella sp. Viguier, 1879	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44.4	0.075	2	10.52	2.33	22.2	0.89
<i>ithoglyphis maticolise Petifieu</i> , 182872801.511.20.24.85.916.66.668.511.45.82.916.7.107.7.10 <i>ithoglyphis maticolise Petifieu</i> , 17381120.02284.48560.43000000 <i>headowas damubisis</i> 4480.09410101121021021010101010 <i>headowas damubisis</i> 000000001121021081526.3117.915 <i>headowas damubisis</i> 00000000010101010 <i>headowas damubisis</i> 000000001010101010 <i>hybowas wipows</i> 00000000010101010 <i>hybowas damubisis</i> 0000000001010101010 <i>hybowas damubisis</i> 000000000010101010101010 <i>hybowas damubisis</i> 0000000000101010101010101010101010101010101010<	11.	Bithynia sp. Leach, 1818	1064	0.22	3	12	42.56	354.66	1.63	155.4	0.26	-	5.26	8.17	155.4	1.18
Acrobaves kacastri limaees, 17581120.02284.4856.4810500	12.	Lithoglyphus naticoides Pfeiffer, 1828	7280	1.51	12	48	291.2	606.66	8.51	1457.8	2.49	8	42.10	76.72	182.225	10.24
<i>Imedoaus dambidis</i> 4480.0941.01.791.21.051.8656.6.31.791.73 <i>Eperiaras</i> , Bourguignat, 187700000000340.455.81.731.7915 <i>Kupbarus virpaaus</i> , 1738480.09311121.631.731.75 <i>Winparus virpaaus</i> , 17380000000022.031.161.16 <i>Muobanato gynae</i> linnaeus, 173800000000001.161.16 <i>Muobanato gynae</i> linnaeus, 173800000000001.161.17 <i>Muobanato gynae</i> linnaeus, 17380000000000000 <i>Muobanato gynae</i> linnaeus, 1738000000000000000 <i>Muobanato gynae</i> linnaeus, 1738000	13.	Acroloxus lacustris Linnaeus, 1758	112	0.02	2	8	4.48	56	0.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Eperiancs</i> p. Bourguignat. 1877000000036.0117.91517.91515.817.91515.817.91515.815.91517.91515.815.91515.91615.915 <th>14.</th> <th>Theodoxus danubialis</th> <th>448</th> <th>0.09</th> <th>4</th> <th>16</th> <th>17.92</th> <th>112</th> <th>1.22</th> <th>1087.8</th> <th>1.86</th> <th>5</th> <th>26.31</th> <th>57.25</th> <th>217.56</th> <th>6.99</th>	14.	Theodoxus danubialis	448	0.09	4	16	17.92	112	1.22	1087.8	1.86	5	26.31	57.25	217.56	6.99
Wriparus viriparus viriparus4480.0931217.32149.331.0566.60.11315.783.50Wriparus viriparus viriparus73000000000000Anadonate cygnee linnaeus, 17583360.06952013.4467.21.18000000Stappical partix juu. leftreys, 1830000000000000Vipmear stappind light vitamarck, 1799000000000000Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413440.2752033.76268.82.361.480.0315.260.34Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413440.2752050.7656.882.361.480.0915.260.34Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413440.2752050.76258.87.217.40.0315.260.34Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413440.2752050.76258.87.217.40.0617.67.4Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413422.067149.332.112.220.0317.60.34Vorbud fuminee () F. Miller, 177413422.601370.671370.64116.6 </th <th>15.</th> <th>Esperiana sp. Bourguignat, 1877</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>340.4</th> <th>0.58</th> <th>5</th> <th>26.31</th> <th>17.915</th> <th>68.08</th> <th>3.91</th>	15.	Esperiana sp. Bourguignat, 1877	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	340.4	0.58	5	26.31	17.915	68.08	3.91
Wriparus viryparus viryparus000000022.20.037210.521.16Anadomata cygrea limneus, 17583360.06952013.4467.21.18000000Stagnicola palustris jux Jeffreys, 1830000000000000000Stagnicola palustris jux Jeffreys, 183000	16.	Viviparus viviparus Linnaeus, 1758	448	0.09	S	12	17.92	149.33	1.05	66.6	0.11	c	15.78	3.50	22.2	1.34
Anodonata cygnea Linnaeus, 17583360.06952013,4467.21.180000000Stagnicola palustris jux. Jeffreys, 183000 <th>17.</th> <th>Viviparus viviparus juv. Linnaeus, 1758</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>0</th> <th>22.2</th> <th>0.037</th> <th>2</th> <th>10.52</th> <th>1.16</th> <th>11.1</th> <th>0.63</th>	17.	Viviparus viviparus juv. Linnaeus, 1758	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.2	0.037	2	10.52	1.16	11.1	0.63
Stagnicola padistrijuu. Leffreys, 183000000048.40.83421.0525.70Vpmaes tagnalis juu. Lamarck, 1799000000081.40.1315.264.28Vpmaes tagnalis juu. Lamarck, 17990000000015.264.28Corbicula fluminea O. F. Müller, 177413440.2752053.76268.82.3614.80.0715.260.37Corbicula fluminea O. F. Müller, 177413440.2752050.7658.82.3614.80.015.260.37Corbicula fluminea U. F. Müller, 177413440.2752050.7658.87.217.40.015.260.34Dreissena polymorpha Pallas, 17713920.081149.332.117.40.07172.680.34Dreissena polymorpha Juu. Pallas, 17713920.081149.332.112.220.03116Dreissena bugensis560.18142.245560.7337.40.061770.641616Dreissena bugensis560.17142.245560.7337.40.06172616Dreissena bugensis560.18149.332.112.220.03<	18.	Anodonata cygnea Linnaeus, 1758	336	0.069	5	20	13.44	67.2	1.18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>ymmeastagnalis</i> jux.Lamarck, 179900000000013.40.3.264.2.84.2.8 <i>corbicula fluminea</i> (1774)13440.2752226.8.82.3.614.80.015.2.64.2.8 <i>corbicula fluminea</i> (1774)13440.27522050.7.626.8.87.217.40.015.2.680.3.4 <i>Corbicula fluminea</i> (1771)3920.081415.683920.57377.40.0615.2.680.3.4 <i>Dreissena polymorpha</i> Pallas, 17713920.081415.683920.57377.40.64421.0519.8.6 <i>Dreissena bolymorpha</i> (1771)8960.1862435.84149.332.1122.20.0315.261.3.6 <i>Dreissena bolymorpha</i> (1771)8960.1862435.84149.332.1122.20.0315.261.3.6 <i>Dreissena bugensis</i> 560.1862435.84149.332.1122.20.0315.261.3.6 <i>Dreissena bugensis</i> 560.1872435.4149.332.1122.20.0315.261.3.6 <i>Dreissena bugensis</i> 560.1872456149.332.1122.20.0315.261.3.6 <i>Dreissena bugensis</i> 1560.03142.2	19.	Stagnicola palustris juv. Jeffreys, 1830	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	488.4	0.83	4	21.05	25.70	122.1	4.19
Corbicular fuminea (). F Müller, 1774 1344 0.27 5 20 53.76 268.8 2.36 14.8 0.0 1 5.26 0.7 Corbicular fuminea (). F Müller, 1774 12544 2.60 5 20 501.76 250.88 7.21 7.4 0.0 1 5.268 0.34 Dreissena polymorpha [uv. D-Hauller, 1771 392 0.08 1 6 268.8 7.21 7.4 0.0 1 5.268 0.34 Dreissena polymorpha [uv. Pallas, 1771 392 0.08 1 5 1 5.268 0.34 1 9 1 9 1 9 1 9 1 9 1	20.	Lymnea stagnalis juv. Lamarck, 1799	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81.4	0.13	-	5.26	4.28	81.4	0.85
CorbicularIluminea juv. 0.F. Müller, 1774 12544 2.60 5 20 501.76 2508.8 7.21 7.4 0.0 1 5.268 0.34 Dreissena polymorpha Pallas, 1771 392 0.08 1 4 15.68 392 0.57 377.4 0.64 4 21.05 19.86 Dreissena polymorpha Jus, 1771 896 0.18 6 24 35.84 149.33 2.11 22.2 0.03 1 5.26 13.66 Dreissena polymorpha juv. Pallas, 1771 896 0.18 6 24 35.84 149.33 2.11 21.2 0.03 1 5.26 13.66 Dreissena bugensis 556 0.01 1 4 2.24 566 0.35 0.36 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 1 6 1 1 6 1 1 1 1	21.	Corbicula fluminea O. F. Müller, 1774	1344	0.27	5	20	53.76	268.8	2.36	14.8	0:0	-	5.26	0.7	14.8	0.36
Dreissena polymorpha Pallas, 1771 392 0.08 1 4 15.68 392 0.57 377.4 0.64 4 21.05 19.86 Dreissena polymorpha juv. Pallas, 1771 896 0.18 6 24 35.84 149.33 2.11 222 0.03 1 52.6 1.16 Dreissena bugensis 56 0.01 1 4 2.24 56 0.21 37 0.06 1 6 1.16 Sphaerium comeum 156 0.03 1 4 5.24 156 0.36 0 0 0 0 0 1 149 1	22.	Corbicula fluminea juv. O. F. Müller, 1774	12544	2.60	5	20	501.76	2508.8	7.21	7.4	0.0	-	5.268	0.34	7.4	0.25
Dreissena polymorpha juv. Pallas, 1771 896 0.18 6 24 35.84 149.33 2.11 22.2 0.03 1 5.26 1.16 Dreissena bugensis 56 0.01 1 4 2.24 56 0.21 37 0.06 1 5.26 1.94 Sphaerium commum 156 0.03 1 4 5.24 156 0.36 0	23.	Dreissena polymorpha Pallas, 1771	392	0.08	-	4	15.68	392	0.57	377.4	0.64	4	21.05	19.86	94.35	3.68
Dreissena bugensis 56 0.01 1 4 2.24 56 0.21 37 0.06 1 5.26 1.94 Sphaerium comeum 156 0.03 1 4 6.24 156 0.36 0	24.	Dreissena polymorpha juv. Pallas, 1771	896	0.18	9	24	35.84	149.33	2.11	22.2	0.03	-	5.26	1.16	22.2	0.44
Sphaerium comeum 156 0.03 1 4 6.24 156 0.36 0	25.	Dreissena bugensis	56	0.01	-	4	2.24	56	0.21	37	0.06	-	5.26	1.94	37	0.57
Unio pictorum Linnæus, 1758 168 0.03 2 8 6.72 84 0.52 7.4 0.012 1 5.26 0.39	26.	Sphaerium corneum	156	0.03	-	4	6.24	156	0.36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	27.	Unio pictorum Linnæus, 1758	168	0.03	2	8	6.72	84	0.52	7.4	0.012	-	5.26	0.39	7.4	0.25

Ana Bianca Pavel, Laura Duțu, Neculai Patriche – The benthic fauna associations from the meanders area of Danube – Saint George branch, in the period 2016 - 2017

ţ					2016							2017			
	Species				20102							1174			
°		Abound	D%	Noc	F%	Davg	Deco	N	Abound	D%	Noc	F%	Davg	Deco	N
28.	Darwinula stevensoni	56	0.01	-	4	2.24	56	0.21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Cypria ophtalmica Jurine, 1820	112	0.02	-	4	4.48	112	0.30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	<i>Ilyocypris</i> sp.	224	0.05	2	8	8.96	112	0.61	118.4	0.20	-	5.26	6.23	118.4	1.03
31.	Cypridopsis vidua	56	0.01	1	4	2.24	56	0.21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Fabaeformiscandona fabaeformis	56	0.01	1	4	2.24	56	0.21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Cypria ophtalmica	56	0.01	-	4	2.24	56	0.21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Pseudocandona albicans	8344	1.73	4	16	333.76	2086	5.26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Gammaridae Leach, 1813	26264	5.45	13	52	1050.56	2020.31	16.83	12180.4	20.83	19	100	641.07	641.07	45.64
36.	Corophium Latreille, 1806	23632	4.9	11	44	945.28	2148.36	14.68	11684.6	19.98	16	84.21	614.97	730.28	41.02
37.	Jaera istri Valkanov, 1936	336	0.07	3	12	13.44	112	0.91	503.2	0.86	2	10.52	26.48	251.6	3.00
38.	Pseudocuma cercarioides Sars, 1894	560	0.12	3	12	22.4	186.66	1.18	22.2	0.03	2	10.52	1.16	11.1	0.63
39.	Mysidae	504	0.10	4	16	20.16	126	1.29	303.4	0.51	4	21.05	15.96	75.85	3.30
40.	<i>Mysidae</i> juv.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1346.8	2.3	4	21.05	70.88	336.7	6.96
41.	Arachnida Cuvier, 1812	56	0.01	1	4	2.24	56	0.21	22.2	0.03	1	5.26	1.168	22.2	0.44
42.	<i>Baetis</i> sp. Leach, 1815	112	0.02	-	4	4.48	112	0.30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43.	Caenidae Stephens, 1835	1344	0.27	1	4	53.76	1344	1.05	259	0.4	4	21.05	13.63	64.75	3.0
44.	Hydropsiche sp.Curtis, 1835	3080	0.63	5	20	123.2	616	3.57	991.6	1.695	4	21.05	52.18	247.9	5.97
45.	Polycentropodidae Ulmer, 1903	5264	1.09	5	20	210.56	1052.8	4.67	310.8	0.53	5	26.31	16.35	62.16	3.74
46.	Leptoceridae McLachlan, 1865	280	0.05	1	4	11.2	280	0.48	96.2	0.16	2	10.52	5.06	48.1	1.31
47.	<i>Hydroptilidae</i> Dalman, 1819	952	0.19	1	4	38.08	952	0.88	392.2	0.67	1	5.26	20.64	392.2	1.87
48.	Zygoptera Sélys, 1854	1120	0.23	-	4	44.8	1120	0.96	222	0.37	5	26.31	11.68	44.4	3.16
49.	Chironomidae Larvae	38416	7.97	16	64	1536.64	2401	22.58	10885.4	18.61	11	57.89	572.91	989.58	32.83
50.	<i>Chironomidae</i> pupa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	873.2	1.49	ĸ	15.78	45.95	291.06	4.85
51.	Lepidoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	673.4	1.15	5	26.31	35.44	134.68	5.50
52.	Corixa dentipes Geoffroy, 1762	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88.8	0.15188	2	10.5	4.67	44.4	1.26
53.	Paracoxia concinna Fieber, 1848	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.4	0.01	-	5.26	0.389	7.4	0.25
54.	Heteroptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96.2	0.16	-	5.263	5.06	96.2	0.93
55.	<i>Bezzia</i> sp.	336	0:0	٣	12	13.44	112	0.91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
56.	Chaoborus sp.	448	0.0	7	28	17.92	64	1.613	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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