

What is underneath the water: A look at pond sediment and your influence

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You may not see everything that lives in a pond, but...

...there are important organisms called zooplankton who call ponds home.

-They serve as a vital food source for fish and other aquatic organisms

-Heavily affected by human influences such as increased salt levels and other pollution

- An experiment was conducted to test if the hatching of zooplankton eggs was affected by ...

- Different salt concentrations,

-Habitats with different levels of human activity

- Results

-Habitat location is a better indicator of hatching success than salinity or egg location.

- Why is that important?

-This study shows habitat location and the surrounding human activity is influential in the life cycle of organisms.

-Since quality of aquatic habitat is affected by humans...

Be careful how you treat the environment, you never know who you may be harming!

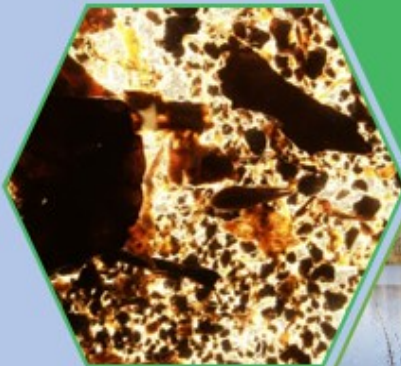


Photos by
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Daphnia pulex, pictured above, is a common species of zooplankton found in North American ponds.



Zooplankton lay eggs, pictured above, settle to the bottom of ponds in the sediment.



Sediment and water was gathered from three different ponds in the Lafayette area

