



European Pond
Conservation Network



Value Ponds in the 21st Century

Eyes of the Landscape

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STUDY AREA



We are working on the potential use of Odonata coenosis in the assessment of biodiversity and environmental integrity. As a first step, we are looking for correlations between community and population structure and habitat features. Surveys were carried out in 36 different Natura 2000 sites in Piedmont (Northern Italy), where species-habitat and species-clime preferences were investigated.

AIMS OF THE STUDY

- description of factors affecting species diversity
- habitat preferences of dragonfly in natural and semi- natural habitats



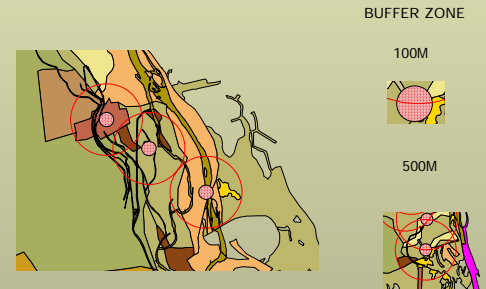
MATERIALS AND METHODS

MICROHABITAT

Percentage composition of micro habitat was described in each site (silt, sand, gravel, stones; submerged, floating and decayed vegetation in the bottom)
 Chemico-physical parameters of water were measured (pH, temperature, conductivity, O₂ in % and mg/litre).
 One hour transect was walked along the shoreline; In each site the micro-habitat composition was assessed

MACROHABITAT AND CLIME

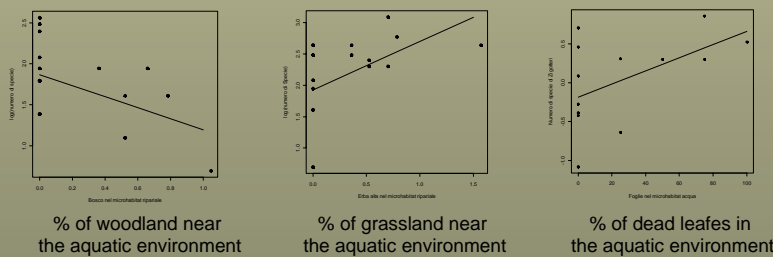
In each sampling station geographical coordinates have been recorded using a GPS system and a GIS based analysis was carried out; this allowed exploration of ecological preferences at a macro-habitat scale. Using data from WORDCLIM data on mean temperatures and mean precipitations in different months analysis on the influence of climate were conducted.



RESULTS

Preliminary results on the relations of species and environmental and climatic variables are shown

COMUNITY LEVEL



SPECIES LEVEL

