

Plankton hitch-hikers on naturalist's instruments as silent intruders of aquatic ecosystems: current risks and possible prevention

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Supplementary Material 4

The list of questions and possible responses in the survey



Plankton Sampling Question Survey

1 | Do you use or have you ever used a plankton net towing for sampling plankton during fieldwork?

- Yes
- No

2 | How often do/did you sample plankton from waterbodies using a plankton net?

- Regularly; usually up to ten times a year
- Regularly; usually from eleven to twenty times a year
- Regularly; usually more than twenty times a year
- Irregularly; there were years I did not collect plankton samples with a plankton net
- Irregularly, there are years when I sample plankton up to ten times a year, and other years when I do it more often
- None of the above

3 | How many water bodies (e.g. lakes, reservoirs, ponds) do/did you sample for plankton using plankton net per day?

- Usually more than one, but not more than five waterbodies per day
- Usually one per day, rarely more than one
- Always one per day
- Usually more than five different water bodies per day

4 | What do/did you do with the plankton net after sampling?

- I always immerse/have -immersed (several times) an opened plankton net in the water body
- I always immerse/have -immersed (several times) an open plankton net in the waterbody and let it dry
- I always rinse/have -rinsed an open plankton net with distilled water/tap water and let it dry
- I always just leave the plankton net to dry
- I always rinse/have -rinsed an open plankton net with detergent or other liquid to sterilize plankton net
- None of the above*

5 | Do/Did you use different nets for each sampled lake, when you sample/sampled more than one on the same day?

- Yes
- No
- I do/did not sample more than one lake on the same day

6 | What is your profession?

- Conservation biologist/Hydrobiologist at university/academy/institute
- Employee at water quality monitoring service
- None of the above**

7 | What is your degree status?

- Student
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- PhD student
- PhD
- Professor

8 | What is your nationality?

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Respondents that chose the answer „Non of the above“ in the case of the question 4 and 6 were additionally asked to specify what they do/did with the net after sampling () or what is/was their profesion (**).*