

Dominance of



Re-establishment of macrophyte communities is a key to restore eutrophic shallow lakes. The species composition of the plant communities may change rapidly during the recovery period. A basin in subtropical Lake Qinhu (China) was restored by biomanipulation including fish removal followed by planting of submerged macrophytes in 2011. In September-December 2011, dominance of *Vallisneria spirulosa* and *Ceratophyllum demersum* shifted to dominance of *Myriophyllum spicatum*. Meanwhile, the CPUE (catch per unit effort) showed that the number and biomass of grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) demonstrated a marked increase. Stable isotope analyses revealed that grass carp preferred *V. spirulosa* and *C. demersum* to *M. spicatum*. We propose that grazing by grass carp was responsible for the observed shift in dominance towards *M. spicatum* but as alternative explanations are possible, further tests by controlled experiments are needed to draw firm conclusions.

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Obtenir le document : EDP Sciences

Mots clés : grass carp, food preference, submerged macrophytes, community structure, stable isotope, carpe herbivore, préférence alimentaire, macrophyte submergé, structure de communauté, isotopes stables

Thème (issu du Text Mining) : MILIEU NATUREL, FAUNE

Date : 2016-04-19

Format : text/xml

Source : <https://doi.org/10.1051/kmae/2016011>

Langue : Anglais

Télécharger les documents : <https://www.kmae-journal.org/10.1051/kmae/2016011/pdf>

Permalien : <https://www.documentation.eauetbiodiversite.fr/notice/dominance-of0>

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