

— Trophic structure and interactions in Lake Ayamé (Côte d'Ivoire) —

The Ecopath software with Ecosim and Ecospace was used to describe structure and trophic relationships in Lake Ayamé. The total biomass of fish is 8 t.km⁻². The trophic levels assessment revealed that the highest value (3.83) was observed in *Hepsetus odoe*. The mean trophic level of catch (2.94) indicates that fisheries are targeting mainly the fish groups of high trophic levels. Resources are not exploited properly. Competition between species occurs for *Sarotherodon melanotheron* and *Oreochromis niloticus* for the first group and *Chrysichthys* spp. and *Heterotis niloticus* for the second group. Transfer efficiency is high from producers.

Auteurs du document : A. Traore, A. Ouattara, L. Doumbia, L. Tah, J. Moreau, G. Gourène

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