
Hydrobiological Station of the Institute of Ecology, Polish Academy of Sciences.
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The Hydrobiological Station at Mikołajki was set up in 1951 as an agency of the M. Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology. Since 1st January 1962 the Station has been a part of the Institute of Ecology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw.

The task of the Station is to study the hydrobiology (very broadly treated) of inland waters and to provide facilities for hydrobiological studies by scientific workers who are not on the permanent staff of the station. The Station has suitably equipped laboratories and is provided with means of transport by water and land, and work and living accommodation for some score guest scientists. Moreover the Station collaborates with universities by providing vacation training for students and facilities for those preparing for their M. Sc. degree.

The scientific work of the Hydrobiological Station at Mikołajki concentrates on two problems: the energetic balance of lakes in the Mazurian Lake district and lake survey in this area.

Within the framework of these two problems research is conducted on the light climate of lakes (light penetration and dispersion and visibility), on the primary production and the dynamics of producers and consumers. Materials are also collected concerning the characteristic of the environment of lake pelagial and bottom. Furthermore, work is in progress on the limnological evolution of lakes and their paleolimnology.

There are three permanent employees on the staff of the station:

Andrzej Szczepański, Dr — particular concern: ecology of *Oligochaeta* and environmental conditions of lakes; problems related to lake typology and evolution;

Wanda Szczepańska, M. Sc. — particular concern: ecology of *Trichoptera* larvae and investigations of primary production in the littoral zone of lakes

Zbigniew Malanowski, M. Sc. — particular concern: dynamics of phytoplankton abundance with a special consideration for *Diatomeae*, and in this connexion, research on the silicon balance of lakes and silicon demand of the predominant *Diatomeae* species.

A. Szczepański