

Effect of Waste Heat from Egbin Thermal Plant on the Plankton and Macrobenthos of Lagos Lagoon

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Abstract

The effect of waste heat discharge on the water chemistry, plankton and benthic fauna in the Lagos lagoon at Egbin was investigated for six months (February – July 2000) over three dry month (February - April) and three wet months (May - July). Water temperature were high (27⁰C - 40⁰C) and decreased spatially from station A to C. Transparency was higher in the dry months than wet months. The highest transparency (196cm) was recorded in May at station A while the lowest (66cm) was recorded in June at station B. Similarly, the highest Total

Dissolved Solids (394mgL^{-1}) was recorded in July. The site was acidic (<6.93) all through the sampling period Conductivity ($<2.5\text{cm}^{-1}$) and salinity ($<12.1\%$) values followed seasonal trends and were higher at station B. The lowest dissolved oxygen value (3.2mgL^{-1}) was recorded in May while higher nutrient values ($\text{NO}_3\text{-N } 3.98\text{mg/L}^{-1}$, $\text{PO}_4\text{-P } 0.64\text{mg/L}^{-1}$, SO_4 1135mg/L^{-1}) were recorded in March at station B. Heavy metals and oil and grease values were higher in the dry months. The biota spectrum comprised 83 phytoplankton species, 23 zooplankton species and five benthic fauna. High cyanobacteria specie, richness was recorded in elevated water temperatures ($>27^{\circ}\text{C}$), high transparency and low dissolved oxygen content (3.50 mg/L^{-1}) at stations A and B. Plankton species were more abundant in the wet than dry months. *Aulacoseira*, *Spirogyra*, *Acartia*, *Paracalanus* and *Cyclops* were prevalent plankton forms while *Pachymalania*, *Tymapanocho* and *Aloides* were frequent benthic taxa especially in the wet months. The high number of empty shells was more discernable in stations A and B.

Keywords: Plankton, Macrobenthos, Temperature, Dissolved oxygen, Waste heat

1. Introduction

The need to generate power worldwide had given rise to the use of various sources such as nuclear, gas, coal, wind, hydro, thermal and solar. Some of these are not environment friendly and create challenges particularly when the world is facing a major crisis, global warming. According to Thorhaiug (1978), the incidence of waste heat discharge in tropical coastal waters is even more critical as most marine organisms in the region already operate at the upper limits of their temperature tolerance. In the marine environments of estuaries, lagoons and coastal sea water, waste heat discharge may alter the environment in several ways. For instance, the water chemistry may change the status of heavy metals (Swany 1994, Ananthan, *et al.*, 2005) creating favourable loci for opportunistic species and elimination of venerable species. (Abbaspour, 2005). Discharge waste heat may lead to the development of plumes of heated water in discharge zones in estuaries and coastal environments. Stress induced by elevated temperatures could lead to an increase in metabolic rate of marine biota and faster exploitation of food sources. Increased metabolic rate could also shorten the lifespan of primary producers leading to a proliferation of species (Staughan 1980). There is the possibility of anoxic conditions when algal blooms collapse in alteration of species diversity (Surash *et al.*, 1937, Nwankwo and Adesalu, 2010) and collapse of the aquatic environment food network in developing economies with fossil fuel, balancing the energy needs with green environment has been a huge challenges.

In Nigeria, over 85% of all industries are located in the Lagos area. Some of these industries discharge their waste through drainage systems into nearby storm water drains and coastal waters (Odieta, 1999). Of particular note are wastes from sewage customs, saw mills, breweries and chemical facilities. Also important are gas turbines used for power generation which release waste heat into the aquatic environment. These turbines include adjoining facilities at Ijora in Lagos State, Imo river in River State, Oji river in Enugu State, Ugheli in Delta State and Egbin in Lagos State. The Egbin thermal station with a generation capacity of 1320 watts (Ukuoma, 1989) accounts for a quarter of Nigeria's installed power need. Thermal plants release warmer water as major fallout of the internal combustion process (Ajao *et al.*, 1996, Odieta, 1999). However, the effect of continuous warming up of tropical waters has not received much attention. The aim of this study was to investigate the plankton and benthic fauna diversity at a waste-heat discharge site at Egbin, Lagos.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Description of study site

The coast of South-west Nigeria is characterized by a meandering network, of lagoons and creeks of which the Lagos lagoon with a surface area of 208km² is the most documented (FAO 1969, Nwankwo, 2004). Egbin, (Fig. 1) with coordinates 30⁰40 and 6⁰34 is located East of Lagos lagoon. The lagoon is open all year round via the Lagos harbor and experiences semi diurnal tidal regime. Sea water incursion and fresh water from adjoining rivers determine the environment of the area (Nwankwo, 1996). Owing to the dynamics inflow of river and sea water incursion, the Lagos lagoon experiences brackish condition that is more discernable in the dry season (Hill and Webb, 1958; Nwankwo, 1996) and decreases inland.

2.2 Collection of Samples

Duplicate monthly samples were collected for six months (February – July, 2000) between 11.00h and 13.00h. Water samples for some water chemistry determination were collected 20cm below the water surface in 500ml well labeled plastic containers with screw caps and stored away in an ice chest. Plankton samples were collected using a 55µm size standard plankton net tied onto a motorized boat and towed horizontally at low speed (< 4 knots) for five minutes. Each haul was concentrated and transferred into a well labeled 500ml plastic container with screw cap. Each container was preserved in 4% buffered formalin. Benthic samples were collected using a 0.1m Van Veen grab from an anchored boat. On each occasion, three hauls were taken from each station. A haul from each station was washed through a 0.5mm mesh sieve in the field. Preservation of biological organisms retained was done in 10% formalin and stored in well labeled containers. Sediment samples were stored in three identifiable plastic bags while samples for the determination of oil and grease were collected in foils.

2.3 Physical and Chemical Analyses of Water Samples

All measurements were made either in the field or on return in the laboratory. Water temperature was measured in situ using a mercury in glass thermometer while transparency was determined using a 20cm white and black painted Secchi disc. Total suspended solids and total dissolved solids were determined by filtering a 500ml sample through a weighed filter paper, evaporating in oven at 105⁰C and reweighing and by evaporating 100ml filtrate in an oven at 100⁰C respectively. The pH of water was measured with a Griffin digital pH meter (Model 80) while dissolved oxygen was measured using a Griffin meter (Model 40). Salinity and conductivity were determined in field using a refractometer and a conductivity meter (HANNA instrument model H18733) respectively. The nitrate-nitrogen and soluble reactivities phosphorus were measured by the phenol-disulphonic acid method (Macereth 1971). Sulphate values were estimated using turbidimetric method (APHA, 1998). Heavy metals (Cu, Fe, Pb) were determined using an atomic Absorption Spectrometer (Model 969). Rainfall data were kindly supplied by the Nigerian Institute of Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR).

2.4 Sediment Analysis

Total organic matter (TOM) was determined using the ash method described in (APHA 1998) while sedimentation texture was determined using a measuring cylinder and the sedimentation techniques as described by Oyenekan (1975).

2.5 Plankton Analysis

In the laboratory, each biological sample was concentrated to 20cm. five drops from a well mixed sample were thoroughly investigated under a wild 22 binocular microscope with a calibrated eye piece. To scan each drop, the microtransect drop count method suggested by Laecky (1936) was used. Relevant text (Hendey 1964, Patrick and Reimer 1966-1975, Van Laningham 1982 for phytoplankton while Olaniyan 1975, Waife and Frid, 2000 were used for Zooplankton identification.

2.6 Benthic Analysis

Preserved benthic organisms were washed in running tap water to remove any preservatives and remaining sediments. The animals were sorted into groups and identified using relevant texts (Edmunds 1978) were used to aid identification. The number of species and individuals per station were counted and recorded as number of individuals/species/station.

2.7 Community Structure Analysis

Three community structure indices were used to assess the community structure. These were Species richness (d) described by Margalef (1951) as $d = \frac{S - 1}{\log N}$

and Shannon and Weaver (1963) index presented as $H_s = -\sum P_i \log P_i$ and Equitability (j)

described by $J = \frac{H_s}{\log_2 S}$

Where d = Species richness

S = Number of species in a population

N = Total number of individuals in S species

I = Counts denoting the ith species ranging from i-n

P_i = Population that the ith species representing in terms of numbers of individuals with respect to the total number of individuals in the sampling space as a whole.

H_s = Diversity index

J = Equitability index

3. Results

3.1 Physico-Chemical Parameters

Results of the water quality characteristics are presented in Table 1. Water temperatures recorded at the sampling stations were between 27°C and 40°C. The highest water temperature (40°C) was recorded in May at station A, while the lowest (27°C) was recorded in February, June and July at station C. Water temperature estimates were highest at station A throughout the study. Transparency values (66-196cm) were higher in the dry months than the wet months. The highest value (196cm) was recorded in February at station A, while the lowest (66cm) was recorded in June at station B. The highest total suspended solids value of 450mgL⁻¹ was recorded in July at station A while the lowest value was in April at station B and C respectively. The total dissolved solids content was higher in the dry months than in the wet months. The values were between 394mgL⁻¹ in July at station C and 12546mgL⁻¹ in March at station B. The pH values range between 6.23 in May at station C and 6.96 in May at station B. Conductivity values were higher in the dry months than in the wet months and ranged between 7.9 x 10⁻⁴ and 2.5 x 10⁻² Scm⁻¹ during the study period. Dissolved oxygen values were between 3.2 in May at station B and 5.7mgL⁻¹ in June at station C. Dissolved oxygen values were lower at station A than other stations. Salinity values ranged between 1.1‰ in July at station A and C and 12.1‰ in March at station B. Nitrate-nitrogen values were between 0.12 mgL⁻¹ in July at station C and 3.98mgL⁻¹ in March at station B. The

highest phosphate-phosphorus value (0.64mgL^{-1}) was recorded in March at station B, with the lowest (0.019mgL^{-1}) in July at station C. Sulphate values were higher in the dry months than in the wet months and ranged between 35.5mgL^{-1} in July at station C and 1135mgL^{-1} in March at station B. Heavy metal levels were high throughout the study, and higher levels were recorded in the dry than wet months. The highest Lead content (0.78mgL^{-1}) was obtained in February at station B, while the lowest value (0.011mgL^{-1}) occurred in May at station B. The highest copper value recorded (3.618mgL^{-1}) occurred in March at station A, while lowest value (0.006mgL^{-1}) was in May at station B. Iron values ranged between 0.06mgL^{-1} in June at station B and 3.618mgL^{-1} in March at station A, respectively. The values for oil and grease were higher in the dry months than in the wet months. A range of between 9.0mgL^{-1} (occurring in March at station B) and 0.1mgL^{-1} (in July at station C) was recorded.

Table 1. Physico-chemical parameters in the Lagos Lagoon at Egbin (February to July, 2000).

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Water temperature($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	36	32	27	37	34	29	38	36	29	40	38	30	38	34	27	35	34	27
Transparency (cm)	196	189	184	190	190	184	167	145	148	186	184	168	85	66	78	91	89	83
pH	6.57	6.53	6.45	6.74	6.62	6.69	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.23	6.96	6.93	6.32	6.8	6.83	6.93	6.81	6
Total suspended Solids (mgL^{-1})	2	16	20	6	28	26	32	0	0	0	276	90	82	106	106	450	390	33
Total Dissolved Solids (mgL^{-1})	6496	7974	8082	11130	12546	1964	10036	9228	8960	9416	9080	8060	564	1198	798	402	410	39
Conductivity (Scm^{-1})	0.01	0.014	0.02	0.022	0.025	0	0.02	0	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.002	0	0	8E-04	0
Salinity (‰)	6.5	6.7	7.7	10.1	12.1	7	9.3	7	7.4	7	6.7	7	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.2	1
Dissolved Oxygen (mgL^{-1})	3.6	4.1	4.7	3.7	5.1	5.4	4.7	4.9	5.5	3.2	4.7	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.7	5	5.1	5
Phosphate (mgL^{-1})	0.33	0.36	0.42	0.57	0.64	0.12	0.528	0.52	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.41	0.04	0.067	0.04	0.03	0.022	0
Nitrate (mgL^{-1})	2.1	2.94	3.25	3.92	3.98	0.86	3.16	3.58	3.28	2.99	2.88	2.57	0.19	0.38	0.28	0.15	0.14	0
Sulphate (mgL^{-1})	628	715	745	1008	1135	179	922	184	817	852	821	735	51	108	72	38	37	35
Oil and grease (mgL^{-1})	6	6	7	8	9	4	4	6	6	ND	ND	ND	6	2	4	2	5	1
Lead (mgL^{-1})	0.87	0.978	0.7	0.455	0.438	0.84	0.164	0.18	0.47	0.18	0.11	0.01	0.16	0.513	0.3	0.49	0.618	0
Iron (mgL^{-1})	7.44	7.866	8.64	12.62	10.67	6.11	6.646	5.76	0.92	4.62	0.1	0.62	2.69	2.316	0.78	8.64	16.48	10
Copper (mgL^{-1})	1.56	1.967	1.69	3.618	2.768	2.77	0.926	0.91	0.89	0.63	0.06	0.67	0.88	0.716	0.97	0.91	0.996	0

3.2 Sediment Characteristics

Table 2 shows the Total organic matter in sediments (%) at the study area. Total organic matter ranged between 0.1 and 0.3% which translate to 2 – 6% dry weight. The percentage sediment texture composition, where as sand content varied from 49 – 97%, clay ranged 0 and 28% and silt between 0 and 21%. Total hydrocarbon content range between 0.14 and 0.32mgL^{-1} for station A, 0.03 and 0.21mgL^{-1} for station B and 0.1 and 0.43mgL^{-1} for station C throughout the study (Table 3). Station A was predominantly sandy (78 – 97%), clay (1 – 13%), and silt (3 – 21%). Station B was mixture of and clay, sand (56 – 79%), clay (21 – 33%) and silt (0 – 19%). Station C however had more of clay (49 – 90%), sand (4 – 36%) and silt (1 – 15%).

Table 2. Total Organic Matter in Sediments (%) at Egbin, Lagos.

Parameter	February			March			April			May			June			July		
Stations	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Wt. before ignition (g)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wt. after ignition (g)	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8
Difference	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
%	2	2	2	4	4	2	2	2	6	2	2	6	2	2	6	6	4	4

Table 3. Percentage Sediments texture at Egbin, Lagos.

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Sand	83	79	94	94	74	75	96	68	68	71	78	65	95	83	49	97	66	83
Clay	12	21	0	0	23	24	0	25	29	1	15	28	5	13	36	0	15	13
Silt	4	0	6	6	63	1	4	7	3	21	7	7	0	4	15	3	19	4

3.3 Biological Characteristics

3.3.1 Phytoplankton Spectrum

A total of 83 phytoplankton species from 43 genera were recorded in this study (Table 4). The diatoms were represented by 50 species from 22 genera while the cyanobacteria comprised by 24 species from 13 genera, and the green algae made up seven species from six genera. The euglenoids were represented by two species from a genus. For the diatoms the pinnate forms (32 species) were more abundant than the centric forms (18 species). *Aulacoseira granulata* and *A. granulate* var. *augustissima* were notable species in the wet month. Other frequent species were *Melosiira moniliformis*, *Coscinodiscus centralis*, *Coscinodiscus eccentricus*, *Biddulphia aurita*, *Terpsinoe musica*, *Thalassionema fraunfeldii*, *Gyrosigma balticum*, *Pinnularia major*, *Pleurosigma angulatum*, *Synedra crystalline*, *Pinnularia major* and *Pleurosigma angulatum*. For the cyanobacteria the heterocytous forms (15 species) were more frequent than the chroococcoid forms (9 species). Station A recorded higher diversity than station B and C. Cyanobacteria species comprised *Pseudanabaena galeata*, *Microcystis flos-aquae*, *Lyngbya martensiana*, *Aphanocapsa* sp., *Calothrix coenfervicola*, *Phormidium uncinatum*, *Schizothrix fasciculata*, *Oscillatoria formosa* and *Oscillatoria minima*. The green algae (7 species) were only recorded in the wet months. *Gonatozygon* and *Spirogyra* sp. were the abundant green algae species recorded. Other frequent species included *Cladophora glomerata*, *Cladophora* sp., *Oedogonium* sp. and *Rhizoclonium* sp.

Table 4. Phytoplankton of a waste heat discharge area at Egbin, Lagos

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
DIVISION: CYANOPHYTA																		
CLASS: CYANOPHYCEAE																		
ORDER 1: CHROOCOCCALES																		
<i>Anabaena constricta</i> (Geitler)	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>A. torulosa</i> Hagerhen	-	-	-	-	-	110	-	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Anabaena</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Aphanocapsa</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Gleocapsa</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	20	10	-	-	-	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
<i>M. flos-aquae</i> Kirchner	-	-	-	-	-	350	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Pseudanabaena</i> <i>galeata</i> (Bocher)	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
ORDER 11: HORMOGONALES																		
<i>Calothrix</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindrospermum</i> <i>major</i> (Maigs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lyngbya</i> <i>mantensiana</i> Meneghini	50	100	100	150	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-
<i>L. limnetica</i> Lemmerman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120	10	-
<i>Lyngbya</i> sp.	-	160	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
<i>Oscillatoria formosa</i> Bory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-
<i>O. limnosa</i> Agardh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	-	-	150	-	50
<i>O. margalifera</i> Kutzing	-	-	30	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>O. minima</i> Gicklhorn	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	-	30	130	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-
<i>O. tenuis</i> C.A. Agardh	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Oscillatoria</i> sp.	10	-	20	-	-	10	410	10	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Plectonema</i> sp.	80	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Phormidium</i> <i>uncinatum</i> Gomont	200	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<i>Schizothrix fasciculate</i> Gomont	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tolypothis</i> sp.	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLASS: CHLOROPHYCEAE																		
<i>Cladophora glomerata</i> (L) Kutzing	-	-	40	-	90	-	130	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	60	-	-
<i>Cladophora</i> sp.	-	-	30	-	-	-	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	10	-	-
<i>Rhizoclonium</i> sp.	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

3.3.2 Phytoplankton Community Structure

The phytoplankton community structure is presented in Table 5. Shannon and weaver index (HS) was low (<1.0) all through the study except in February and May values of 1.06 and 1.12 recorded in February at stations A and C and 1.02 recorded in May at station C. Similarly, the simple diversity index (d) was low (≤ 0.60) all through the study period.

Table 5. Phytoplankton Community Structure at waste heat discharge site at Egbin, Lagos

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Total Phytoplankton diversity (S)	17	12	16	7	11	8	10	13	7	14	8	14	8	13	7	10	9	17
Total Phytoplankton abundance (N)	1460	870	540	560	890	600	1080	540	240	470	180	910	4410	1150	41520	43620	370	35080
Log of Species diversity	1.23	1.08	1.20	0.85	1.04	0.90	1.00	1.11	0.85	1.15	0.90	1.15	0.90	1.11	0.85	1.00	0.95	1.23
Log of phytoplankton abundance	3.16	2.94	2.73	2.55	2.95	2.78	3.03	2.73	2.38	2.67	2.26	2.96	3.64	3.06	4.62	4.64	2.57	4.55
Shannon and Weaver Index (Hs)	10.6	0.88	1.12	0.72	0.82	0.57	0.77	0.92	0.67	0.98	0.82	1.02	0.64	0.93	0.50	0.49	0.74	0.47
Margalef index	2.20	1.63	2.38	0.95	1.47	1.09	1.29	1.91	1.09	2.12	1.35	1.91	0.83	1.70	0.56	0.84	1.35	1.53
Equitability Index (j)	0.886	0.81	0.93	0.85	0.78	0.64	0.77	0.82	0.80	0.86	0.90	0.89	0.71	0.83	0.59	0.49	0.24	0.42

3.3.3 Zooplankton Composition

Zooplankton composition is presented on Table 6. Species identified were *Diphanosoma* sp., *Chdorus* sp., and *Bosmina* sp. The amphipods were represented by *Grammarus* sp., *Hyperia galba*, the Mysids comprised *Mysis oculata*, the Chaetognaths were represented by *Sagitta enflata* while the Cnidarians consisted of *Chsaora melanaster* and *Sarsia eximia* similar observations have been reported by Sudhankar (2010). The zooplankton community structure is presented in Table 7. These indices values showed both spatial and temporal variations.

Table 6. Zooplankton of a waste heat discharge area at Egbin, Lagos

Phylum: Arthropoda
Class I: Crustacea
Order I: Calanoida <i>Acartia clausii</i> Giesbrecht <i>Paracalanus parvus</i> (Claus) <i>Centropage typicus</i> Dana <i>Diaptomus</i> sp. <i>Eurtemora</i> sp. <i>Isias claripes</i> Boeck <i>Microcalamus</i> sp. <i>Pseudocalanus elongates</i> Boeck <i>Temora longicornis</i> M. H. Doall
Order II: Cyclopoida <i>Cyclops</i> sp. <i>Oithona nana</i> (Grisbrecht)
Order III: Cladocera <i>Bosmina</i> sp. <i>Chdorus</i> sp. <i>Daphnia</i> sp. <i>Diaphanosoma</i> sp.
Order IV: Amphipoda <i>Gammarus</i> sp. <i>Hyperia galba</i> (Mont.)
Order V: Paracarida Sub-order: Mysidacea <i>Mysis oculata</i> (Fabricius)
Phylum: Chaetognatha <i>Sagitta enflata</i> Vogt
Class II: Hydrozoa Order: Siphonophora <i>Chysaora melanaster</i> Brandt <i>Sarsia eximia</i> (Atlman)

The zooplankton community structure is presented in Table 7. Margalef index (d) was high (>1.0) in February and March at station A and at station A and B in June and July. Shannon and Weaves index (HS) was low (<4.0) at station B in between March and May. HS was also low at all station in June and station C in July. Except in May at station B, equitability was high (>0.80) all through the sampling period.

Table 7. Zooplankton Community Structure around a waste heat discharge area at Egbin, Lagos

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Total zooplankton diversity (S)	8	5	5	7	4	5	5	3	5	3	1	3	8	6	3	5	6	3
Total zooplankton abundance (N)	280	260	190	340	100	100	70	50	90	50	10	30	180	150	50	90	130	30
Log of Species diversity	0.90	0.70	0.70	0.85	0.60	0.70	0.70	0.48	0.70	0.48	0.00	0.48	0.90	0.78	0.48	0.70	0.78	0.48
Log of zooplankton abundance	2.45	2.41	2.28	2.53	2.00	2.00	1.85	1.70	1.95	1.70	1.00	1.48	2.26	2.18	1.70	1.95	2.11	1.48
Shannon and Weaver Index (Hs)	0.64	0.39	0.59	0.60	0.52	0.65	0.64	0.46	0.62	0.41	0.00	0.48	0.84	0.70	0.46	0.64	0.74	0.48
Margalef index	1.24	0.72	0.76	1.03	0.65	0.89	0.94	0.51	0.89	0.51	0.00	0.59	1.35	1.00	0.51	0.89	1.03	0.59
Equitability Index (j)	0.71	0.55	0.84	0.70	0.86	0.93	0.92	0.96	0.89	0.86	0.00	1.00	0.93	0.90	0.96	0.91	0.95	1.00

3.3.5 Benthic

A total of five macro-fauna characteristics were recorded (Table 8). All species belonged to the Phylum mollusca. Whereas the Gastropods made up three species (*Pachymelania aurita*, *Tympanotonus fuscaatus* and *Neritina glabrata*), the bivalves accounted for two species (*Iphigenia truncate* and *Aloidis trigona*). The *Pachymelania aurita* and *Tympanotonus fuscantus* var. *radula* were the more abundant and more frequent species, followed by *Aloidis trigona*. The benthic fauna community structure is presented in Table 9. These indices showed both spatial and temporal variations.

Table 8. Benthic Macrofauna around a waste heat discharge area at Egbin, Lagos

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
BENTHIC INVERTEBRATES																		
CLASS: GASTROPODA																		
FAMILY 1: POTAMIDAE																		
<i>Tympanotonus fuscatus</i>	9	276	15	16	1	0	164	14	5	23	59	48	40	7	9	15	5	42
FAMILY 11: MELANIDAE																		
<i>Pachymelania aurita</i>	8	338	12	25	24	15	22	47	7	32	28	14	220	8	12	21	21	24
FAMILY 111: NERITIDAE																		
<i>Neritina glabrata</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	2	-	-	1
CLASS: BIVALVIA																		
ORDER: HETERODONTIDAE																		
FAMILY 1: DONACIDAE																		
<i>Iphigenia truncate</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
FAMILY 11: ALOIDIDAE																		
<i>Aloids trigona</i>	-	-	30	-	-	1	2	12	14	-	8	10	-	9	9	-	9	9
Total number of species (S)	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	2	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	5
Species Abundance (N)	17	614	57	41	25	16	188	73	27	55	97	74	264	24	33	36	35	78

Table 9. Macrofauna community structure of a waste head discharge area at Egbin, Lagos

	February			March			April			May			June			July		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Total species diversity (S)	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	2	4		4	3	5	2	3	5
Total abundance (N)	17	614	57	41	25	16	188	73	27	55	97	74	264	24	33	36	35	78
Log of Species diversity	0.30	0.30	0.48	0.30	0.30	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.60	0.30	0.60	0.60	0.48	0.48	0.70	0.30	0.48	0.70
Log of abundance	1.23	2.79	1.76	1.61	1.40	1.20	2.27	1.89	1.43	1.74	1.99	1.87	2.42	1.38	1.52	1.56	1.54	1.89
Shannon-Weiner index (Hs)	0.30	0.30	0.44	0.29	0.07	0.10	0.18	0.39	0.49	0.30	0.41	0.42	0.22	0.47	0.59	0.29	0.41	0.48
Margalef index (d)	0.35	0.16	0.49	0.27	0.31	0.72	0.38	0.47	0.91	0.25	0.26	0.70	0.36	0.63	1.14	0.28	0.56	0.92
Equitability Index (j)	1.00	0.99	0.93	0.96	0.24	0.21	0.38	0.82	0.81	0.98	0.96	0.70	0.46	1.00	0.84	0.98	0.85	0.86
Simpson's dominance Index (C)	0.50	0.51	0.11	0.52	0.92	0.88	0.77	0.45	0.10	0.51	0.45	0.46	0.72	0.20	0.21	0.51	0.38	0.39

4. Discussion

Higher temperature values recorded at the Egbin part of Lagos lagoon may be attributed to the effect of waste heat discharged from the thermal facility into the lagoon. The temperature ranged between 27 – 40⁰C possibly reflecting a reduction as one moved further away from the thermal plants. Observed variation in other physical and chemical characteristics of the lagoon at station C reflected similar trends for the lagoon at Lagos and Epe (Nwankwo 1996, 1998, Onyema *et al.*, 2003). The effect of temperature on water and benthic organisms has been documented by some authors (Roessler and Durbin, 1974, Pandey, 1983). There was low dissolved oxygen levels particularly at station A that had the highest temperature readings. Increased temperature may have increased the metabolic rate of associated organisms that could have induced higher utilization of oxygen. The highest transparency recorded in station A could be due to suspended matter going into solution as a result of increased temperatures (40⁰C). According to Thomas (1966), higher temperatures of the dry season increased oxidation of organic matter in a man-made lake in Ghana. However, the higher transparencies at the three stations in the dry months may also be due to cessation of flood water input and the incursion sea water. High transparencies in the dry season have been reported in the Lagos lagoon (Olaniyan 1969, Oyekan 1975, Nwankwo 1996, 1998, Chukwu and Nwankwo 2004). According to Ajao *et al.*, (1996), in addition to waste heat, the Lagos lagoon at Egbin experiences such contaminants as metals, oil and grease. In this study high heavy metal levels were reported especially at station A in the dry months. The pH was acidic ranging between 6.23 and 6.96 the high metal concentration at station A could be a

combination of fallout from the facility and acid waste induced leaching from sediments. Acid water induce leaching from sediments had been reputed by (Oyenekan 1987). Salinity was high throughout the study at all stations, except in June and July where it fell probably due to the dilution effect of rainfall induced flood waters. June and July fell within the first annual rainfall peak in Southwest Nigeria (Nwankwo 1986). The high salinity values recorded in the dry months could in addition be due to effluent from the facility. Thermal plants are known to discharge high saline waters as well as to heat (Odieta, 1999). Rainfall in coastal waters of South west Nigerian dilutes water characteristics, breaks down horizontal radiants and flushes fresh water biota into the sea (Nwankwo 1996, 1998). The reduction in nitrate-nitrogen, phosphate-phosphorus, sulphate values and the increased total suspended solids values observed in June and July may be attributed to dilution from floodwater and the introduction of allochthonous material from adjoining wetlands. According to Dance (1981), the transportation of particulate matter in streams is a physical process while the transportation of particulate organic matter is positively related to precipitation and flow conditions. According to Nwankwo (1998) *Aulacoseira granulata* (Ehr.) Ralf and *A. granulata* var. *angustissima* are prominent taxa in the eastern zone of the Lagos lagoon system which is primarily fresh or low brackish. Similar floral spectrum was observed in this study with *Gonatozygon* sp as a sub-dominant species. These taxa could be indicators of fresh water/acidic to neutral conditions. Brackish water indicators observed were *Biddulphia aurila*, *B. laevis*, *Gyrosigina balticum*, *Melosira moniliformis*, *M. nummuloides* while cyanobacteria bloom species recorded included *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *M. flos-aquae* (Nwankwo 1993, 1996, 1996), Nwankwo (1993), suggested that heavy metals levels have increased greatly in the Lagos lagoon possibly due to formation of forming complexes that could make some compounds unavailable to the phytoplankton. High copper values ($\geq 1.0\text{mgL}^{-1}$), above acceptable FEPA (1991) limits for coastal waters were recorded at the Egbin part of the Lagos lagoon. In this study, the composition and abundance of cyanobacteria were positively correlated with water temperature (0.68) at station A. Cyanobacteria are opportunistic species that exploit environments with elevated temperatures (Van Landingham 1962). Similarly, Kadiri (1999) reported high cyanobacteria diversity in a warm spring at Ikogosi, Nigeria. The observed dominance of diatoms and copepods confirm reports for the Lagos lagoon (Nwankwo 1996, 1998, Onyema *et al.*, 2003). In the Lagos lagoon, the organic matter distribution is influenced by anthropogenic input and deposition pattern which in turn are regulated by tidal dynamics (Ajao *et al.*, 1996). Total organic matter in the stations was low. The relatively higher TOM content (60%) recorded at station C may not be enough to support the views of Bader *et al.*, (1970) as cited by Oyenekan (1998) that TOM content could be an index quantity of food available to benthic fauna. Although the number of benthic organisms recorded at station C was higher than at station A and B, they do not compare to higher values for other sources of point pollution in the Lagos lagoon (Nwankwo 1986, Nwankwo 1998, Nwankwo *et al.*, 2008, Onyema *et al.*, 2003). According to Ajao and Fagade (1990), Brown and Oyenekan (1988), benthic organisms in the Lagos lagoon are sediment type specific. The benthic macro fauna in this study were dominated by the gastropod *Pachymelania aurila*. Gray (1979) correlated changes in community structure with environmental perturbations. Decline in diversity could be linked to thermal stress and commonly practiced sand extraction

that altered the sediment type. The numerous empty shells recorded at all stations in the study may be a consequence of waste heat induced elevated temperatures and possibly mimicking the effect of global warming. The benthic community at Egbin was similar to the *Pachymelania* community described by Oyenekan (1988) as being the dominant macro fauna community in the Lagos lagoon. In this study, the low species diversity recorded in the plankton and benthic fauna, may be a consequence of the effect of elevated water temperatures that may have led to high mortality and empty shell numbers, low dissolved oxygen, reduced organic content and acidic conditions.

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