

WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF IMUS RIVER USING

PHYTOPLANKTON AS INDICATOR

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ABSTRACT

Phytoplankton species serves as the primary producers for fishes and other aquatic animals. This study was conducted to know the present phytoplankton species in Imus river as well as its water quality based on Palmer's Pollution Index (1969). Samples were collected once in April and twice in May on four different sites, namely: Barangay Sabutan, Barangay Salitran I, Barangay Salinas I, and Barangay Pulvorista. The researchers were able to collect and identify 21 species of phytoplankton belong to Cyanophyta (blue-green algae, 4 species), Chlorophyta (green algae, 7 species), Chrysophyta (yellow-green algae, 9 species), and Phyrrophyta (dinoflagellates, 1 species). In relation to their importance value, *Nitzschia palea, Scenedesmus* sp., and *Navicula* sp. were the most dominant species during the three-collection period. Based on the Palmer's Pollution Index (1969), station 1 scored an average of 5 and station 2 had 14, both of these stations showed probable absence of organic pollution while stations 3 and 4 scored 15 and 16 manifested a moderate amounts of organic pollution.



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