

TADEUSZ PENCZAK, ANDRZEJ KRUK, HENRYK KOSZALINSKI,
GRZEGORZ ZIĘBA

ICHTIOFAUNA RZEKI BZURY

FISH FAUNA OF THE BZURA RIVER

Katedra Ekologii i Zoologii Kręgowców,
Uniwersytet Łódzki,
Ul. Banacha 12/16, 90-237 Łódź

ABSTRACT

Fish distribution and their abundance were investigated in 17 sites located proportionally along the Bzura River (166 km long, left side tributary of the middle Vistula). In the years 1960-1990 the river was practically fish-less with exception of its short source part, because it was heavily polluted with industrial sewage. Till 1994 the water quality in the river was beyond the classification of Polish standards, but after this year its quality started improving for many parameters, and in 1997 first items of information on fish appearance were noted by anglers. Electrofishing samples, obtained with a constant unit of effort conducted in 1999, revealed the presence of 22 fish species, which downstream of larger Bzura tributaries (middle course) allow anglers to catch them already. This happened without fish stocking hence presumably natural fish fauna regeneration took place from a few clean tributaries and the Vistula. In the river and anglers' catches roach, perch and pike now dominate, while other species are angled occasionally.