

Supplementary Tab. 1. Variables describing the summer ecological dynamics of two alpine lakes, Nivolet *superiore* (NIV) and Trebecchi *superiore* (TRS), in the Gran Paradiso National Park.

		NIV							
		8-Jul	21-Jul	3-Aug	19-Aug	2-Sep	19-Sep	2-Oct	14-Oct
Hydrochemistry									
pH		6.45	6.95	7.02	7.00	7.12	7.27	7.14	7.28
Conductivity at 20°C	$\mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$	25.3	20.3	21.2	21.2	21.1	20.5	20.7	21.7
Alkalinity	meq L^{-1}	0.239	0.192	0.209	0.199	0.200	0.196	0.199	0.203
Ca ²⁺	mg L^{-1}	4.73	3.85	3.69	3.79	3.81	3.82	3.76	3.79
Mg ²⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.29	0.25	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.23	0.24
Na ⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.27	0.23	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.23	0.24
K ⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.18	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14
SO ₄ ²⁻	mg L^{-1}	0.68	0.72	0.82	0.72	0.83	0.70	0.90	0.91
Cl ⁻	mg L^{-1}	0.19	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.18	0.19
Si	mg L^{-1}	0.83	0.39	0.37	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.36	0.36
NO ₃ ⁻	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	67	72	51	19	18	28	44	39
NH ₄ ⁺	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	126	7	20	42	17	14	9	2
IN	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	193	79	71	61	35	42	53	41
ON	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	367	81	219	129	75	38	47	49
TN	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	560	160	290	190	110	80	100	90
TP	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	20	6	10	6	4	5	3	8
RP	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	6	1	6	2	2	2	1	0
TOC	mg L^{-1}	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Bacteria									
N surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	737 \pm 36	593 \pm 25	702 \pm 30	1014 \pm 49	842 \pm 26	681 \pm 72	756 \pm 53	1039 \pm 60
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.21 \pm 0.30	0.15 \pm 0.21	0.17 \pm 0.27	0.10 \pm 0.12	0.13 \pm 0.17	0.12 \pm 0.24	0.11 \pm 0.13	0.13 \pm 0.18
Biovolume surface \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	156 \pm 7	91 \pm 4	121 \pm 5	97 \pm 5	113 \pm 3	84 \pm 9	85 \pm 6	133 \pm 8
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N middle \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	621 \pm 3	558 \pm 16	776 \pm 74	1265 \pm 7	1231 \pm 137	857 \pm 14	1161 \pm 49	1100 \pm 32
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.12 \pm 0.16	0.14 \pm 0.15	0.11 \pm 0.16	0.11 \pm 0.15	0.11 \pm 0.13	0.11 \pm 0.14	0.11 \pm 0.10	0.14 \pm 0.26
Biovolume middle \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	75 \pm 4	78 \pm 2	88 \pm 8	134 \pm 1	132 \pm 15	97 \pm 2	124 \pm 5	152 \pm 4
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	-	-	2.2 \pm 0.4	-	-	-	-	-
N bottom \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	1775 \pm 163	713 \pm 23	973 \pm 9	1592 \pm 13	2827 \pm 139	1390 \pm 27	1163 \pm 23	1357 \pm 80
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.30 \pm 0.53	0.17 \pm 0.20	0.12 \pm 0.22	0.12 \pm 0.13	0.09 \pm 0.11	0.18 \pm 0.26	0.11 \pm 0.13	0.10 \pm 0.14
Biovolume bottom \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	528 \pm 49	119 \pm 4	112 \pm 1	191 \pm 2	246 \pm 12	256 \pm 5	127 \pm 3	136 \pm 8
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cells mm}^{-3}$	20.3 \pm 3.8	2.3 \pm 0.2	0.3 \pm 0.4	0.2 \pm 0.2	-	-	-	20.9 \pm 1.4
Total carbon content	mg m^{-3}	59.6	27.1	31.6	41.6	53.1	39.2	33.4	41.6

Phytoplankton										
Total N	cells mL ⁻¹	39.6	131.8	123.4	41.2	43.4	345.6	478.8	183.2	
Total biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	31.2	89.3	262.9	29.7	8.2	20.2	132.4	85.1	
Total carbon content	mg m ⁻³	6.2	17.9	52.6	5.9	1.6	4.0	26.5	17.0	
MBFG Group I density	cells mL ⁻¹	8.0	58.2	13.0	0.2	25.2	2.2	1.6	10.8	
MBFG Group I biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.02	0.16	0.12	0.01	1.28	0.06	0.05	0.26	
MBFG Group II density	cells mL ⁻¹	0.1	49.4	19.0	6.0	-	-	0.4	-	
MBFG Group II biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.00	5.60	1.54	0.29	-	-	0.05	-	
MBFG Group III density	cells mL ⁻¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MBFG Group III biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MBFG Group IV density	cells mL ⁻¹	0.3	7.8	23.8	0.8	-	311.8	461.6	14.6	
MBFG Group IV biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.05	1.85	7.93	0.17	-	17.60	127.96	3.10	
MBFG Group V density	cells mL ⁻¹	7.2	16.0	29.8	28.6	3.0	0.6	10.0	7.8	
MBFG Group V biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	29.70	81.54	106.27	19.92	3.00	0.45	3.50	11.60	
MBFG Group VI density	cells mL ⁻¹	-	0.4	33.0	5.6	3.0	1.4	0.8	15.8	
MBFG Group VI biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	-	0.10	146.87	9.31	3.89	1.55	0.81	69.63	
MBFG Group VII density	cells mL ⁻¹	24.0	-	2.0	-	12.2	29.6	0.1	134.2	
MBFG Group VII biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	1.42	-	0.04	-	0.17	0.66	0.11	0.44	
Zooplankton										
N ±sd	N m ⁻³	4906±305	2467±259	1852±162	1484±79	5691±305	6104±149	4745±354	392±6	
Biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	2764±348	2698±1313	6867±1125	12,008±1384	91,998±4542	83,648±2634	75,125±6552	3346±833	
Total carbon content	mg m ⁻³	1.4	1.3	3.4	6.0	46.0	41.8	37.6	1.7	
Crustacean density ±sd	N m ⁻³	1321±73	561±162	1143±163	2934±241	5472±323	6088±44	4690±26	272±67	
Crustacean biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	2592±349	2606±1313	6833±1125	12,001±1386	91,987±4543	83,647±2633	75,124±6552	3343±833	
Rotifer N ±sd	N m ⁻³	3585±273	1906±222	709±49	139±55	218±26	16±17	55±63	120±18	
Rotifer biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	173±13	92±11	34±2	7±3	10±1	1±1	0±0	3±1	
<i>Arctodiaptomus alpinus</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	306±41	127±31	410±61	1594±190	915±96	239±70	48±36	8±8	
<i>Cyclops gr. abyssorum</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	995±63	422±171	714±134	821±109	1463±206	915±86	820±65	60±11	
<i>Eucyclops serrulatus</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	410±61	5±11	-	36±17	-	-	
<i>Daphnia gr. longispina</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	9±18	8±11	17±14	512±42	3042±163	4878±121	3816±266	204±62	
<i>Daphnia middendorffiana</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	2±5	-	52±27	20±14	7±10	-	
<i>Keratella quadrata</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	3573±268	1906±222	709±49	139±55	214±18	16±17	4±8	-	
<i>Keratella cochlearis</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	4±9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Polyarthra sp.</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120±18	
<i>Notholca squamula</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	8±10	-	-	-	-	-	4±8	-	

TRS									
		7-Jul	20-Jul	4-Aug	18-Aug	1-Sep	18-Sep	1-Oct	13-Oct
Hydrochemistry									
pH		7.83	8.15	8.29	8.08	8.11	8.12	8.14	8.12
Conductivity at 20°C	$\mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$	101.5	98.6	100.8	101.6	104.3	103.9	105.3	108.5
Alkalinity	meq L^{-1}	1.078	1.084	1.067	1.074	1.097	1.125	1.126	1.114
Ca ²⁺	mg L^{-1}	21.80	21.90	21.10	21.80	22.40	23.10	22.10	22.60
Mg ²⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.88	0.90	0.90	0.97	1.00	0.99	0.97	1.00
Na ⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.26
K ⁺	mg L^{-1}	0.32	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.36	0.34	0.37	0.38
SO ₄ ²⁻	mg L^{-1}	2.43	2.32	2.66	3.24	3.39	3.30	3.53	3.64
Cl ⁻	mg L^{-1}	0.08	0.05	0.09	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.09
Si	mg L^{-1}	0.91	0.99	0.81	0.76	0.80	0.86	0.93	0.98
NO ₃ ⁻	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	63	53	48	36	29	21	32	37
NH ₄ ⁺	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	25	3	10	10	14	17	23	8
IN	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	88	56	58	46	43	38	55	45
ON	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	32	64	62	284	87	62	55	65
TN	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	120	120	120	330	130	100	110	110
TP	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	3	4	4	3	5	2	4	2
RP	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	0
TOC	mg L^{-1}	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.6
Bacteria									
N surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	794 \pm 55	317 \pm 10	685 \pm 10	1048 \pm 50	1272 \pm 23	851 \pm 19	787 \pm 17	433 \pm 73
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.16 \pm 0.31	0.27 \pm 0.51	0, 19 \pm 0.68	0.10 \pm 0.34	0.07 \pm 0.09	0.15 \pm 0.45	0.1 \pm 0.19	0.11 \pm 0.12
Biovolume surface \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	123 \pm 9	85 \pm 3	132 \pm 2	105 \pm 5	83 \pm 1	130 \pm 3	78 \pm 2	47 \pm 8
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	1.4 \pm 0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N middle \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	400 \pm 7	308 \pm 19	698 \pm 113	1110 \pm 52	1262 \pm 66	942 \pm 126	8070 \pm 19	403 \pm 8
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.19 \pm 0.37	0.22 \pm 0.27	0.08 \pm 0.10	0.08 \pm 0.13	0.11 \pm 0.11	0.09 \pm 0.10	0.13 \pm 0.12	0.12 \pm 0.15
Biovolume middle \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	75 \pm	69 \pm 4	59 \pm 9	90 \pm 4	136 \pm 7	85 \pm 11	108 \pm 3	49 \pm 1
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	2.0 \pm 0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N bottom \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	494 \pm 20	316 \pm 9	775 \pm 22	1156 \pm 32	1223 \pm 74	911 \pm 25	879 \pm 71	390 \pm 57
Cell biovolume \pm sd	μm^3	0.17 \pm 0.34	0.18 \pm 0.28	0.10 \pm 0.12	0.08 \pm 0.09	0.14 \pm 0.17	0.08 \pm 0.11	0.09 \pm 0.12	0.14 \pm 0.15
Biovolume bottom \pm sd	$\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$	83 \pm 3	57 \pm 2	78 \pm 2	94 \pm 3	166 \pm 10	75 \pm 2	75 \pm 6	53 \pm 8
N pycocyanobacteria surface \pm sd	$10^3 \text{ cell mm}^{-3}$	4.5 \pm 0.6	-	-	-	1.2 \pm 1.1	-	-	-
Total carbon content	mg m^{-3}	26.8	18.9	26.4	29.6	38.7	29.1	26.2	14.6

Phytoplankton									
Total N	cell mL ⁻¹	119.8	11.6	95.4	40.8	18.8	182.6	39.0	48.2
Total biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	4.7	4.4	61.1	6.7	0.8	127.7	1.8	14.5
Total carbon content	mg m ⁻³	0.9	0.9	12.2	1.3	0.2	25.5	0.4	2.9
MBFG Group I density	cell mL ⁻¹	0.2	5.1	4.7	3.4	5.6	7.8	4.4	0.4
MBFG Group I biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.02	0.25	0.03	0.36	0.27	0.13	0.24	0.01
MBFG Group II density	cell mL ⁻¹	114.8	0.6	-	25.8	0.2	0.6	-	-
MBFG Group II biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	2.56	0.22	-	3.38	0.02	0.02	-	-
MBFG Group III density	cell mL ⁻¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MBFG Group III biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MBFG Group IV density	cell mL ⁻¹	1.8	5.4	-	-	-	1.4	-	5.2
MBFG Group IV biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.64	1.20	-	-	-	0.29	-	10.35
MBFG Group V density	cell mL ⁻¹	2.8	5.5	1.8	6.4	8.6	79.8	34.2	30.0
MBFG Group V biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.83	1.16	0.65	2.04	0.27	86.18	1.18	2.48
MBFG Group VI density	cell mL ⁻¹	0.2	0.6	88.6	5.2	4.4	93.0	0.4	1.8
MBFG Group VI biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	0.69	1.53	60.61	0.97	0.26	41.04	0.30	1.62
MBFG Group VII density	cell mL ⁻¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.8
MBFG Group VII biovolume	mm ³ m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
Zooplankton									
N ±sd	N m ⁻³	7135±427	5027±233	3930±213	4322±156	11,307±1842	5833±794	21,699±448	98±22
Biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	5779±421	20,290±1445	35,779±2635	31,742±1613	83,979±14283	73,678±9929	307,141±6518	1759±841
Total carbon content	mg m ⁻³	2.9	10.1	17.9	15.9	42.0	36.8	153.6	0.9
Crustacean density ±sd	N m ⁻³	2959±103	4020±182	3603±219	4173±134	10982±1825	5833±794	21,699±448	84±32
Crustacean biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	5779±421	20,241±1440	35,764±2636	31,735±1614	83,963±14,282	73,678±9929	307,141±6518	1758±841
Rotifer N ±sd	N m ⁻³	4176±334	1007±237	327±57	149±50	325±79	-	-	13±12
Rotifer biomass ±sd	mg m ⁻³	220±18	48±11	16±3	7±2	16±4	-	-	1±1
<i>Arctodiaptomus alpinus</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	1842±146	663±117	1764±166	114±52	80±50	135±53	78±81	7±5
<i>Cyclops gr. abyssorum</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	2884±84	2864±310	1123±90	2845±180	617±83	39±42	291±97	10±4
<i>Eucyclops serrulatus</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	3±7	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Daphnia gr. longispina</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	8±8	486±82	712±111	1189±411	10,279±1811	5639±706	21,272±482	64±29
<i>Daphnia middendorffiana</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	4±10	-	7±15	-	-	-
<i>Chydorus sphaericus</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	-	5±11	-	6±14	-	3±4
<i>Alona quadrangularis</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	3±7	-	-	-	13±18	58±87	-
<i>Keratella quadrata</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	1001±232	327±57	144±44	325±79	-	-	10±8
<i>Keratella cochlearis</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	3±7	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Notholca squamula</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	3±7	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Notholca labis</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	-	5±11	-	-	-	-
<i>Euchlanis sp.</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1±3
<i>Lecane gr. lunaris</i> ±sd	N m ⁻³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1±3

IN, inorganic nitrogen; ON, organic nitrogen; TN, total nitrogen; TP, total phosphorus; RP, reactive phosphorus; TOC, total organic carbon; N, density data; MBFG, morphology based functional groups. All data, but bacterial counting and biovolumes, are referred to integrated samples; bacteria were sampled at three depths: at the surface, at middle depths (3.6 m in TRS and 8.5 m in NIV) and at the bottom.