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The limnological survey of a coastal lagoon in Korea (Lake Songjiho)

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Physicochemical parameters, plankton community structure, and sediment were surveyed from 1988 to 2002 at two months interval in a eutrophic coastal lagoon (Lake Songji, Korea). It has well-developed littoral zone of floating-leaved aquatic plants. The lake basin is separated from the sea by a narrow sand dune, and a shallow sill divides the lake basin into two subbasins. Because of seawater infiltration the lake water is brackish. And stable stratifications and chemoclines are maintained all through the year at 1-2m depth, which seems to suppress vertical dispersion of materials. DO was often very low (<1 mgO2 L-1) in hypolimnion. Secchi disc transparency was in the range of 0.5-2.7 m. TP, TN, and Chl. a concentration in the epilimnion was 0.015-0.396 mgPL-1, 0.223-3.521 mgNL-1, and 0.5-129.8 mgm-3, respectively. TSI was in the eutrophic range of 54 to 62. Sediment was composed of silt and coarse silt. COD, TP, and TN content of sediment were 51.4-116.9 mgO2g-1, 0.04-1.46 mgPg-1 and 0.12-1.03 mgNg-1, respectively. In September 2001 a total of 49 phytoplanktonic species were identified with a maximum cell density of 23,350 cellsmL-1, when a chlorophyte Schroederia judayi was dominant species accounting for 20,417 cellsmL-1. The lake showed unique limnological features of a brackish lagoon in the respect of biological community, chemical characteristics, and physical phenomena.