

Aquatic Invertebrate Data Sheet



Group Name:

Group Size:

Survey Site Code:

Date Sampled:

Sample Type (circle): Edge or Riffle

For further information refer to the Waterwatch Victoria Methods Manual

Sample Collection:
When collecting the sample work over an area of 10m for 10min.

Live Sorting:
Sort through the sample for 30mins removing one of each different aquatic invertebrate observed and place into a ice cube tray. If after 30mins you find an invertebrate that you haven't observed before, sort for a further 10 mins.

When finished sorting use reference texts to identify each type of invertebrate. Circle the type in column 1 and in column 2, estimating the number found.

Stream Condition Chart:
From the total scores at the bottom of column 1 and 2 use the values to calculate a Stream Condition.

From column 2 use the total no. of animals to find the abundance category. Use the scale on the side to rate abundance category (0-5) and the total in column 1 to find the matching box.

Eg A sample with an abundance category of 4 and a total bug score of 40 will have a rating of Good.

Stream Condition Chart

5	Fair	Very Good
4		
3	Poor	Good
2		
1		

0 18 35 >35

Total Bug Score (Column 1)

Abundance Categories (Column 2)

Overall Abundance Categories

Nos. of animals	Category
0-30	1
31-100	2
101-200	3
201-500	4
>500	5

Totals

AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES NAME	Column 1	Column 2
	Bug scores	Abundance
Very Sensitive Aquatic Invertebrates		
Stonefly Nymph	8	
Mayfly Nymph	7	
Caddisfly Larvae	7	
Sensitive Aquatic Invertebrates		
Toe-biters/Dobsonflies/Alderflies (Megaloptera)	6	
Damselfly Nymph	6	
Dragonfly Nymph	6	
Freshwater Mussel	5	
Aquatic caterpillars (Lepidoptera)	5	
Freshwater Shrimp/prawn	5	
Freshwater Yabbie/Crayfish	5	
Water Mite	5	
Freshwater Slater	5	
Tolerant Aquatic Invertebrates		
Hydra	4	
Beetle Larvae	4	
True Bugs (Backswimmer, Water Scorpion, Water Boatman, Lesser Water Strider, Water Strider/Treader)	4	
Freshwater Sandhopper (Amphipod)	4	
Beetles (Dytiscid Beetles, Whirligig Beetles)	3	
Nematodes	3	
Leech	3	
Snails (freshwater)	3	
Flatworm	3	
Very Tolerant Aquatic Invertebrates		
Mosquito Larvae	2	
Midge Larvae	2	
Fly Larvae	2	
Aquatic Earthworm	1	
Blood Worm	1	
Totals		