

# Epiphyton in agricultural streams: structural control and comparison to epilithon

Lishani Wijewardene<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Naicheng Wu<sup>1,4\*</sup>, Pau Giménez-Grau<sup>2</sup>, Cecilie Holmboe<sup>2</sup>, Nicola Fohrer<sup>1</sup>, Annette Baattrup-Pedersen<sup>5</sup> and Tenna Riis<sup>2,6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Hydrology and Water Resources Management, Institute for Natural Resource Conservation, Kiel University, 24118 Kiel, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Department of Biology, Aarhus University, Ole Worms Allé 1, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

<sup>3</sup> Department of Limnology and Water Technology, Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences & Technology, University of Ruhuna, 81000 Matara, Sri Lanka

<sup>4</sup> Department of Geography and Spatial Information Techniques, Ningbo University, Ningbo 315211, China

<sup>5</sup> Department of Bioscience, Aarhus University, Vejlshøjvej 25, 8800 Silkeborg, Denmark

<sup>6</sup> WATEC, Aarhus University Centre for Water Technology, Department of Biology, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

\* Correspondence: lishani@hydrology.uni-kiel.de (L.W.); nwu@hydrology.uni-kiel.de (N.W.)

**Table S1.** Description of nine environmental variables used in our study.

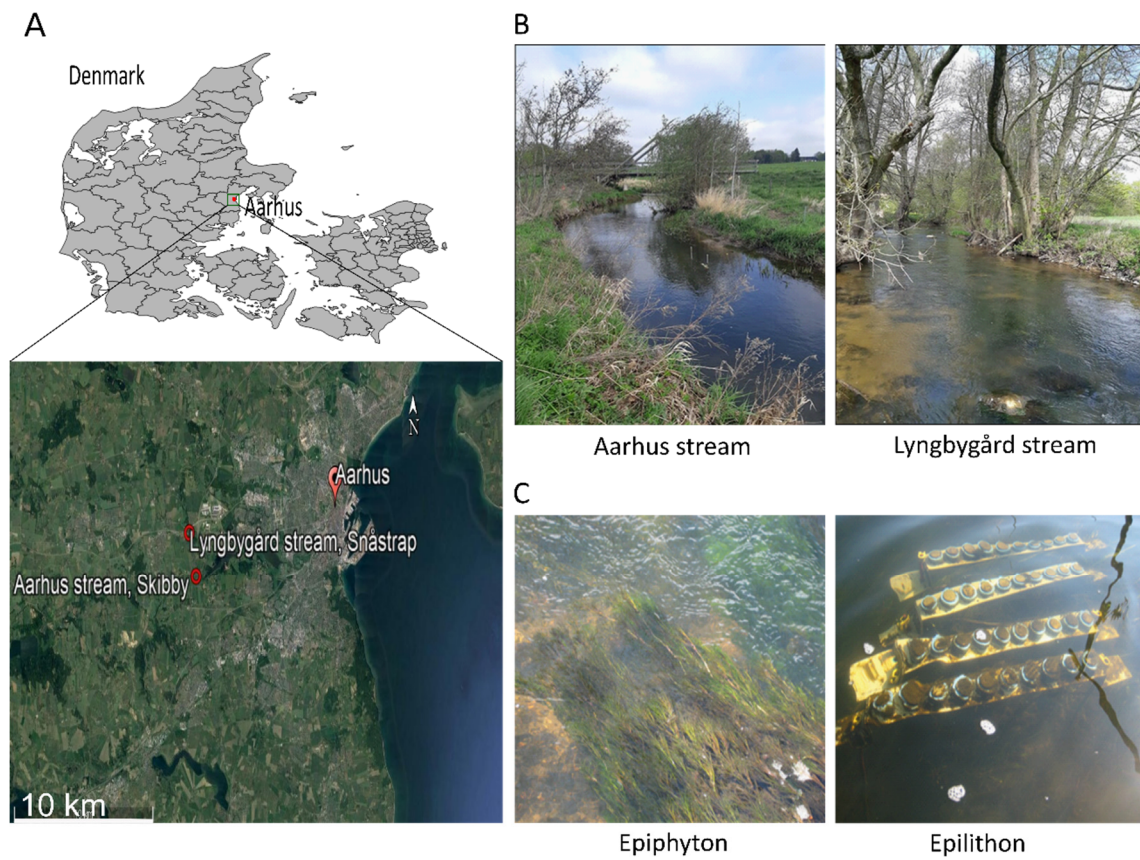
Environmental variable code	Unit	Description
<b>Other environmental variables (Other env.)</b>		
Light	Photons m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	Cumulative light in 21 days
Temperature	°C	Mean temperature in 21 days
DOC	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	Mean of daily average dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations in 21 days period before sampling date
<b>Hydrology</b>		
Q <sub>med</sub>	L s <sup>-1</sup>	Median of the discharge in 21 days period before sampling date
CV of Q	%	Coefficient of variation of discharge in 21 days period before sampling date
Fre <sub>Low</sub>	days	Frequency of low discharge: number of days during 21 days period, where the magnitude of discharge remains below a lower threshold. Low discharge is defined as daily mean flow below the 25th percentile of all daily values for the time period 2019 - 2020
Fre <sub>High</sub>	days	Frequency of high discharge: number of days during 21 days period, where the magnitude of discharge remains above a higher threshold. High discharge is defined as flow above the 75th percentile of all daily values for the time period 2019 - 2020
<b>Nutrients</b>		
PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	Mean of daily average phosphate (PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> ) concentrations in 21 days period before sampling date
DIN	mg L <sup>-1</sup>	Mean of daily average dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) concentrations in 21 days period before sampling date

**Table S2.** Epiphyton and epilithon biomass and AI related to environmental variables (Kendall correlation coefficients; displayed only significant co-relations  $p < 0.05$ ). Correlations are significant but weak ( $< 0.40$ ).

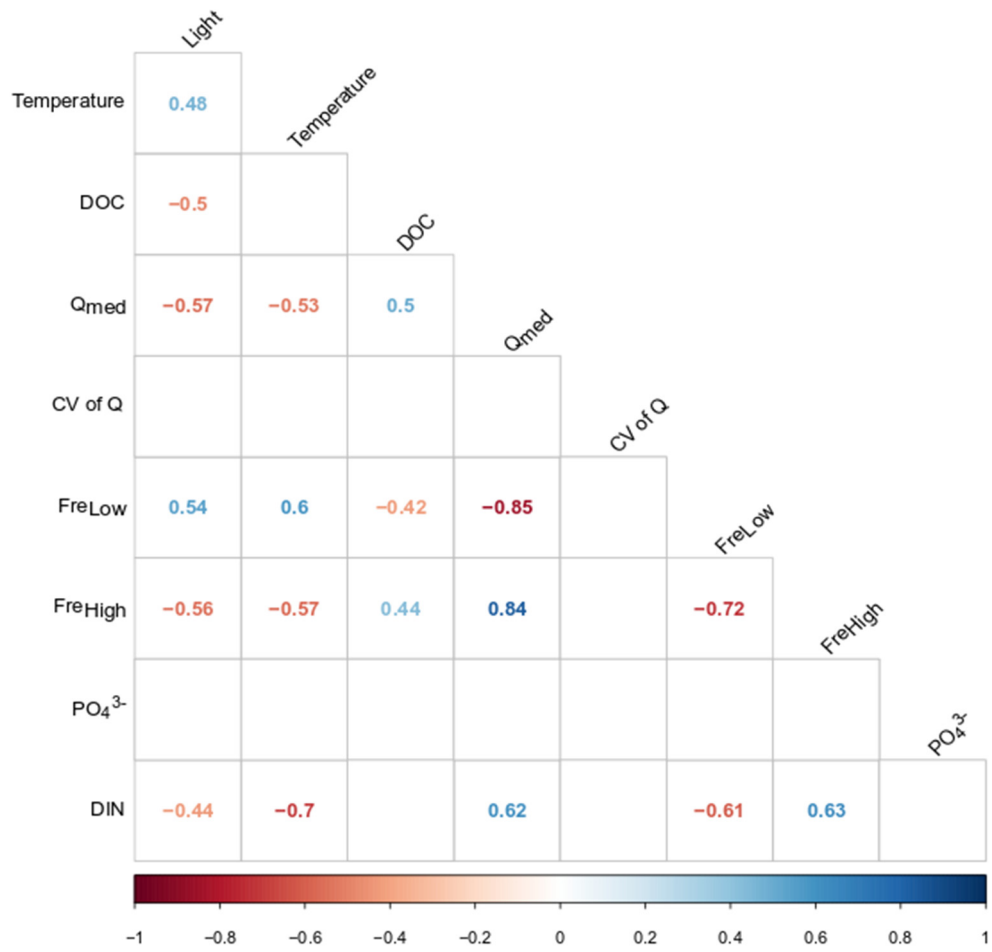
Variables	Epiphyton			Epilithon		
	Chl-a	AFDM	AI	Chl-a	AFDM	AI
Light	0.27	0.22	-0.19		0.16	0.18
Temperature		0.36			0.19	
DOC	-0.20	-0.16			-0.07	
Q <sub>med</sub>	-0.22	-0.24	0.13		-0.10	
CV of Q	-0.23	-0.09	0.25	-0.20		0.2
PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	0.07	0.25		0.30		-0.19
DIN		-0.35	0.02		-0.14	

**Table S3.** Relative abundance (%) of 20 most abundant diatom species in the biofilms.

Diatom species name	Epiphyton		Epilithon	
	Aarhus	Lyngbygård	Aarhus	Lyngbygård
<i>Achnantheidium minutissimum</i> (Kützing) Czarnecki 1994	12.01	3.43	46.91	27.58
<i>Amphora pediculus</i> (Kützing) Grunow 1875	2.08	1.03	1.67	3.50
<i>Aulacoseira ambigua</i> (Grunow) Simonsen 1979		3.15		1.38
<i>Cocconeis pediculus</i> Ehrenberg 1838	1.77	4.05	1.52	
<i>Cocconeis placentula</i> Ehrenberg 1838	0.97			
<i>Cocconeis placentula</i> var. <i>euglypta</i> (Ehrenberg) Grunow 1884	26.98	24.44	7.32	7.97
<i>Cyclostephanos dubius</i> (Fricke) Round 1987	1.53	3.98	0.43	3.70
<i>Diatoma vulgare</i> Bory 1824		1.30		
<i>Encyonema silesiacum</i> (Bleisch) Mann 1990	1.27			
<i>Fragilaria capucina</i> var. <i>Gracilis</i> (Østrup) Hustedt 1950		1.02		0.96
<i>Fragilaria vaucheriae</i> (Kützing) Petersen 1938	4.68		3.25	1.47
<i>Gomphonema olivaceum</i> (Hornemann) Ehrenberg 1838	1.97	6.83	2.93	1.79
<i>Gomphonema parvulum</i> (Kützing) Kützing 1849	2.45	7.15	1.42	2.75
<i>Gomphonema pumilum</i> (Grunow) Reichardt & Lange-Bertalot 1991		1.60		
<i>Gomphonema pumilum</i> var. <i>rigidum</i> Reichardt & Lange-Bertalot 1997		1.69		
<i>Gomphonema</i> sp. Ehrenberg, 1832	0.78	3.24		1.05
<i>Melosira varians</i> Agardh 1827	3.83		0.57	
<i>Navicula capitatoradiata</i> Germain 1981	0.73			
<i>Navicula cryptotenella</i> Lange-Bertalot 1985	3.71	2.15	2.33	0.92
<i>Navicula gregaria</i> Donkin 1861	2.72	1.45	3.25	2.59
<i>Navicula lanceolata</i> Ehrenberg 1838	7.49	9.87	8.51	10.91
<i>Navicula minima</i> Grunow 1880				1.51
<i>Navicula reichardtiana</i> Lange-Bertalot 1989	4.27		1.58	
<i>Navicula tripunctata</i> (Müller) Bory 1822	3.65	7.19	1.43	3.11
<i>Nitzschia frustulum</i> (Kützing) Grunow 1880			0.43	
<i>Nitzschia palea</i> (Kützing) Smith 1856	1.54	1.30	1.22	1.11
<i>Planothidium frequentissimum</i> (Lange-Bertalot) Lange-Bertalot 1999			1.11	5.36
<i>Planothidium lanceolatum</i> (Brébisson ex Kützing) Lange-Bertalot 1999	1.39	1.01	3.46	4.07
<i>Rhoicosphenia abbreviata</i> (Agardh) Lange-Bertalot 1980		1.77		
<i>Staurosira construens</i> f. <i>venter</i> (Ehrenberg) Bukhtiyarova 1995			0.68	1.33
<i>Staurosira construens</i> var. <i>construens</i> Ehrenberg 1843				0.98
<i>Staurosirella pinnata</i> (Ehrenberg) Williams & Round 1988			0.53	



**Figure S1.** Location of monitored two agricultural streams at Aarhus, Denmark (A), study sites (B: Aarhus stream and Lyngbygård stream) and studied stream algae communities (C: epiphyton and epilithon).



**Figure S2.** Correlations between environmental variables.

Only significant correlations ( $p < 0.05$ , Kendall correlation coefficients) are shown in here.