



Influence of organic matter on collembolan communities in reedbed habitats

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The combination of the organic matter, micro-climatic environments and plant cover belongs to important factors for the distribution of soil meso-fauna, especially Collembola. There are no studies attending to these factors on collembolan communities in reedbed vegetation.

The main goals of our investigation were therefore to compare diversity of Collembola in reedbed habitats of Lake Neudsiedl, eastern Austria, and to assess particularly the role of organic matter with regard to the collembolan community structure. Soil samples were taken from April 1997 to October 1997 at fifteen study sites covered with *Phragmites australis* of different age. Changes in the structure and composition of the assemblages of Collembola were examined.