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CURRENT LIMNOLOGICAL CONDITION OF A GROUP OF THE WEST MIDLAND MERES THAT BEAR SSSI STATUS

FINAL REPORT OF ENGLISH NATURE RESEARCH CONTRACT NUMBER F72-06-14

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SUMMARY

- 1. The meres lie aggregated in discrete groups across the Shropshire/Cheshire/Staffordshire plain and constitute one of the few lake districts in England. Compared with other such districts as those in Cumbria and the Norfolk Broadland their limnology is not well known. They have been considered to be a naturally eutrophic set of lakes with records of blue-green algal blooms extending back into the nineteenth century.
- 2. Surface water blooms, however, are not necessarily diagnostic of highly fertile conditions and early existence of them does not preclude intense anthropogenic eutrophication in recent decades. This survey investigated the state of twenty-three discrete sites, each accorded SSSI status from among the more than 60 water bodies conventionally included in the meres group. The sites included are Berrrington Pool, Betley Mere, Betton Pool, Bomere, Chapel Mere, Cole Mere, Comber Mere, Cop Mere, Crose Mere, Fenemere, Hatch Mere, Little Mere, Oss Mere, Petty Pool, Quoisley Big and Little Meres, Rostherne Mere, Tabley Mere, Tabley Moat, White Mere, Mere Mere, and Oakmere.
- 3. Water from the lakes themselves and from available inflows and outflows was analysed for conductivity, alkalinity,pH, chloride, soluble reactive and total phosphorus, ammonium, nitrate, silicate, chlorophyll a, phytoplankton and zooplankton communities on a three-weekly basis during 1991/92. Aquatic plant communities were recorded in late summer 1991. Streams were gauged where possible.
- 4. Original data are given in tabular form and the sites are considered individually and collectively. For individual meres an assessment of their current status is given with recommendations for management where appropriate. The meres are then considered as a group and the approach of regression modelling is taken to draw conclusions about what controls phytoplankton development in them and what general lessons this may give for their conservation.
- 5. Land use data drawn from 1931 and 1987 suggest that there is likely to have been some increase in nutrient loading on all of the meres since before the Second World War. The common pattern of change in the catchments has been an increase in cattle keeping and in the overall potential load of nutrients from stock keeping, and adrift from pastureland to arable. Beyond this some meres have suffered further increased loads due to pollution of the

streams entering them, usually by farm wastes. In only two instances (the Little Mere/Rostherne Mere system and Chapel Mere) are human effluents likely to have been important.

- 6. The following are considered to be in a reasonable state and for which any nutrient control would be unneccessary or impracticable in the present state of legislation: Berrington Pool, Betton Pool, Bomere, Cole Mere, Crose Mere, Hatch Mere, Oss Mere, Tatton Mere, White Mere, Mere Mere, and Oakmere.
- 7. There is an urgent need for nutrient control (which should include nitrogen control) at Betley Mere, Chapel Mere, Comber Mere, Cop Mere, Petty Pool, Tabley Mere and Tabley Moat. Such control is in progress already at Little Mere and Rostherne Mere. Additionally, because zooplankton grazing is an important control of algal crops in some of the meres, reduction of the existing fish stock to discourage zooplanktivorous fish may be necessary at Betley Mere, Cop Mere, and Petty Pool. Carp should be removed from Fenemere and fish stocking should be avoided at Chapel Mere, Comber Mere, and the Quoisley Meres.
- 8. Synoptic plots of key variables reveal no simple systematic pattern among the meres and regression models using the entire group suggest only a weak influence of grazing as a control on the algal crops. Chemical factors including nutrients explained none of the variance in chlorophyll a. However when the meres were considered in two groups based on maximum depth, very strong patterns emerged. Shallow meres were those with depth <3m and deep meres with depth>3m. The criterion was ultimately linked with actual or potential dominance by aquatic plants in the shallow group and dominance by plankton in the deep group.
- 9. Shallow meres were significantly smaller, had higher conductivities and alkalinities, higher nitrogen concentrations and greater zooplankton grazing potential than deep meres. There were no differences in chlorophyll a, soluble reactive or total phosphorus concentrations between the groups. Overall phosphorus concentrations were very high and nitrogen concentrations rather low. The former is ascribed to naturally occuring phosphorus minerals dissolving in the largely groundwater supply to the deep meres and farm effluents polluting the streams feeding the shallow meres which are largely surfacewater supplied. Low nitrogen concentrations are attributed to denitrification in the wet meadows and wetlands which fringe many of the sites, for surface water nitrate concentrations are not especially low and reflect the agricultural nature of the area.
- 10. Control of algal crops was largely independent of water chemistry in the shallow group but greatly dependent on

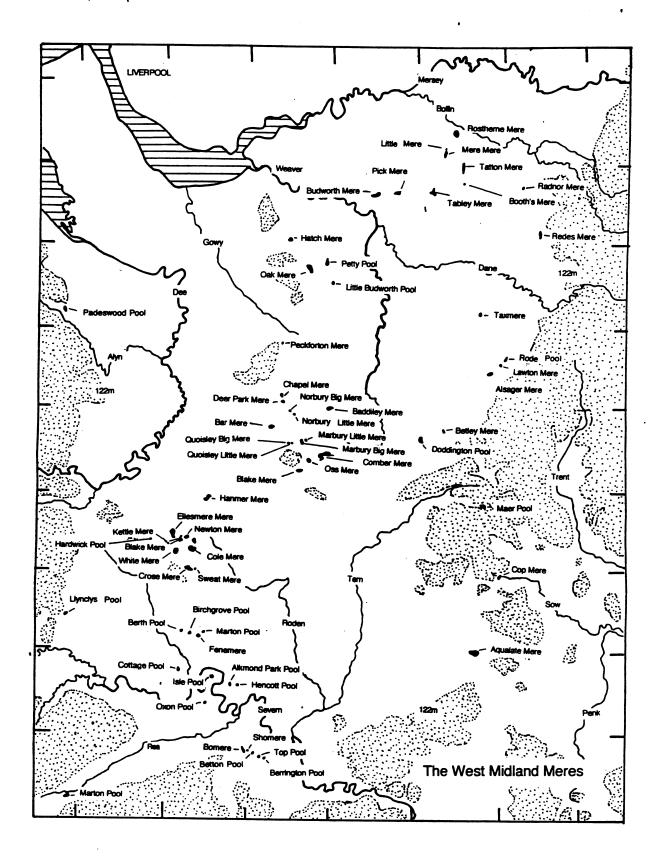
zooplankton grazing. Large populations of grazers are fostered by the refuges, provided by the structure of the aquatic weed beds, against fish predation.

- 11. Control of algal crops in the deep group was largely independent of grazing but very strongly linked with nitrogen loading as reflected in the winter available nitrogen concentrations. Phosphorus exerted little control.
- 12. For conservation of aquatic plant communities and relatively clear water, emphasis thus needs to be given to maintenance of the zooplankton grazer populations in the shallow meres. This means attention to factors, extraneous to nutrients, which can decimate these communities or their refuges(e.g. fish, pesticides, water level changes, herbicides, exotic grazing birds). A paper is given in the Appendix which explains current theory concerning losses of aquatic plants from eutrophicated lakes and the mechanisms by which this may occur. There is an urgent need for data on fish stocks in these shallow meres.
- 13. For similar conservation of the deep meres, there must be strict control on nitrogen inputs. This may be difficult as nitrogen sources are often diffuse. Phosphorus is generally so abundant that conventional control measures would in most cases be insufficient to make it limiting and hence reduce the size of the algal populations. Only very severe control could do this and may be impossible as there is evidence that much of the phosphorus may be naturally derived.

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Introduction

- 1. Great Britain has some 81000 bodies of water greater than about 1 hectare in area. Most are scattered over the landscape, not randomly but reflecting the complex interplay of geology, geomorphology and past human aspiration that characterises the British landscape. There are, however, a few distinctive lake districts where particular groups of lakes occur. Best known are the Cumbrian Lakes, the Snowdonian Lakes and the Scottish Lochs in the upland regions. Large amounts of intensive work have been carried out on the Cumbrian lakes during a period of over half a century and a reasonable scientific base exists for at least a few of the Welsh and Scottish lakes. In the lowlands the man-made shallow broads in the Norfolk Broadland have come under intensive limnological scrutiny in the last twenty-five years and some isolated lakes such as Slapton Ley, the Loo Pool, and Rutland Water, have been intensively investigated.
- 2. There is one distinctive lake district, however, that has not received anything like the attention that it might have considering its particularly interesting combination of features. These lakes are the West Midland meres and the infilled hydrosere basins that began their ecological life as lakes after the last glaciation but are now wetlands (Sinker 1962). The meres lie in a great plain which was left from washout of glacial drift and uncovered from the ice a little more than thirteen thousand years ago and which is now contained in the counties of Cheshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire. Left on the plain were moraines and buried in the drift were icebergs often several kilometres in length. In Triassic times the northern part of the plain had itself been a region of internally drained or endorheic lakes, which had left deposits of salt. Progressive dissolution of these deposits led to sinking of the land surface. Through the backing up of melt water by the moraines, the melting in situ of the icebergs and the collection of water in the sunken depressions, and possibly through other means, the antecedents of the present- day meres were born.
- 3. The meres are not randomly scattered over the plain; they occur in distinctive groups which may sometimes be linked with moraine areas, though not always. Some are relatively deep, others very shallow. Nor are they at all uniform in water chemistry. A few, set in sandy basins, have very low concentrations of major ions, whilst the remnant basins of nearly completed hydroseres are both ion-poor and heavily humic-stained. Others have ionic levels that are probably the highest in Britain with total phosphorus concentrations from apparently natural sources that would elsewhere indicate gross contamination with sewage effluent. The



meres have been claimed to be Britain's naturally eutrophic lakes with anecdotal evidence of blue-green algal blooms dating to at least the last century.

- 4. What most of the meres do share, is a relative obscurity in the public perception. The upland lakes are large and highly visible; the Broads have a profile generated by generations of holidaymakers. But the meres are small, usually hidden on private estates in a lowland in which they are little apparent from the public roads. Their wetland edges make them generally inaccessible to all but the professionally concerned and their often ground- rather than surface- water supply isolates them from otherwise accessible river corridors with their ancient public pathways.
- 5. The meres lie deep in agricultural land of high enough quality not to have avoided some of the intensification that has been a feature of post-war farming and which has contributed to the problems of eutrophication that beset many British lakes. Their ecology was last reviewed by Reynolds in 1979 and Reynolds & Sinker (1976). There have been some surveys of the submerged plant populations (Wigginton & Palmer 1987) since then and a series of papers on the corixids has been published by Savage(1990) and savage & Pratt (1976). The phytoplankton of Rostherne mere has been monitored over a long period (Reynolds & Bellinger 1992) and there have been a few intensive palaeolimnological studies (Twigger & Haslam 1991). There has, however, been no recent systematic attempt to assess the state of even a subset of the more than 60 meres. It was possible that, if naturally eutrophic, they had changed little. It was also possible that with changes in stocking rates, those fed by surface water might be showing eutrophication from cattle yard wastes or that those fed by ground water might be showing enhanced nitrate concentrations from nearby or even more distant intensive arablisation.
- 6. The present survey, carried out largely between July 1991 and June 1992, set out with two objectives. The first was to characterise the water chemistry, phytoplankton, zooplankton and plant populations of a series of twenty-three meres, chosen by English Nature because they are Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Often these are the only intensive limnological data available for the sites and interpretation has had to be based on judgement and experience for lack of comparative data. The second was to see what general model might emerge to explain the major features controlling phytoplankton crop size in the meres. The ultimate intentions of this were both fundamental understanding in a system which might be unusual among lakes in not being phosphorus-limited or even nutrient-limited at all and of

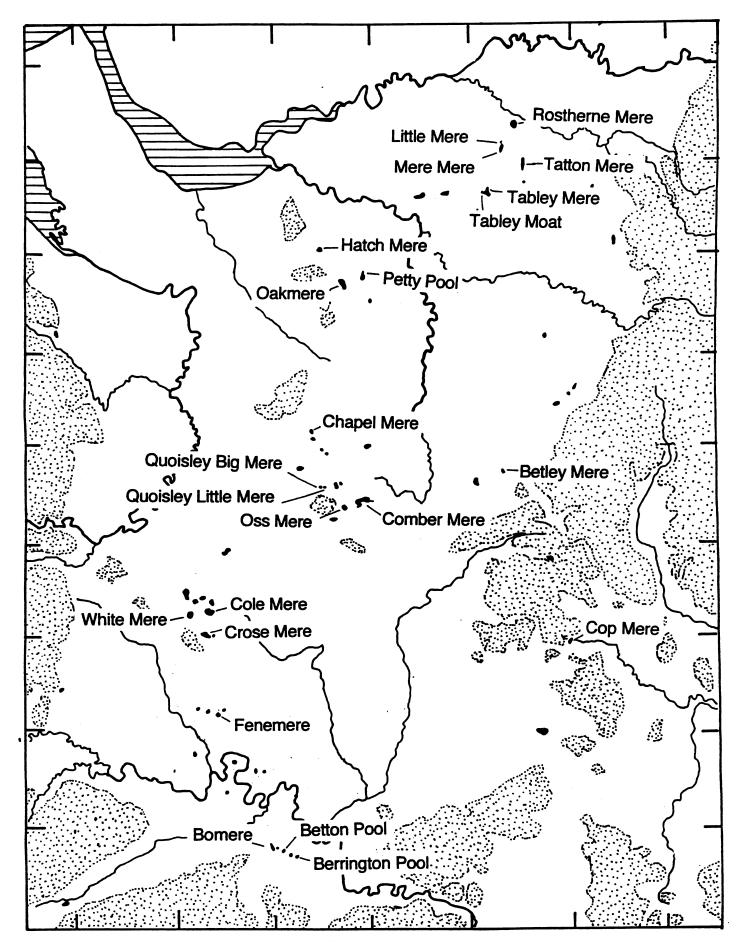
recommending workable restoration strategies should resroration be found to be necessary.

7. The report is thus organised into two main sections. The first takes each site in turn and presents the available information in a common format. The second attempts an overview of the whole data set.

Methods

- 8. The meres included in this survey were:
 Berrington Pool; Betley Mere; Betton Pool; Bomere; Chapel Mere;
 Cole Mere; Comber Mere; Cop Mere; Crose Mere; Fenemere;
 Hatch Mere; Little Mere; Mere Mere; Oakmere; Oss Mere; Petty
 Pool; Quoisely Little Mere; Quoisely Big Mere; Rostherne Mere;
 Tabley Mere; Tabley Moat; Tatton Mere; White Mere.
- 9. Each site was visited about once every three weeks over an entire year and sampled at the surface from the middle where this was logistically possible. Where it was not, samples were taken from the ends of jetties or from fishing platforms protruding into the lake. Samples were also taken of major surface inflows and outflows so that nutrient budgets could be approximated for these sites. Such flows were gauged with a current meter. The exact location and sample code for each sampling site is given with the data on each lake. All water samples were analysed for: conductivity (uS per cm); phenolphthalein and total alkalinity (mequivalents per I, using titration with standard hydrochloric acid to pH 8.4 and 4.5 respectively using phenolphthalein and BDH 4.5 indicators); chloride(mg per I, using thr Mohr titration with silver nitrate); pH; soluble reactive-,total soluble-, particulate-, and totalphosphorus(ug per I, using the molybdenum blue reaction following digestion with acid persulphate where necessary); nitrate-nitrogen (mg per I, using reduction on spongy cadmium followed by azo dye formation and spectrophotometric measurement); ammonium-nitrogen (ug per I, using the Chaney-Morbach phenol-hypochlorite reaction); and silicate(mg per l, using reaction with acid molybdate).
- 10. For inflows, the N:P ratios have been calculated from the ratios of nitrate-N + ammonium-N to total P. The calculations are thus underestimates of the true N:P ratio as organic forms of nitrogen are not included.
- 11. Chlorophyll a and carotenoid concentrations were measured in the lake samples and phytoplankton in whole water samples was counted using an inverted microscope. Zooplankters were sampled using a 67 um mesh net drawn up the water column at the sampling site and counted in preserved subsamples using a stereo

The West Midland Meres . Detailed Survey 1991/92



microscope. Aquatic plants were sampled on a single occasion in summer and scored using the DAFOR system used in previous surveys of the meres by Wigginton and Palmer (). Maps are provided of the plant distributions. A common key to symbols is given at the eend of the introduction.

- 12. For comparison, full tables of chemical and phytoplankton data are provided together with means and standard deviations calculated for the whole year, for the winter (Nov-Feb inclusive) and for the main phytoplankton growth season (March-October). Data are given in the Tables for the numbers of **Daphnia**, the main zooplankton grazer genus in almost all of the meres. For Oakmere, where **Daphnia** is replaced in some years by the companion genus **Diaphanosoma**, numbers of both are given.
- 13. Some data are given concerning stocking and land usage in the parishes which contain the catchments of the lakes. These data have been taken from the Agricultural Census returns, held at the Public Records Office at Kew. Data are given for 1931, a year which predates the major changes that have taken place in British agriculture since world War II and for 1987. For stock headage, an index of potential relative nutrient supply from excreta has been derived from the annual average amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus excreted per head. The amounts excreted of N and of P have been summed and normalised relative to a value of 1 for humans. The index has then been multiplied by the headage to give an indication of change in nutrient load for each catchment. Values are relative and can be compared only between years and not between catchments as the areas of these vary. Values used in calculating the index were(in kg per year): cattle, N 70.2, P 7.7; pigs, N 18.8, P 5.6; sheep, N 7, P 1.5; poultry, N 0.3, P 0.2; humans, N 4, P 1.16. These values give overall ratios for P+N of cattle 12.1: pigs 4.8: sheep 1.5:poultry 0.14; humans 1.0. Human populations have been assumed to have remained constant though in fact there is likely to have been a slight decline between 1931 and 1987 in most of these rural areas.
- 14. The data given in the Agricultural censuses for cereal, root crop, field vegetable and oilseed rape hectarages have been combined here under the single heading of arable.
- 15. Reference is made in the text to different phases of change in shallow lakes. A manuscript reviewing recent thinking in this area and describing the phases is given as an Appendix at the end of the Report.

Key to Vegetation Maps

Ec	Elodea canadensis	NI	Nuphar lutea
Lt	Lemna trisulca	Na	Nymphaea alba
Ch	Callitriche hermaphroditica	Np	Nuphar pumila
Lu	Littorella uniflora	Pa	Polygonum amphibium
Rc	Ranunculus circinatus	Nx	Cultivated Nymphaeid
Рр	Potamogeton pectinatus	CI	Cladophora spp
Ppf	Potamogeton perfoliatus	Nt	Nitella spp
Pb	Potamogeton berchtoldii	Cv	Chara vulgaris
Ea	Eleocharis acicularis	Ep	Eleocharis palustris
Ms	Myriophyllum spicatum	Cd	Ceratophyllum demersum
Eh	Elatine hexandra	Em	Enteromorpha spp
Po	Potamogeton obtusifolius	Hd	Hydrodictyon spp
Zp ·	Zannichellia palustris	Fa	Fontinalis antipyretica
Lm	Lemna minor	Df	Drepanocladius fluitans
Pcs	Potamogeton crispus	Pc (Phragmites communis
Rna	Rorippa nasturtium aquatica	Ta 🤄	Typha angustifolia
Cs	Callitriche stagnalis	TI .	Typha latifolia
Cha	Callitriche hamulata	Ser (Sparganium erectum
Pn	Potamogeton natans	lp 🤅	Iris pseudacorus
Chi	Crassula helmsii	J	Juncus spp
Pbs	Polygonum bistorta	Ac (Acorus calamus
Se	Sparganium emersum	C (Carex spp
	Mixed emergent vegetation		Equisetum fluviatile

SECTION 1 THE MERE SITES

(a) BERRINGTON POOL

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Berrington Pool is a small lake situated south of Shrewsbury, with an area of 2.5 ha and a maximum depth of about 12m. It lies in cup shaped basin and there is evidence of past major changes in water level(Farr et al 1990). Its water supply appears to be largely of ground water though there will be some surface run off after heavy rain.

(ii) Land use changes

The catchment of the lake includes parts of the parishes of Berrington and Atcham. Agricultural changes in these have been as follows:

Cattle(head) nutrient units	1931 1819 22000	1987 1733 20963
Pigs(head) nutrient units	872 4190	21 101
Sheep(head) nutrient units	3661 5492	2337 3510
Poultry(head) nutrient units	8759 1226	237 33
Total nutrient units	32908	24607
Permanent grazing(ha) Temporary grazing(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	1599 237 586 4 2	796 158 1685 20 21
Total hectarage	2428	2680

There has been an overall decrease in the biomass of stock kept and therefore a likely decrease in the supplies of nutrients from these sources, particularly from pigs and poultry. Losses of grazing land to arable have been considerable and since cattle numbers have fallen only marginally there may be more intensive feeding with consequent production of more liquid yard waste. The increased arablization may have meant an increased nitrate load to the lake.

(iii) Major ion water chemistry and nutrient loads

Berrington Pool has a relatively low conductivity for the meres, a modest alkalinity and a high chloride concentration. Its total and soluble phosphorus concentrations are moderate for the meres, high relative to other lakes and, because they are higher in winter than in summer likely to be determined by external sources than internal sediment-derived loading. Nitrate and ammonium concentrations are low for an agricultural area

(iv)Phytoplankton and zooplankton.

Phytoplankton crops are moderately high, in the conventional eutrophic range, and have strong representations of blue green algae in them. Green algae are numerically most abundant overall but diatoms dominate in winter. Cladocera are scarce in the zooplankton and grazing impact is likely to be minimal.

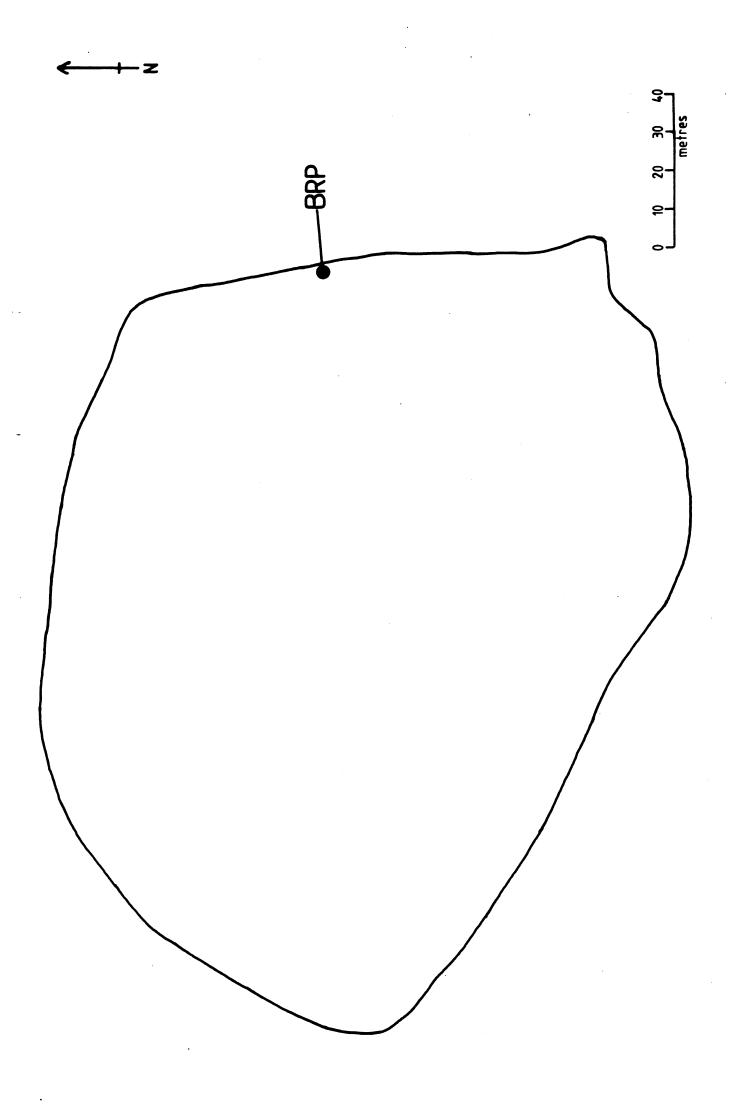
(v)Aquatic plants

The pool is relatively deep and steep sided. The potentiality for submerged plant colonisation is therefore low. However no completely submerged species were found. Patches of *Nuphar lutea* and *Polygonum amphibium* which have some submerged leaves were present with *Nymphaea alba* also. One submerged species was found by NCC in 1979 but not in 1987. The trophic score for aquatic plants has changed little between 1979 (8.3) and 1991 (8.1).

(vi)Overall assessment

Berrington Pool is clearly eutrophic and fed mostly by ground water. It is likely that its trophic state has increased over the past sixty years because of agricultural changes (mostly through arable increases leading to increased nitrogen loading) but these have been less important than in other meres. Nitrogen is probably limiting algal growth for phosphorus is abundant and probably from mostly natural sources. The algal crops probably lie at the potential set by the nitrogen supply and there is little grazing by zooplankton.

Other than modifications in arable farming in the catchment, the best way of reducing the algal crops would be reduction in fish stock to allow increase in the *Daphnia* but in such a steep sided basin it is unlikely that large enough littoral plant beds could develop to provide enough refuges to make this a stable state. Fish removal would thus have to be annual and overall there is little to be gained by such measures.



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Berrington Pool BRP

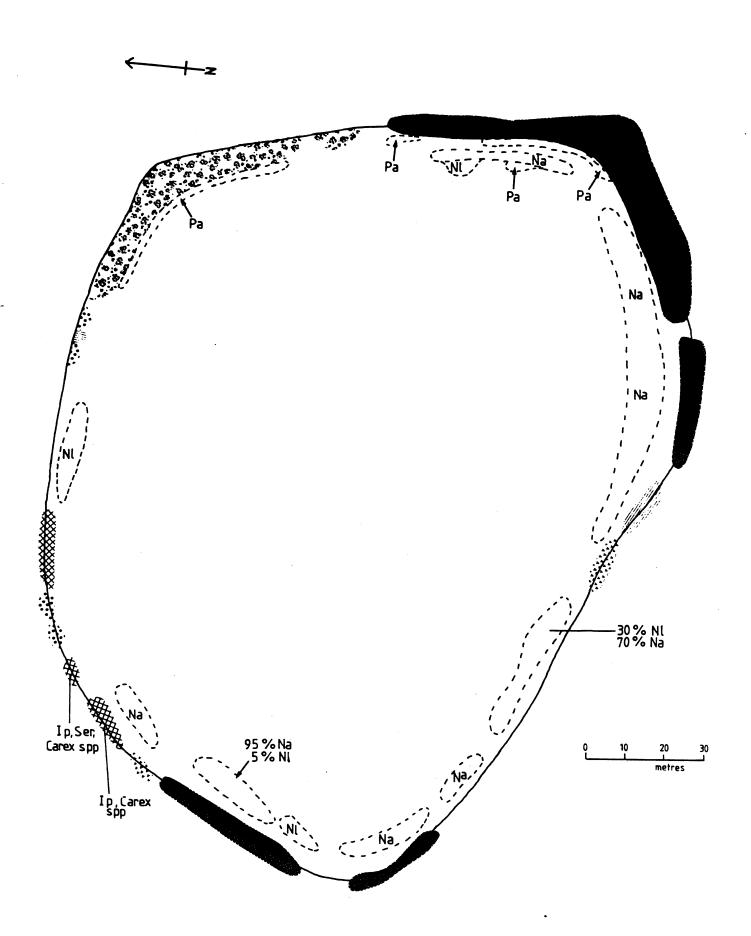
Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Chlorophyll	Carotenoids	480:663	430:410	Secchi	Total Daphnia
0.0	54.0	0.18	6.2	18.7	3.29	1.18	0.35	0.24
0.00	242.0	00.0	6.4	13.0	2.05	1.26	۸	0.00
0.00	51.0	0.34	5.4	13.0	2.44	1.16	٨	0.00
0.00	131.0		8.4	12.7	1.52	1.08	٨	0.00
0.03	387.0	0.51	11.1	14.3	1.30	1.02	٨	0.55
0.19	546.0	0.61	9.5	8.3	2.08	0.93	^	0.00
0.02	0.999	0.89	8.8	16.0	2.00	1.01	٨	0.13
0.62	131.0	0.45	5.5	11.0	2.20	0.93	٨	0.00
0.55	89.0	0.75	4.8	7.3	1.69	96.0	^	0.00
0.70	37.0	0.43	18.7	25.0	1.47	1.15	٨	0.15
0.58	39.0	0.14	19.4	22.7	1.28	1.17	۸	0.00
0.03	31.0	0.01	28.9	37.8	1.44	1.10	٨	00:0
0.00	19.0	0.41	44.4	80.3	1.99	1.35	1.25	
0.05	7.0	0.56	54.6	83.5	1.68	1.33	0.75	
0.36	358.0	0.68	7.1					0.03
0.27	291.0	0.19	2.2					0.02
0.15	100.0	0.29	20.4					0.12
0.26	123.0	0.21	17.2					0.17
0.21	174.0	0.41	16.6					0.0
0.27	211.0	0.27	15.7					0.15

Total P	59.0	23.0	36.0	91.0	122.0	149.0	225.0	191.0	166.0	94.0	171.0	72.0	75.0			183.0	33.0	82.6	44.7	113.3	62.6
Partic P	31	0.0	&	•	28	13	30	0	24	0	68	49	28	•							
Total Sol P	28	23	28	'	94	135	195	191	142	96	82	23	17	4	-						
Sol React P	0.80	4.0	1.0	20.0	75.0	120.0	135.0	131.0	117.0	94.0	0.69	0.8	0.0	0.4	?	126.0	0.6	27.6	36.7	55.6	55.4
Chloride	59.2	69.4	57.1	65.2	50.5	58.0	38.4	59.6	64.7	6.06	58,8	60.0	60.0	60.8		55.2	11.5	63.1	10.7	6.09	11.1
₹	8.25	8.30	8,33	7.79	7.69	7.85	7.79	7.93	8.08	8.37	8.52	9.20	9.28	9.39		7.90	0.12	8.51	09.0	8.34	0.57
Total alk	1.80	1.80	1.16	1.90	0.75	2.15	2.20	1.80	1.90	1.95	2.20	2.00	1.85	1.75		2.00	0.19	1.72	0.43	1.80	0.40
Phenolph alk	0.00	0.10	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.15	0.30	0.50	0.25	0.35		0.10	0.08	0.19	0.15	0.17	0.14
Conductivity	393	406	411	406	411	384	405	339	403	393	391	355	377	368		379	o	391	19	392	17
Date	Jul 24 1991	Aug 14 1991	Sept 4 1991	Oct 9 1991	Oct 30 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 22 1992	Feb 19 1992	Mar 11 1992	April 1 1992	April 29 1992	May 20 1992	June 10 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	All year mean	SD
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7	Coelosphaer	•	•	•	•	214	•	•	13	•					•	
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92	Merismop pu	•	•	•	3418	657	•	•	27	•			684			
	Oscill ten	235	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						•
78 PT	Phormidium sp	29	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•		
79	Spirutina sp	•		•	•	•	\$		•	•					•	
	Stigonema sp	•	•	•	•	•	\$		•	•						
2	Chroococcus	34	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•	
	Gomphosph.	•	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						•
83	Anab flos aq	•	•	•	•	•	543	•	•	•						
2	Gloeocaps rup	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			201	•		•
82	Oscilat sp	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	134	27
98	Coelos naeg	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•	•	13
			;			•										
	Total diatoms	•	92			173								1407	0	0
8	Total greens	4860	2492			Ξ						2		7305	1012	119
6	Total other	1005	29		1173	240						_		1809	251	1220
6	Total bga	673	53			2948	•	••				_		469	1541	000
95	Total	6538	2638	1 2030		4072	4944	4424	2330	4360		. 6	13555	06601	2804	3429
93																
2	Diatoms%	•	96.0			4.3							6.5	12.8	0	0
95	Greens%		94.5	47.2	32.6	17.4		79.4					74.2	86.5	36.1	
96	Others%		2.5			5.9							=	16.5	σ	35.6
98	Bga %	10.3	2	23.1		72.4	1.5		2.3	•			9.3	4 .3	55	9
66		Diatoms %	Greens%		Other% Blue greens %											
8	00 Winter mean%	31	23.3		32.7											
5	S	22.7	12.4													
05 Gr	02 Growth mean%	3.4	49.6													
8	S	4.4	30	10.7	27.5											
8	04 Allyear mean%	12.6	41.5													
02	S	18.3	28.2													

Berrington Pool



(b) BETLEY MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Betley Mere is 9.3 ha in area, and very shallow (max 1.8m). It has several small surface inflows and a distinct outflow. The two main inflows carried a total of 1.14 million cubic metres of water per year, which was much greater than the gauged outflow (0.02 million metre cubed). This suggests that much of the water may have been lost by seepage (or undetected surface outflows) to the wetland areas to the west of the mere, that the average retention time was at most 0.07 yr and that the mere is flushed about 13.6 times per year. There may also be some ground water sources which would tend to increase further the flushing rate. Most of the flow is in winter and the retention time is thus much longer in summer (about 0.97 yr) with a flushing rate equivalent to 1.03 per yr. The picture is thus one of rapid winter flush-out followed by summer stagnation.

(ii) Land use changes Betley Mere's catchment lies entirely in Betley Parish, whose land usage since 1931 has changed in the following way:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	473 5723 149 715 515 773 4720 661	1036 12540 169 811 904 1356 164 23
Total nutrient units	7872	14730
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing	383 51 90 1 4	329 84 105 12 4
Total hectarage	529	534

This pattern is one of little change in field crops but a major increase in stocking of cattle with some increase also in sheep and a switch of some land from permanent to temporary, and thus more heavily fertilised, grazing.

(iii) Major ion water chemistry and nutrient loads

The two inflows (BLIE and BLIF) differ with the former having a consistently lower conductivity and major ion content compared with the former. The mere itself has a conductivity between the two but a higher total alkalinity and a lower chloride concentration. Because the former is largely soil derived and the latter rain derived this suggests a small but significant source of ground water to the mere. Values overall are relatively high. Both inflows carry large concentrations of soluble and total phosphorus which are larger in summer than in winter. This suggests an effect of reduced dilution of a point source or sources in the lesser flows of summer. Moderately high concentrations of ammonium suggest that these sources may lie in a local farm as the former sewage treatment works to the south of the mere appears to be no longer functional. Nitrate concentrations in the inflows are also high and highest in the farm inflow (BLIF). High nitrate values usually come from arable sources or fertilised grazing; in this instance there may be a substantial element of well oxidised farm effluent. The N:P ratios in the inflows (BLIF, 21 by weight, 47.4 by atoms; BLIE, 5.6 by weight, 12.6 by atoms) suggest that despite the high phosphorus values nitrogen is still in excess relative to algal growth needs.

The mere itself also shows high phosphorus concentrations, which can be explained by the inflows, so that major internal sediment release is unlikely. Nitrogen concentrations are lower in the mere and available nitrogen is scarce in summer falling sometimes to negligible concentrations. This suggests a loss of nitrogen through processes like denitrification as the inflows enter the mere and pass through the reedswamp as well as algal uptake. But the high N:P ratios in the inflow waters relative to algal need suggest that the latter is not the dominant process. The high chlorophyll a values in the mere coupled with the degree of sediment resuspension that is inevitable in such a shallow water body, suggest that the phytoplankton may not be strongly limited by nutrient supply and that light availability may be most important in summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Chlorophyll a concentrations were high even in January. However blue green algae were only relatively minor components of the community. Green algae and diatoms dominated it in both winter and summer. Such a community has frequently been described

from heavily eutrophicated lakes, particularly where organic inputs accompany the nutrients. The organic matter provides both energy sources to many of the small green algae that can use them as well as creating relatively high carbon dioxide concentrations through bacterial decomposition. Consistent with this are the relatively low (for the meres) values of pH and phenolphthalein alkalinity in Betley Mere.

Zooplankton was scarce for such a fertile lake and very few large cladoceran grazers were found. The picture is one of probably

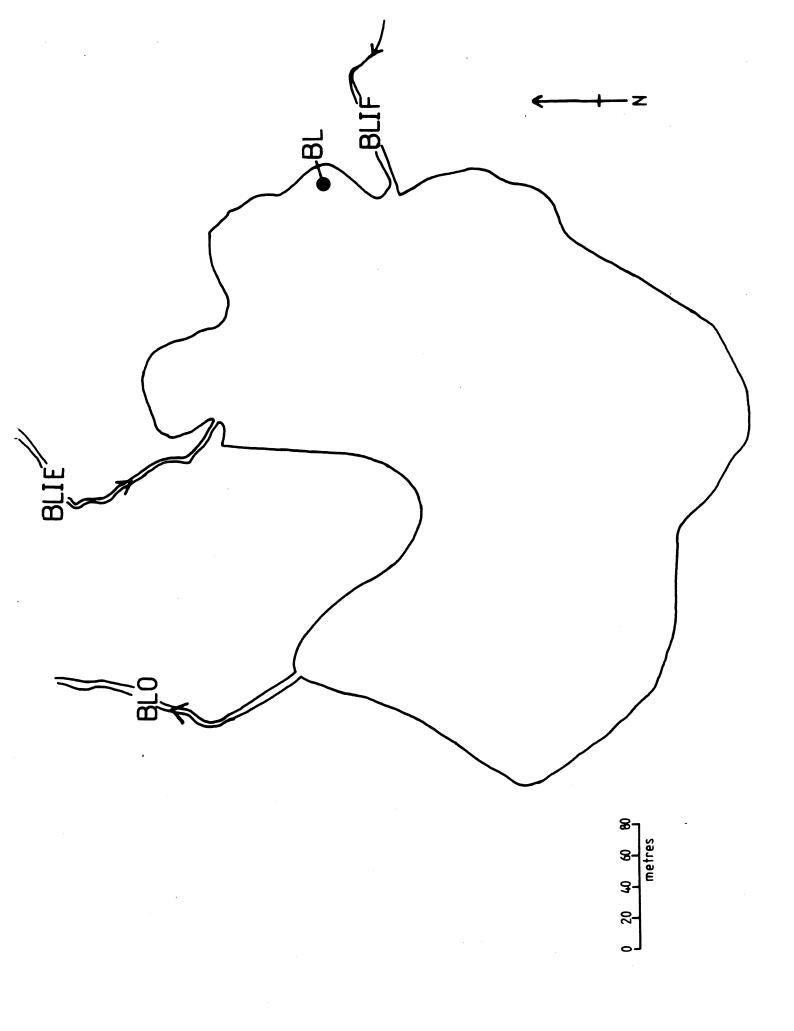
intense fish predation.

(v) Aquatic Plants

Rather surprisingly on account of the high nutrient loading, Betley Mere is in no way devoid of submerged plants and has well developed marginal reedbeds. The dominant species are the more tolerant ones (*Potamogeton pectinatus*, *Ceratophyllum demersum*) but it has a reasonable diversity. Undoubtedly this is partly due to its shallowness which allows light penetration to the bottom despite the sometimes large algal crops.

(vi) Overall assessment

Betley Mere is in a threatened state. It is clearly heavily eutrophicated by stock wastes and the situation has undoubtedly deteriorated in the last sixty years. Phytoplankton crops are high, submerged plants are still vigorous but, on the basis of experience elsewhere could precipitously disappear. The mere is in a Phase 2 state where normally algal crops are kept low by zooplankton grazing. The situation is threatened here by probably heavy fish predation on the zooplankton. Elsewhere Phase 2 states have been moved into completely algal dominated Phase 3 states by mechanisms such as changes in the fish community, changes in water level or bird grazing of the plants. Protective measures would need to include fairly severe control of the farm effluents. The flushing rate in summer is low but the winter flush would help a speedy restoration. Desirable follow up measures would include biomanipulation of the fish community to restore grazing by zooplankters for the lake would almost certainly remain fertile even after practicable nutrient control measures had been established.



_	Date	conductivity	Pnenolph Alk	Total Alk	五	Chloride	Sol React P	Total Sol P	Partic P	lotal P
	Aug 7	*	*	*	+	*	*	*	*	*
2	Aug 28	*	*	*	*	*	*	+	*	*
က	Sept 18	*	*	*	*	+	*	*	*	+
4	Oct 23	957	0	3.2	7.26	88	3516	3516	490	4006
2	Nov 12	669	0.3	3.65	7.77	47	164	189	. 24	214
9 9	ec 12 1991	715	0.35	4.15	8.02	46	175	202	0	202
ر ا	Jan 15 1992	594	0.5	3.6	7.71	48	176	176	. 26	233
∞	Feb 4 1992	884	0.25	3.0	8.39	89	152	195	102	298
<u>ි</u>	Mar 3 1992	587	0.35	3.15	2.96	46.2	64.7	80.8	86	167
10 M	ar 24 1992	574	0.3	3.1	8.18	44	26.9	56.9	0	27
11 Ap	ril 15 1992	583	0.35	3.05	8.14	39.5	36	99	155	221
12 M	May 13 1992	594	0.3	3.4	8.57	44	22	62	329	390
13	une 3 1992	276	0	1.6	7.8	19.6	447	460	1502	1962
14 Ju	June 22 1992	633	0	3.8	8.11	45.1	135	275	0	275
15										
16 V	Winter mean	723(120)	0.28 (0.07)	3.6 (0.47)	7.97 (0.31)	52.3 (10.5)	167 (11)			237 (43)
17 G	Growth mean	601 (198)	0.19 (0.18)	3.04 (0.7)	8.0 (0.4)	46.6 (20.5)	607 (1292)			1007 (1478)
18 A	Allyear mean	645 (178)	0.22 (0.15)	3.25 (0.65)	7.99 (0.36)	48.6 (17.1)	447 (1025)			727 (1209)

Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	SD Discharge	P load/week	P load/year	N load/week	N load/year	
4	+	*	0000		0.000		0.000		
•	: +	. *	0000		0.000		0.000		
k ·	: +	*			0.000		0.000		
* (200.0		4,850		12.300		
8.09	V	6 67	3000		0.650		4.460		
1.39	84	0.0	0.00		0860		11.600		
2.61		5.5	0.00		200.0		2 5 7 5		
		5.77	0.00		0.280		0,5.2		
Si u		4.9	0.037		6.670		139.500		
9.04		4 21	000		0.200		4.150		
3.35		13:4	1000		3100		2 250		
3.62		5.76	0.001		0.00		2.530		
20.0		1.42	0.00		0.267		3.030		
2.93		41.1	000		1.180		5.410		
9/.L		0 1			757 50		29 540		
1.69	752	2.55	0.020	_	75.63	•			9
		000	7000		0.670	146.000		817.000	2
.88		7.5							
			,						
3.01 (2.08)	132 (45)	5.7 (0.69)	0.01						
3 34 (2 23)	55	2.4 (1.09)	0.004	0.006					
3 22 (2 0B)		3.72 (1.92)	0.0						
2.66.71		\1 - · · · \							

	Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	돐	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
-	Aug 7	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
٠ ٨	Aug 28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
m	Sept 18	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4	Oct 23	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ŋ	Nov 12	873	0.45		7.87	38.4	189	196	113	308
ဖ	Dec 5 1991	884			7.94	46	218	218	0	218
7	Jan 15 1992	845			7.69	09	225	251	*	*
∞	Feb 4 1992	834			8.45	56	300	340	159	200
6	Mar 3 1992				7.95	58	159	232	158	390
10	Mar 24 1992				8.05	52	217	238	241	479
=	April 15 1992				8.12	52.9	151	200	285	485
12	May 13 1992				8.06	46	7	34	219	253
	June 3 1992	728	0	2.2	79.7	80.4	737	867	139	1006
4	June 22 1992				8.01	65.7	153	153	16	169
15										
16	Winter mean			3.83 (1.06)	7.99 (0.33)	50.1 (9.8)	233 (47)			342 (144)
17	Growth mean	751 (51)	0.22 (0.21)	3.17 (0.65)	7.98 (0.16)	59.2 (12.3)	237 (254)			464 (294)
18	Allyear mean			3.43 (0.85)	7.98 (0.22)	55.5 (11.80	236 (192)			423 (251)

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	SD Discharge	N kg/week	· N kg/year	P kg/week	P kg/year
	+	*	*	0000		0.000		0.000	
	* *	*	*	0.0000		0.000		0.000	
	*	*	*	0000		0.000		0.000	
	*	+	*	0.000		0.000		0000	
٠.,	10		5.3	0.0030	_	4.120		0.560	
າ ແ	4 34	279	4.8	0.0040	_	11.200		0.530	
	5.73		4.5	0.0080		31.090			
. α	10.28		4.62	0.0120	_	84.400		3.630	
σ	131		4.14	0.0010	_	1.150		0.240	
٠ <u>-</u>	7. L		4.08	0.0002		1.950		090'0	
	. a		3.96	0.0110		60.700		3.230	
- ^	9.00 1.00		0.74	0.0030		11.850		0.460	
	20.0		3.14	0.0030		14.820		1.830	
3 4	5.04	55.7	4.6	0.0010		3.080	833.000	0.100	39.500
10									
"	5.61 (3.5)		4.81 (0.3	0.0070					
	7.18 (4.8)	(283 (782)		0.0020	0.003				
. α	6.55 (4.20		3.99 (1.2	0.0030					

Total P	*	278	386	186	3401	*	*	*	390	258	304					3401	300 (78)	743 (1174)
Partic P	*	52.4	133	59	664	*	*	*	158	229	268							
Tot Sol P	*	225	252	157	2737	*	166	*	232	59	35							
Sol react P	*	204	221	149	2737	*	163	*	159	59	S					1450 (1820)	128 (90)	446 (929)
Chloride	*	43	49	47	95	*	20	*	58	48	47.1					72.5 (32)		
돐	*	7.86	8.12	7.91	7.36	*	7.59	*	96'2	8.16	9.32					7.48 (0.16)	8.22 (0.55)	8.04 (0.58)
Total Alk	*	3.4	3.8	3.65	3.85	*	3.6	*	3.15	3.35	2.55					3.73 (0.18)	3.32 (0.44)	3.42 (0.42)
Phenolph Alk	*	0.25	0.4	0.4	0.1	*	0.5	*	0.35	0.25	0.45					0.15 (0.07)	0.35 (0.08)	0.3 (0.12)
Conductivity	*	680	691	730	942	+	657	*	672	637	536	No flow	No flow	No flow		780 (202)	658 (67)	693 (115)
Date	Aug 7	Aug 28	Sept 18	Oct 23	Nov 12	Dec 12 1991	Jan 15 1992	Feb 4 1992	Mar 3 1992	Mar 24 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 221992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Allyear mean
	-	٠ ،	ı m	4	. 2	9	7	œ	თ			12			15	91	17	18

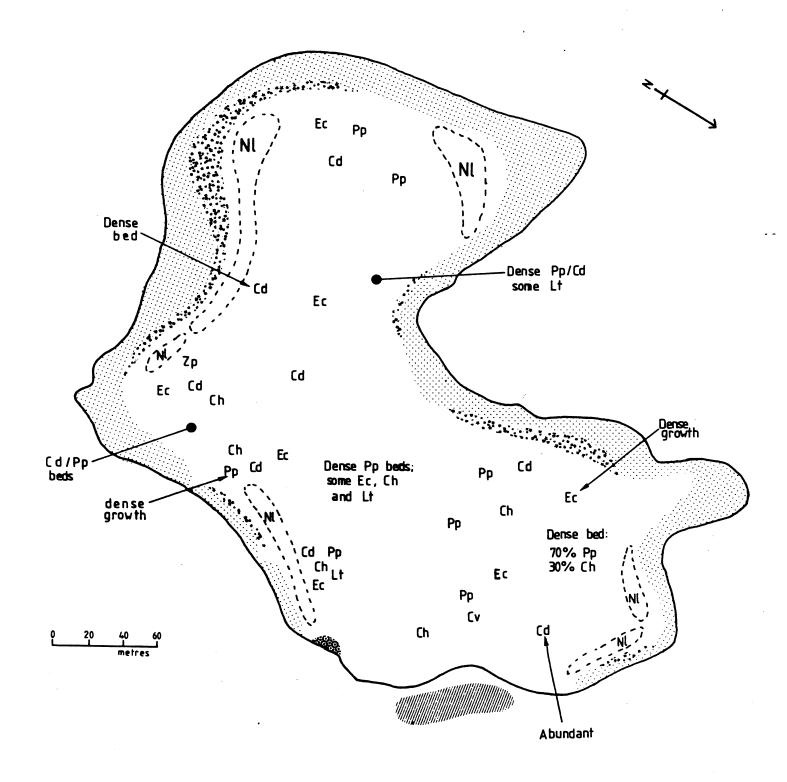
Total P	*	1256	1048	386	353	303	200	241	217	42	292	280	1001	- 6	9/9	Í	2/4 (6/)	609 (427)	506 (386)
Partic P	+	200	929	101	62	82	31	114	141	12	253	238	733	77 F	24				
Tot Sol P	*	1056	422	286	291	218	169	127	92	30	39	342	0.70	0+0	252				
Sol React P	*	773	610	286	275	218	169	127	49	30	1	283	272	2+0	552		197 (64)	360 (294)	310 (254)
Chloride	*	49	51	45	48.5	20	44	52	20	48	43.1	44	- 4	40.	49.0	;	48.6 (3.4)	47.1 (2.9)	47.6 (3)
돐	+	8.52	8.53	7.81	7.87	7.91	2.66	8.43	8.46	60	9 45	9 12	, 1 - 0	97.8	8.15		7.97 (0.33)	8.51 (0.5)	8.34 (0.51)
Total Alk	+	٦.		. r.	4.45	4.85	8.8	3.45	2.55	2.4	. c	. 4 . 4	r (3.9		4.0 (0.76)	3.89 (1.3)	3.93 (1.16)
Phenolph Alk	*	-	 - ~	- - -	0.35	400		2.50	0.25	, c	. .	, u	5 (0.5	0		0.3 (0.09)	0.51 (0.41)	0.44 (0.35)
Conductivity	+		200	753	721	740	049	610	070	900	620	120	600	594	629		(41)	642 (76)	(12) 629
Date	1	Aug / 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	NOV 12 1991	Dec 12 1991	Jan 13 1992	Feb 4 1992	Mar 3 1992	Mar 24 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Allyear mean
	,	- (N (m •	4 r	n (9 1	. (ρ¢	n (э ·	- 1	7	m	4	ß	Œ	^	<u> </u>

Discharge	*	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.002	*	+	*	0.001	+	+					4.47 (1.82) 0.0005(0.001)	2.52 (1.390 0.0008(0.001)	3.08 (1.66) 0.0007(0.001)
Silicate Si	*	2.4	3.26		3.18	*	5.76	*	4.14	2.41	0.38					4.47 (1.82) (2.52 (1.390 (3.08 (1.66) (
Ammonium N	*	24	197	165	4486	*	20	*	585	09	11					2278 (3123)	174 (215)	700 (154)
Nitrate N	*	2.07	2.86	3.7	4.75	*	1.65	*	1.31	1.54	0.27					3.2 (2.2)	1.96 (1.2)	2.27 (1.44)
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	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Chlorophyll	Carotenoids	480:663	430:410	Secchi	Total Daphnia	
•	*	*	+	*	*	*	*	+	*	
– ი	000		1 95	64.3	763	1.2	1.22	0.6	0	
ν r	0.003		96.1	747	110.7	1.52	108	0.4	1.2	
υ 4	1.18	221	<u>:</u>	. 6.		1.39	0.72	٨	0.26	
ן א	0.46		5.63	6.4	14.3	2.26	0.75	^	5.9	
) (C	0.64		5.45	6.2	16.7	3.24	0.87	^	1.8	
^	2.24		5.59	25.3	25.7	1.12	0.97	^	0.14	
. α	3.4		5.91	58.3	40	0.75	0.86	0.5	4.0	
σ	2.31		5.27	63	42	0.73	0.67	0.35	0	
, c	2.0	٠	2.5	80	68	1.22	1.16	٨	0.13	
	0.3		0.44	213	261	0.22	1.29	9.0	0.16	
- 0	0		0.56	109.3	129.3	1.3	1.27	۸	0.76	
1 (6)	0		6.52	84.7	82.7	1.07	1.13	^	7.77	
4	0.05	4-1	6.5	26.0	30.0	1.27	1.12	۸	7.8	
15			•							
16	1.69 (1.4)	162 (114)	5.65 (0.190	24.1 (24.5)					1.3 (1.29)	
17	0.65 (0.93)	(69) 63	3.21 (2.5)	80.1 (58.6)					2.01 (3.3)	
8	0.97 (1.15)		4.02 (2.34)	62.9 (56.3)					1.79 (2.8)	

Myrmecia sp Unid flag Monormastix Rhodomonas m Crypto erosa	•	•											
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Aphanocapea	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	201	134
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Total greens	31124		9650	Š	17.		1360		5227	5449		24636	1513
Total others	1727	128	201	53	13		19200	24284		11502		7139	1982
Total bi greens	480	0 6	134	0 :	•	0	07			0	1206	2112	0991
	20250		96621	79/1	951	_	02/02		38403		0/689	06764	2905
% distoms	33.6		20.7	68.3	85.6		9.0	24.9			89	25.1	12.7
%greens	61.9		9.92	28.6	13.4	4.9	9.9	32.1	13.6	7.2	27	4.	25.6
%others	3.E	1 3.	9.	3.0	0.		92.6	45.0			3.5	15.8	33.6
% bgs	1.2	0	-	0	0		0.2	0.	•	0	S	4.7	28.1
	Distoms	Greens	Others	Rive greens									
30 Whter mean %	39(44)		47.2(52.3)	0.05(0.1)									
Growth mean%	43(26.6)	38.3(23)	14.4(14.6)	4.2(9.1)									
32 Allyear mean%	41.8(31)	30.8(23)	24.5(33)	2.9(7.7)									



Betley Mere

(c) BETTON POOL

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Betton Pool is a fairly deep lake (10.9m) of modest area (6.4ha). It appears to be fed entirely by ground water apart from a little surface run-off after rain and it is not possible to make any sensible estimate of retention time of water in it. It stratifies in summer and the hypolimnion becomes deoxygenated to a severe extent.

(ii) Land use changes

Betton Pool has a probable catchment in Berrington Parish whose land usage since 1931 has changed as follows:

Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	1931 956 11568 473 2270 2250 3375 2951 413	1987 1181 14290 21 101 773 1160 237 33
Total nutrient units	17626	15584
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	942 184 370 2 1	409 120 757 20 7
Total hectarage	1499	1313

There has thus been some decline in stock-keeping overall despite an increase in cattle which has been a common feature in the region, and much conversion of grassland to arable and to other (non-agricultural) uses.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Conductivities and alkalinities are modest for the area and chloride relatively high. Total and soluble phosphorus are relatively high but modest in the mere's context, whilst nitrate and

ammonium concentrations are low even in winter. when the main supplies arrive. Nitrate is frequently undetectable in summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

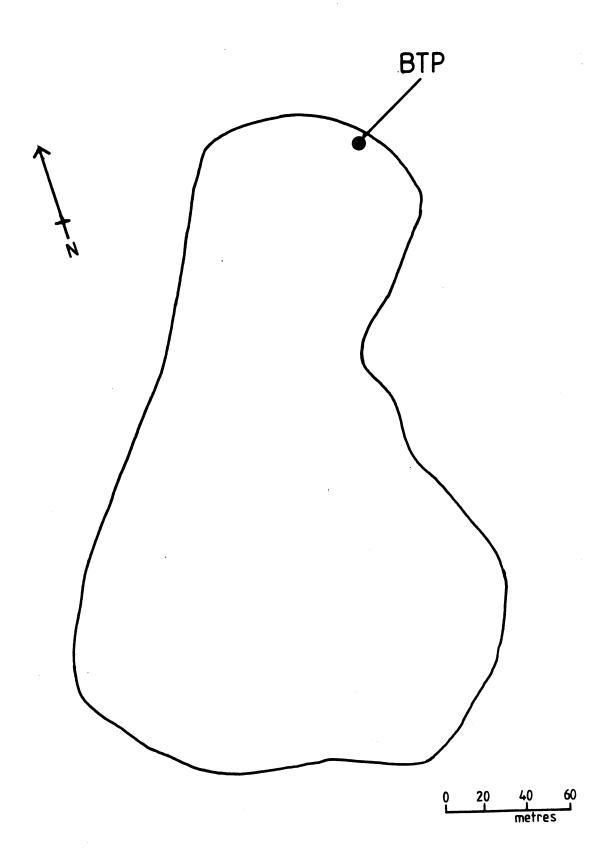
Chlorophyll a concentration reaches modest peaks in mid summer but is, on average not very high. The algal crops are probably controlled largely by nitrogen availability for zooplankton grazers are scarce. The phytoplankton is dominated by diatoms and flagellates in winter whilst flagellates, green algae and to a rather lesser extent. blue-green algae become more abundant in summer.

(v) Aquatic plants

The pool has a relatively well developed aquatic plant community in the narrow littoral zone where the morphometry would permit growth. The trophic score has remained steady since 1979 (8.3) and the small drop to 8.1 in 1991 is probably not significant. There has been a reduction in DAFOR score for the submerged plants from 13.5 in 1979 to 9.5 in 1987 and 10 in 1991. This may be as much due to different observer perceptions as real change.

(vi) Overall assessment

Betton Pool does not appear to be suffering from eutrophication problems that are any greater than the probable regional change that has occurred in the post-war period as a result of the intensification of agriculture. There are no restoration measures that are immediately practicable.



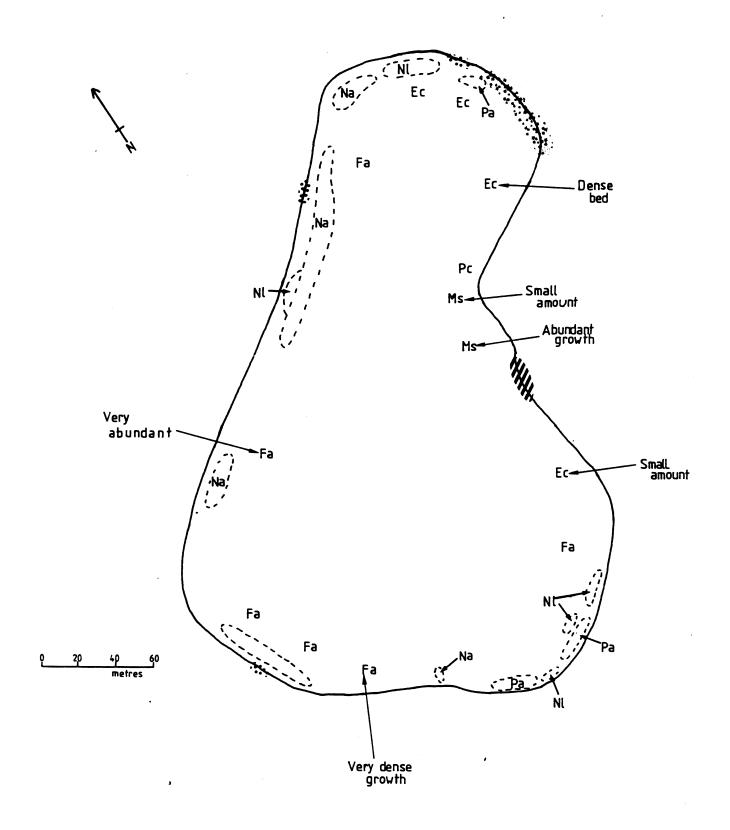
Total P	25.0	40.7	53.6	134.0	199.4	169.0	183.0	184.0	175.0	131.0	173.0	0.99	45.0	8.0	178.0	2.0	88.0	0.99	113.0	70.0
Partic P	17.0	21.9	30,0	•	9'99	18	56	0	40	131	82	ဖ	2	0.2						
Tot Sol P	8.0	18.8	23.0	•	132.8	152	157	184	134	31	91	09	43	80						
Sol React P	8.0	5.8	0.0	7.76	149.5	142.0	157.0	156.0	118.0	100.4	91.0	39.0	21.0	7.0	143.0	18.0	52.0	53.0	78.0	62.0
Chloride	40.8	42.9	40.8	41.3	44.4	44.0	61.0	40.4	43.1	43.5	43.1	40.0	44.0	39.2	47.1	9.4	42.0	1.8	43.5	5.3
₹.	8.19	8.33	8.02	7.50	7.68	7.82	7.79	8.14	8.18	8.20	8.13	8.31	8.30	9.18	7.98	0.20	8.18	0.45	8.13	0.40
Total alk	2.00	2.00	1.62	2.20	2.40	2.25	2.20	2.00	2.10	2.05	2.10	2.10	2.00	2.05	2.14	0.11	2.05	0.20	2.08	0.18
Phenolph Alk	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.05	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.15	0:30	0.20	0.05	0.35	0.10	0.10	0.17	0.11	0.15	0.10
Conductivity	366	354	364	363	370	337	365	362	356	363	351	351	349	332	355	13	356	11	356	11
Date	Jul 24 1991	Aug 14 1991	Sep 4 1991	Oct 9 1991	Oct 30 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 22 1992	Feb 19 1992	Mar 11 1992	April 1 1992	April 29 1992	May 20 1992	June 10 1992	Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SO	Allyear mean	SD
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480:663		1 75	- '	1.05	1.82	2.19		78.1	2.64	2.40	1.80	1.70	3.70	1.30	1 80	- 6	2.20	1.05								
Carotenoids		117		33.3	34.0	117	. (13.3	12.3	8.0	0.9	11.3	12.3	4.3	ď	o '	3.9	51.0			-					
Chlorophyll			c: ,	32.0	18.9	7.4	; ;	7.4	5.2	3.7	3.7	7.3	3.7	3.7		9.0	1.9	53.5		5.0	1.7	13.8	16.8	11.2	14.6	
Silicate Si			0.05	00.0	0.27	j ;		0.50	0.51	0.59	0.59	7.74	0.20	0.21		0.13	0.31	0.54	,	0.56	0.05	0.25	0.18	0.33	0.21	
Ammonium N			32.0															188.0			0.79					
Nitrate N		1	00.0		00.0		0.00	0.11	0.43	0.34	0.64	950	20.0		0.93	0.36	0.12	0.11		0.49	0.13	0.24	0.33	0.31	0.31	;
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Betton Pool



(d) BOMERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Bomere is an elongate lake, of 10.3ha, and with a maximum depth of 15.2 m that lies, with Betton Pool and Berrington Pool in the group of meres to the south east of Shrewsbury. It stratifies in summer and appears to be largely ground-water fed, for there are no permanent surface water inflows. No sensible estimate can be made at present of its retention time.

(ii) Land use changes

Bomere has a catchment that is probably contained in the parishes of Berrington (Bayston Hill) and Condover. The land use of these parishes has been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	2668 32283 1931 9269 6699 10049 14978 2097	4731 57245 236 1133 8336 12504 389 55
Total nutrient units	53698	70937
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	2605 495 964 4 51	1467 874 2516 77 33
Total hectarage	4119	4967

There has thus been a small increase of stock-keeping with cattle and sheep replacing pigs and poultry and a change from permanent grazing to temporary grazing and arable. There have been some parish boundary changes and so the stock increase in the catchment itself may have been on a lesser scale.

(iii) Major ion water chemistry and nutrient loads

Bomere has a very low conductivity for the meres, coupled with a low alkalinity and chloride concentration. In these respects it is most comparable with Oakmere, both being considerably less ion-rich than the other meres examined. Similarly, Bomere has low soluble and total phosphorus concentrations though these are slightly higher (as is its alkalinity) than those of Oakmere. The soluble phosphorus rises to a mean of 81 ug/l in winter which is not inconsiderable but may fall to zero in summer. The total phosphorus also falls in summer to half the winter value. This may be due to uptake and delivery to the sediment in summer rather than to any great seasonality in water delivery or washout. Nitrate concentrations and ammonium concentrations are both low, even in winter and concentrations of total inorganic nitrogen are sometimes zero in summer. The data suggest a lake that is fairly severely nutrient limited in the growth season.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

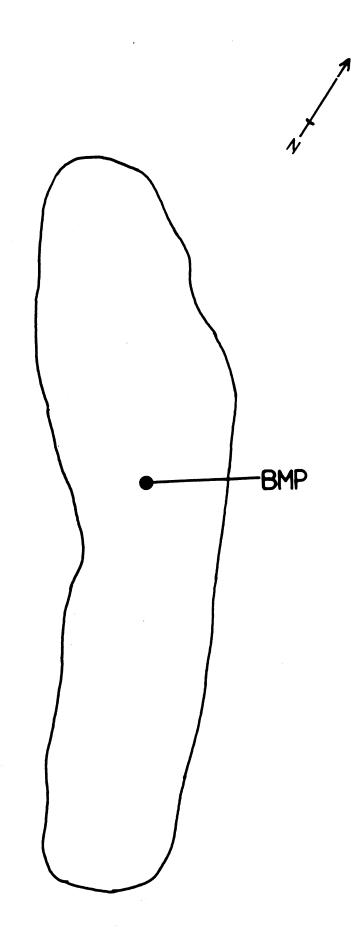
Phytoplankton crops are modest with relatively low representation of diatoms. Green algae dominate with flagellates next most abundant. Blue-green algae are present but only occasionally have much numerical significance. Although there is a late spring population of *Daphnia*, it rapidly declines and grazing is probably a minor feature of the plankton in summer.

(v) Aquatic plants

The aquatic plant community is reasonably diverse and includes **Elatine hexandra** among species that are more widely distributed both in this lake and elsewhere. The trophic score has remained steady at 7.6-7.8 since 1979 and, if anything, the DAFOR score for submerged plants seems to indicate an increase in biomass.

(vi) Overall assessment

Bomere seems to have few real problems. The boating activity on it may locally disturb the plant beds but they are nonetheless thriving and the water quality is good despite post-war changes in agriculture and the proximity of Bomere Farm to the immediate north of the lake. Among the meres, Bomere may be notable in having fairly marked nutrient limitation in summer.



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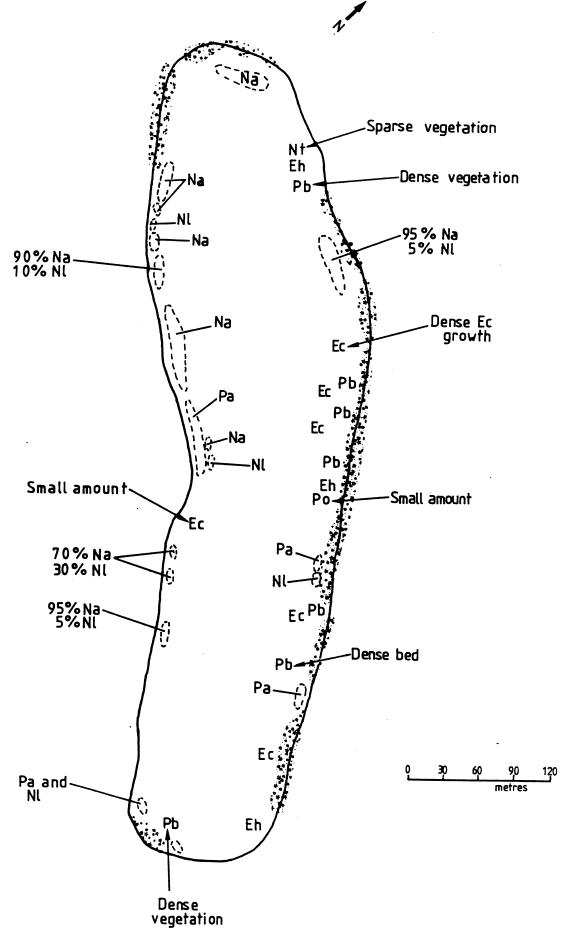
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Bomere



(e) CHAPEL MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Chapel Mere is small (6.5ha) and shallow (2.4m). It has two prominent surface inflows, one draining the buildings area of Cholmondley castle(CHD) and the other the land to the west of the lake (CHI). It also has a distinct outflow (CHO). The gauged inflows (0.44 million cubic metres per year) match, within the errors of gauging small muddy streams of low discharge at infrequent intervals, the outflow (0.50) and this suggests that surface flows dominate the hydrology. Based on the outflow, the retention time of the lake in winter is about six weeks (flushing rate 8.1 per year) and in the growth season only a little longer, about nine weeks, with a flushing rate of 5.8 per year. On an annual basis the retention time averages eight weeks with a flushing rate of 6.5 per year. There is a small inflow that was too small to gauge, near the lakeside boathouse (CHBI) and a local stream (CHSt) that does not deliver water to the lake but by passes it. This stream was analysed for the information that it might give on local water quality.

(ii) Land use changes

Several parishes potentially contribute to the water supply of Chapel Mere and there have been several amalgamations since 1931. Cholmondley, Egerton, Bickerton and Bulkeley are considered to contribute to the catchment.

Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units Total nutrient units	1931 4149 50618 2257 10834 2702 4053 22355 3130 68635	1987 6406 78153 204 979 230 345 26465 3705
Permanent grazing(ha) Temporary grazing	2988 188	2007 716

Arable	144	562
Woodland	4	1
Rough grazing	23	14
Total hectarage	3347	3300

The common pattern of increasing numbers of cattle, declines in pigs and movement of land from permanent grazing to trmporary grazing and arable is shown. Overall this means some potential increase in nutrient loads. An additional change in this catchment has been the development of tourism to the castle. The effluent from the treatment unit which copes with the castle sewage appears to drain into CHD.

(iii) Major ion water chemistry and nutrient loads.

The water chemistry around Chapel Mere is fascinating in several respects. It has a very high conductivity linked to a high alkalinity and this must reflect very soluble minerals in the surface soils of the catchment. CHSt may give some idea of the local water chemistry unaffected by the Castle, which determines the chemistry of one inflow (CHD) and the farm which may determine that of CHI. Chapel Mere Stream carries a very high conductivity (1207 uS per cm) which is nearly twice as great as the castle drain and about a third higher than the main inflow (CHI). This may mean a localised set of soils rich in ions to the north of the mere. The stream's alkalinity, however is a little lower than that of CHI and its chloride content is unremarkable. We cannot say what the high conductivity is caused by but a likely contender may be sulphate. The stream carries only moderate (for this area) concentrations of soluble reactive and total phosphorus though on a national scale they are quite high (SRP 42 ug/l; Total P 131 ug/l). It has low nitrate and ammonium concentrations at all times.

Chapel Mere inflow (CHI) carries the bulk of the water entering the lake (378000 cubic metres per year, 86% of the total inflow). It has notably high phosphorus and nitrate concentrations, both much higher than CHSt. These may be derived from stock at the local farm but it is then surprising that the ammonium concentrations are not also high. The nitrate concentrations exceeded 11 mg/l on two occasions and the total annual load of nitrogen passing down the inflow was estimated as 2.18 tonnes per year. The phosphorus load was 88 kg.

Chapel mere drain (CHD) gave even higher phosphorus and ammonium concentrations and comparable values for nitrate. It had lower conductivity and alkalinity suggesting that the water itself was derived partly from extra-local sources through the domestic water supply to the castle area. At around 1mg/l phosphorus and

with the high nitrate value also, it is clear that the nutrient load is derived from waste water but in absolute terms the drain contributes a much lesser total load of nitrogen (308 kgN per year) than the main inflow, though only a slightly smaller phosphorus load (57 kg P per year).

The boathouse inflow is insignificant in its contributions of either water or nutrients to the mere but is of interest in that its major ion chemistry is consistent with other local waters (high conductivity and alkalinity) but that its phosphorus concentrations are very low as are its nitrate and ammonium concentrations. It drains a small area of permanent pasture and reedswamp close to the lake and may indicate the nature of the local water quality when unaffected by point nutrient sources of excretal origin.

The water chemistry of Chapel Mere itself is clearly determined by the combined influence of the drain and the inflow with year-around high phosphorus concentrations. The denitrifying properties of the surrounding reedswamp are clearly shown, however in the markedly low nitrate and ammonium concentrations that are found even in winter in the lake. With two exceptions in spring, nitrate concentrations were always lower than 1mg/l N and in summer were barely detectable. There was a clear pattern of higher winter and spring values compared with those of summer so that algal and plant uptake in the growth season is superimposed on the denitrification that must take place year around in the wetland and its soils.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Considering the huge annual loading of nitrogen (38 g per metre squared per year) and phosphorus (2.2 g per metre squared per year) on the lake and the relatively long retention time for a small water body, the phytoplankton crops are negligible with a growth season mean of only 13 ug /l chlorophyll a. On only one occasion in spring did algal crops rise to what would be considered high values in shallow lakes and this may have been due to accumulation of a blue green alga towards the surface giving an inflated value for the water column. The reason for the low algal crops is probably to be found in the large concentrations of **Daphnia** that the lake supports. These averaged over 100 animals per litre in the growth season, could reach over 550 per litre and included the large bodied **Daphnia magna**.

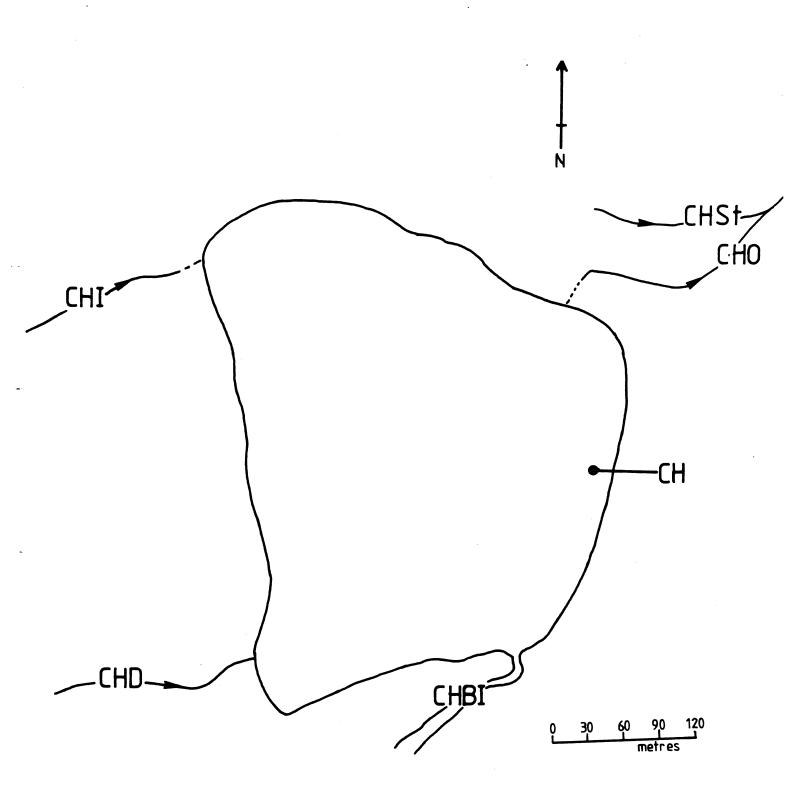
(v) Aquatic Plants

Because of the effects of zooplankton grazing and the consequential low algal populations and clear water, Chapel Mere has an aquatic plant community of large biomass if of low diversity.

It is dominated by **Elodea** and **Lemna trisulca**, both tolerant of high nutrient loadings and the trophic score, at 8.6, is consequentially high.

(vi) Overall Assessment

Were it not for the zooplankton grazing, Chapel Mere would contain a rich algal soup. Its nutrient loading rates and retention time could support phytoplankton populations regularly exceeding 100 ug/l chlorophyll a in highly turbid water devoid of much if any submerged plant growth. The existence of the large grazer populations, including **Daphnia magna**, which is essentially intolerant of much predation, must depend on a negligible fish stock in the mere. This may have arisen from a past fish kill coupled with the relative isolation of the mere from the main river system, which delays subsequent recolonisation. To maintain the mere in its present state there should be no stocking of fish and removal of any still present that might build up future zooplanktivorous populations. Lakes artificially lacking fish, however, are not desirable from several viewpoints. The alternative is to attempt a restoration of the lake by control of the nutrient loading initially at low fish stock levels but with a view to future reintroduction of fish. The loads from both the drain and the main inflow would need to be reduced in phosphorus or diverted around the mere. Diversion would increase the retention time and hence the effectiveness of the reduced load in supporting algal crops but it might be possible to divert the higher quality, presently by-passing, stream through the lake to compensate for this. A more detailed study would be required to investigate the feasibility of these potential measures.



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Phenolph Alk	0.40	0.20		09.0	0.50	1.00	0.30	0.45	0.55	0.40	0.35	0.25	0.30	0.10		0.56	0.30	0.35	0.16	0.42	0.22
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kg N/year														2184.000							
kg N/week				1.120	31.900	3.200	29.600	27.800	138.100	252.600	19.700	0.030							,	•	
Discharge	•	+		0.001	0.025	0.003	0.016	600.0	0.05	0.029	600.0	0.00001	+	+		0.013	600.0	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.010
Silicate Si	6.46	4/.7			4.43	4.50	3.99	3.10	3.43	3.10	2.85	3.99	4.45	5.08		4.00	0.64	4.00	1.30	4.01	1.08
Ammonium N	56	S C		203	66	103	180	141	118	102	197	169	579	250		131	38	193	160	174	135
Nitrate N A	C	3.90		1.64	2.01	1.64	2.88	4.97	11.30	14.30	3.43	5.29	2.63	2.13		2.88	1.50	5.58	4.67	4.68	4.03
	- (7	က	4	S	9	~	∞	၈	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	50	21

7.56	04. Fg	Total Alk pH 3.40
7.67	3.40 7.67	
7.84 8.02		3.75
7.76		3.10
7.91 8.29		4.15 3.75
8.36		3.40
2.67		3.35
7.54		4.00
7.57		2.70
7.77		3.55
7.82		3.95
8.04		3.80
8.08		3.60
0.29		0.45
7.75	3.50 7.75	3.50
0.18		0.40
7.84		3.53
900		

kg P/year														26.600							
kgP/week	0.320	0.880	1.300	1.900	0.380	0.840	0.860	1.060	3.070	1.310	1.510	0.008	1.350	0.460							
kg N/year														308.000							
kg N/week		3.900	1.800	9.240	1.910	1.790	2.160	7.080	9.580	25.860	6.830	0.030	4.760	2.170							
Discharge	0.00010	0.00100	0.00060	0.00300	0.00100	0.00100	0.00200	0.00200	0.00300	0.00500	0.00300	0.00001	0.00100	0.00050		0.00150	09000'0	0.00200	0.00200	0.00200	0.00200
Silicate Si	5.18	3.25	4.97		5.81	5.73	5.33	4.48	4.72	4.49	3.61	3.99	4.97	5.28		5.34	0.61	4.50	0.70	4.76	0.80
Ammonium N	742	317	858	404	107	385	148	180	652	171	477	169	2506	798		202	124	602	629	265	615
Nitrate N		6.13	4.14	4.69	3.05	2.57	1.64	2.67	4.63	8.38	3.29	5.29	5.36	6.37		3.23	1.72	5.36	1.48	4.71	1.80
	-	2	က	4	S	ဖ	7	œ	စ	0	11	12	13	4	15	16	17	18	19	50	. 21

Date	Conductivity	Conductivity Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	₹	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
Aug 7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Aug 28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sept 18		9.0	5.1	7.74	25.5	61	0	0	61
Oct 23			4.4	2.6	26.8	13.3	18.6	14.8	33.4
Nov 13			3.85	7.41	26.3	9.6	18.3	4.4	22.7
Dec 4 1991	717		4.5	7.56	26.0	7.5	17	5.2	22.3
1 1992	695	0.15	3.6	7.85	26.0	56	56	0	56
Feb 5 1992	No flow								
Mar 4 1992	694	0.1	3.7	2.67	25.5	28.6	33.1	0	33.1
Mar 25 1992	No flow								
5 1992	644		4.0	7.65	24	10	28	0	28
May 13 1992		0.25	4.35	9.2	26.0	22.6	33.7	0	34
June 3 1992	No flow								
June 22 1992	No flow								
Winter mean	700(15)	0.22(0.08)	3.98(0.46)	7.61(0.22)	26.1(0.2)	14(10)			24(2)
Growth mean	656(26)	0.27(0.19)	4.31(0.52)	7.65(0.06)	25.6(1.0)	27.2(20)			38(13)
Allvear mean	673(31)	0.25(0.15)	4.18(0.49)	7.64(0.13)	25.8(0.8)	22.4(18)			33(12)

Discharge	*	*	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+						
Silicate Si	+	+	4.38		4.79	4.39	3.93		2.58		1.94	1.28				4.37(0.43)	2.55(1.3)	3 33(1 4)
Ammonium N	*	*	14	49	10.5	129	51		59		42	99				64(60)	46(20)	53/37)
Nitrate N	*	*	0.00	0.04	0.14	0.24	0.36		0.28		0.22	0.05				0.25(0.11)	0.12(0.12)	017(013)
	-	8	m	4	Ŋ	9	7	80	6	5	11	12	13	4	15	16	17	α,

Tile O.6	1991 710 0.6 4.5 7.62 36.7 1106 1238 186 1891 1891 734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 7 1991 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 3.6 3.6 1047 1047 2.88 1992 728 0.4 4.65 7.59 3.6 3.6 3.6 1047 1047 1047 2.88 1992 728 0.4 4.55 7.59 3.6	o tec	, divitation for C		:						
710 0.6 4.5 7.62 36.7 1106 1238 186 734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.66 3.6 7.76 36.3 6.3 6.3 728 0.35 4.45 8.28 40 406 406 0 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.79 35.3 428 452 53 1428 0 748 0.3 4.5 8.19 35.3 1273 1273 1148(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(710 0.6 4.5 7.62 36.7 1106 1238 186 734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 721 0.55 4.85 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 5.05 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 5.05 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.3 7.75 38 961 1094 174 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 40 776 238 6.3 174 174 740 0.35 4.35 8.78 40 406 406 0 0 1442 442 0 0 1442 0 0 1442 0 0 0 0 0 0 1442 442 0 0 0 0 0 1450 0 0	ב	Conductivity	rnenoiph Aik	Total alk	Ŧ	Chloride	Sol React P	Total Sol P	Partic P	Total P
734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 116 186 1238 186 152 1 153 3.17 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 174 1047 1047 288 195 10.3 17.7 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 3.6 40 1047 2.88 194 174 174 1047 1047 2.88 178 186 1094 174 174 174 175 115 115 116 116 116 116 116 116 116 11	734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 186 721 0.55 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 116 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 693 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 5.05 7.5 38 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 6.3 6.3 740 0.35 4.45 8.28 40 776 776 232 728 0.35 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 744 0.3 4.45 8.69 4.6 776 442 0 748 0.3 4.45 8.69 35.3 1273 1273 87 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.2(2.3) 869(388)	17 1991	710	9	7	1 63	(•	•	•	•
734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36.4 1047 174 174 756 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 476 6.3 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 174 0 <td>734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 5.05 7.5 38 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 963 174 766 0.35 4.35 8.28 36 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 422 426 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.79 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 35.3 1450 0 0 728(13) 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.09(0.4) 37.6(1.8) 939</td> <td>1001 90</td> <td>72.4</td> <td></td> <td>r.,</td> <td>79.7</td> <td>36.7</td> <td>1106</td> <td>1238</td> <td>186</td> <td>1424</td>	734 0.3 4.8 7.74 32.0 859 1153 317 721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 5.05 7.5 38 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 963 174 766 0.35 4.35 8.28 36 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 422 426 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.79 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 35.3 1450 0 0 728(13) 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.09(0.4) 37.6(1.8) 939	1001 90	72.4		r. ,	79.7	36.7	1106	1238	186	1424
721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.5 38 961 1047 288 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 6.3 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 728 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1273 1273 1038(15) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3)	721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 693 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 6.3 6.3 725 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.45 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.7 8.69 35.3 1450 0 1450 0 732 0.5 4.75 8.19 35.3 1273 1273 82 728 0.36(0.05) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(1661 01	40.	0.3	4.8	7.74	32.0	859	1153	317	1469
721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 693 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 6.3 6.3 740 0.3 4.35 8.28 36 776 232	721 0.55 4.35 7.79 33 1081 1218 194 693 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 4.65 7.79 36.4 1047 1047 288 728 0.4 5.05 7.75 36.9 36 174 174 740 0.3 4.75 8.28 36 973 6.3 6.3 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.1 35.3 1450 1450 0 713 0.5 4.85 7.98 35.3 1273 82 53 728(13) 0.46(0.04) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8)	18 1991	*	*	*	+) +	,) + - -	. 1	} +
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728 0.4 5.05 7.5 38 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 406 0 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(115) 729(13) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(115)	728 0.4 5.05 7.5 38 961 1094 174 740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.28 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 0 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.69 40 42 442 0 0 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 0 1450 0 0 728 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1273 82 1148 728(13) 0.46(0.24) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.44) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1072 1072 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072	1881 6	693	0.4	4.65	2.79	36.4	1047	1047	288	1335
740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 42 442 0 744 0.3 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(1.5) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1039(1.5)	740 0.3 4.7 8.28 36 973 1034 174 766 0.35 4.35 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.69 40 442 442 0 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 35.3 142 442 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 4.85 7.86 35.3 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.46) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1072(3 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(7	12 1991	728	0.4	5.05	7 5	30	196	700	120	1260
766 0.35 4.35 8.28 36 973 973 6.3 766 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 749 0.3 4.5 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 72919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.07.4 891(323)	756 0.35 4.7 8.28 36 973 6.3 756 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 0 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 406 0 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 0 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 1148 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(15) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(4 1992	740		7	3.	00	106	1601	† -	907
756 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 726 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.19 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 0 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.2) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(32) 72919 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 801(3.23) 1038(3.23)	756 0.35 4.35 8.52 40 776 776 232 725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 0 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(72) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(72)	1001	1 -	c.5	4.7	8.28	36	973	973	6.3	626
725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1038(7.23) 729(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1072(3.3)	725 1.2 4.45 8.78 35.3 406 406 0 748 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.2) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(7661 0	99/	0.35	4.35	8.52	40	776	776	232	9001
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74 0.3 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 0 774 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 53 778 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 778 788 0 0 728 0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 7.86 7.86 35.3 1273 82 7.86 7.86 35.3 1273 82 7.86 7.86 35.2(2.3) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1038(7.28) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 7.072(3.3) 8.072(0.41) 36.07.24 891(323)	746 0.7 4.7 8.69 40 442 442 0 744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 728(13) 0.46(0.5) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1038(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(5 1992	748	111) l	0.10	33.3	404	404	>	404
744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 1148(728(13) 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1038(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729(19) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.07(0.4) 8.07(0.4) 36.07(0.4) 3	744 0.3 4.5 8.2 35.3 428 452 53 713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 82 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1148(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(1000		\.'O	4.7	8.69	4	442	442	0	442
713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 6 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 7 78 82 7 82 82 1273 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 10.38(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.02 4 891(323)	713 0.5 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 728(13) 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1148(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(2661 6		0.3	4.5	200	25.2	428	452	23	505
732 0.3 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729(19) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	732 0.3 4.75 8.19 34.0 778 878 0 0 732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729(19) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	3 1992			· · ·	5	9	140	425	2	505
732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 0 728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1148(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.07.44) 891(323)	732 0 4.85 7.98 35.3 1450 1450 0 728 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 1148(728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20) 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323) 1072(1 0 0 0		o.0	4.75	8.19	34.0	778	878	0	878
728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 7.86 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 7.86 7.86 7.86 7.86 7.86 7.86 7.86 7.86	728 0 5.0 7.86 35.3 1273 1273 82 1148(32(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729(19) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	26616	732	0	4.85	7.98	35.3	1450	1450	c	1450
732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 6.46(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 1038(729(3) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	22 1992	728	•		. 1) (2		-
732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	732(300 0.36(0.05) 4.69(0.29) 8.02(0.46) 37.6(1.8) 939(115) 728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	! ! !		>	0.0	7.86	35.3	1273	1273	82	1355
728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0/2.4) 891(323)	728(13) 0.46(0.4) 4.66(0.20 8.09(0.4) 35.2(2.3) 869(388) 729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	ter mean	732(300	0.36(0.05)	4.69(0.29)	8.02(0.46)	37.6(1.8)	939(115)			1148(180)
729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.07.24) 891(323)	729919) 0.43(0.31) 4.67(0.23) 8.07(0.41) 36.0(2.4) 891(323)	tn mean	728(13)	0.46(0.4)	4.66(0.20	8.09(0.4)	35.2(2.3)	869(388)			1038(476)
		al mean	729919)	0.43(0.31)	4.67(0.23)	8.07(0.41)	360(24)	891(323)			1072(402)

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	Discharge SD	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/year
_	1.33		4.54	0.0001		0.085		0.086	
2	1.66		3.19	0.0001		0.105		0.089	
က	*		*	0.0000		0000		000'0	
4	0.94			0.0110		4.060		9.390	
S	0.66		4.57	0.0130		5.380		10.500	
9	0.81		4.16	0.0200		12.300		15.300	
7	0.9		4.3	0.0270		16.950		16.000	
œ	6.0	33	3.38	0.0190		10.720		11.600	
6	0.71		0.73	0.0240		10.600		5.890	
10	1.43		0.98	0.0800		76.600		21.400	
11	2.45		1.24	0.0020		3.080		0.610	
12	0.57		1.9	0.0145		5.460		7.700	
13	0.83		4.89	0.0070		5.500		6.100	
4	1.26		4.35	0.0040		3.230	572.000	3.300	401.000
15									
16	0.82(0.11)		4.1(0.5)	0.0200					
17	1.24(0.58)	121(136)	2.73(1.7)	0.0140	0.024				
18	1.11(0.52)	115(120)	3.19(1.6)	0.0160					

Total P	•	- 63	303	*	* (80	29	54.7	80	i	5.	105		503	500	Î	(1(12)	172(88) 131(84)
Partic P		5 - 1	232	*	* (3.1	92	5.2	27		67	64.9		135	153			
Tot Sol P	S	06	89	*	* (φ φ τ	24 6	49.5	25	Ċ	77	9	7.7	4 ,	4			
Sol React P	48	2 ,	Ξ.	* 4	* (76	† C	000	t 0	22	27	7	S.	2 6	ř	37 5(8)	45.2(8)	42.1(15)
Chloride	32.7	0.76); f	· +	, OK	2.50	7 6	r w	8	96	27.6	?	29.4	33.3		33.6(2.4)	33.8(2.8)	33.7(2.5)
표	7.42	7 70	:	*	717	7 49	7.5	8		7.08	2.09		7.57	7.61	•	7.64(0.52)	7.42(0.30	7.51(0.390
Total Alk	5.0	4.2	*	*	3.75	4.65	3.75	3.65		3.0	3.4		4.95	5.0		3.95(0.47)	4.46(1.00	4.26(0.8)
Phenolph Alk	0.5	0.5	*	*	0.5	0.25	0	0.25		0	0.2		0	0		0.18(0.12)	0.15(0.2)	0.16(0.16)
Conductivity	1206	1258	*	*	1197	1245	1241	1193	No flow		1173	No flow	1146	1170		1219(28)	1200(45)	1207(38)
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 13 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992	Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Annual mean
	_	7	ო	4	2	ဖ	^	∞	တ	10	=	12		4	15	16	17	18

Discharge	0.0001	+	0	0	+	+	+	+		+	+		+	+				
Silicate Si	5.27	3.48	+	*	5.69	5.57	5.75	4.66		4.96	4.08		4.33	4.58		5.42(0.51)	4.45(0.64)	4.84(0.75)
Ammonium N	106	88	*	*	178	107	80	92		180	84		145	136		110(47)	123(37)	118(39)
Nitrate N	0.43	0.24	*	*	0.28	0.25	0.77	0.56		1.54	0.56		0.3	0.32		0.47(0.25)	0.57(0.5)	0.53(0.4)
	_	2	m	4	S	ဖ	2	œ	6	0	=	2	3	4	2	9	2	8

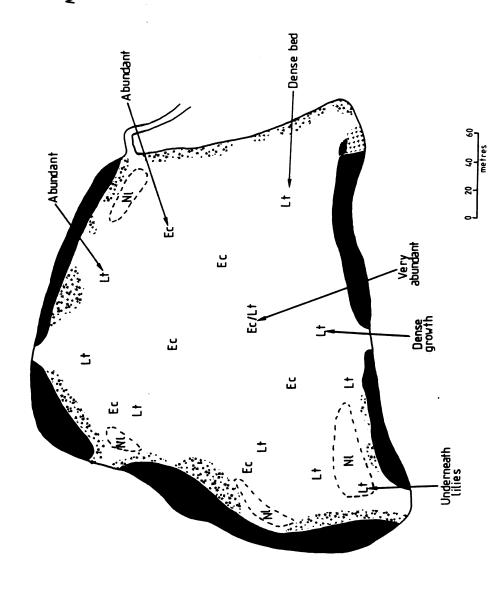
	Total P		1617	1547	1760	6071	1651	1579	1365	1018	1001	2001	430	871	507		7711	1775	1483		1241	281	1278		210	126 <i>7</i> 447
	Partic P	•	0.011	0.0	75.0		91.2	0.0	0.0	0.0		9 6	0.0	221.0	2.1	1 0 1	0.681	220.0	0.0							
10 to 1	101 301 P		1001	1547	1694		0961	1579	1365	1018	1002	100	450	650	505	670	746	1525	1483							
Sol Beact D	ססו אבשרו א	1210	0 .	1107	1819	1257	1631	7401	928	1018	803	416) \ - (435	433	789		1404	1483	6	95/	601	1052	205	1025	426
Chloride	5	388		30.5	34.1	39.2	30.5	0.4.0	36.0	40.0	40.0	37.3		0.0	35.3	34.0	200	33.5	39.5	376	5.0	. i. c	37.3	2.3	37.4	2.4
품		8.01	6	0.62	8.37	8.36	7 91		4	8.25	8.60	8.75	R 74	+ (c	8.52	8.64	8 63			8 2 3	86.0		0.30	0.25	8.39	0.33
Total Alk		4.50	4 75) (; (5.20	4.80	4.60	7 30	5.50	4.70	4.40	4.40	4.61		4.00 CC.+	4.70	4.75		4.20	4.75	0.39	4 65		0.27	4.68	0.29
Phenolph Alk		09.0	0.40		 	0.80	0.30	0.50	00:0	0.30	0.40	1.20	0.51	0.45		0.65	0.35	200	6:0	0.38	0.10	0.61	0.00	0.67	0.54	0.25
Conductivity	•	069	714	711		669	691	725	745	7.7	000	717	746	739	1 - 1	51.	717	725	2	730	53	717	17	- :	721	21
Date		Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sen 18 1991	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	OCT 23 1991	Nov 13 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992		2661 C C C L		Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 12 1002	1992 C 992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	5		Allyear mean	SD
	,	_	~	~	,	4	Ŋ	ဖ	7	. α	•	מ	9	=						16	17	18	6		2	21

Total Daphnia	305.9	15.3	16.9	0.3	0.5	3.6	0.5	0.1	0.0	138.6	50.2	17.5	2.4	554.0	,	- ·	1.7	100.1	184.0	71.8	160.0
Ĕ	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨							
Secchi																					
430:410	0.76	0.87	0.91	1.04	06.0	0.60	0.95	1.24	1.04	0.88	1.00	1.12	1.21	1.06							
480:663 4	٨	10	2.11	1.88	3.22	5.0	1.65	1.08	1.59	7.0	4.3	1.29	0.62	1.76							
Carotenoids	1.30	6.70	13.33	10.00	5.30	2.00	12.70	26.00	20.70	2.30	4.30	6 .00	50.70	10.00							
Chlorophyll	00.00	0.67	6.40	5.40	1.70	1.10	8.40	26.40	14.30	0.40	1.10	5.10	90.60	6.20		9.40	11.80	13.00	27.60	12.00	23.70
Silicate Si	4.57	2.77	4.80		3.97	3.50	4.59	3.40	0.52	0.89	0.93	1.87	4.94	2.68		3.87	0.54	2.66	1.76	3.03	1.60
Ammonium N	0.68	112.0	58.0	32.4	75.0	133.0	118.0	167.0	100.0	192.0	106.0	91.0	439.0	244.0		123.0	38.0	146.0	120.0	140.0	102.0
Nitrate N A	90'0	00.0	00.0	0.16	0,15	0.37	0.70	0.89	0.42	1.37	2.19	0.10	90.0	0.03		0.53	0.33	0.44	0.74	0.46	0.64
	-	۰ ،	ı m	4	· ъ	ေဖ	^	. α	σ	, C		12	6	4	15	16	17	18	19	50	21

Organism	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 13 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb S 1992	March 4 1992	Mer 25 1992	April 15 1992	Mby 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992
Achienthes sp	13	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Amphora sp	E	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•
Amphora ov	•	. 27		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Coccones sp	•	2	6	2212	29	•	•	•	130	- 22	•	•	•	•
Cyclo menegh	4	_		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Cyclet #8	•	•		2	3	ş	3	818	7670	134	23	•	•	•
Cymbell so	•			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Distores sp	•	• •		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Denticula sp	•	. 27		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fragillaria so	• ;	₽		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gompho vent	-:	•			٠:	•	•	• ;	•	•	=	-	•	•
dis outducts	2			•	2	•	• :	₽	•	•	•	•	•	•
	- =	147		335			2 '	. 8	•	. :	٠ \$	•	•	٠ ۾
a de la constante de la consta	3	101			•	•	•	3 '	•	;	?	. :	•	3
Proch stern	٠.	•	40	•	•	•			•	•	•	2 \$	•	•
Part of the	1.			67	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
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Supporter as				; '	. \$	•	•	?	•		•	•	•	•
	•	•	•	•	?		•	•	•		•	•	•	•
and and			?		•	•	•	•	•		•	٠ ;	•	•
Marian Series					•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	. ;
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CHAPEL MERE

(f) COLE MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Colemere is a deep (11.5m), relatively large mere (27.6 ha). It appears to have no permanent surface inflows other than an overspill from the Shropshire Union Canal which delivers water over a weir. Thre is an outflow, which was gauged, but which has passed through an area of grassland before it reaches the access point where it could be gauged. In some respects, e.g. a small increase in nitrate, the outflow stream differs in water chemistry from the mere suggesting that it acquires extra water between its exit from the mere and the gauging point. Estimates of retention tine are thus underestimates and of flushing rate, overestimates. For the year overall, growth season and winter season, the flushing rates were calculated to be 0.8, 0.79, and 0.91per year respectively and the retention times 1.25, 1.26 and 1.1 years respectively. The mere thus has a relatively long retention time that varies little seasonally. This might be expected because it is fed by a canal which itself is supplied from an upland region with copious water supplies. The amount of water supplied by the canal, however cannot easily be determined but is unlikely to be negligible because Cole Mere has a conductivity (239 uS) that is intermediate between that of the canal (140, and those of the waters in the nearby Crosemere (474), and Whitemere (309). Data in Reynolds (1979) give values of 121 for the nearby Blake Mere which may also be influenced by the canal, and for Kettle Mere, White Mere, Ellesmere Mere, & Crose Mere, which are not, of 158 239, 272, and 373.

The water supply that Cole Mere receives from other sources must be of ground origin and a simple mixing equation based on condctivity suggests that this water must constitute between 61% and 82% of the total. For this calculation ground water conductivity was calculated from the average conductivity values for the nearby meres in Reynolds (1979) which gives the higher value and from the current estimates from Crosemere and Whitemere which give the lower. There is evidence that local conductivity values have risen since 1979 as a result of weather changes and so the higher value is probably an overestimate. The lower value, however, may be biased by the use of data from only the two most conductive local meres.

(ii) Changes in land use

Cole Mere has a groundwater catchment which is probably contained within the parishes of Ellesmere Rural, Cockshutt and Lyneal and Welshampton for which the land use changes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	11502 139174 5931 28469 12314 18471 54738 7663	15842 187332 8945 42936 13557 20336 3351 469
Total nutrient units	193777	251073
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing	8135 686 820 17 28	4410 1725 2617 152 147
Total hectarage	9675	9051

There has thus been the fairly common pattern of increase in cattle keeping with a movement also into arable crops though in this case also an increase in pigs and sheep and the loss of a lot of land to non-agricultural uses.

(iii) Major ion water chemistry and nutrient loads

Cole Mere has a moderately high conductivity and alkalinity though neither is large compared with some of the more northern meres. Its soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations are nonetheless very high and little of this phosphorus can come from the canal overspill which is exceptionally low in this nutrient. Both canal and mere have low inorganic nitrogen concentrations, even in winter. Moderately high ammonium values in winter in the mere may suggest a local excretory source of nutrients and indicate the possibility that some of the very high phosphorus concentrations may be explained by such a source.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

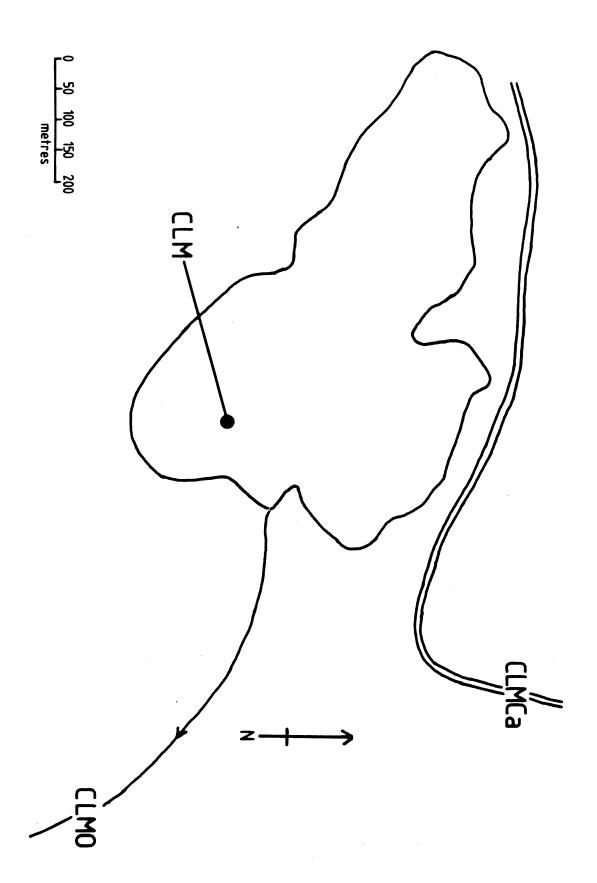
Chlorophyll a concentrations in Cole Mere are relatively high in the growth season though they exceeded 50 ug/l on only one occasion. The Mere is beset by surface algal blooms which may bias the estimate for the mere as a whole. This is consistent with the relatively large abundance of *Daphnia* and the likelihood of substantial grazing pressure. Blue-green algae are generally grazer resistant and constituted nearly half (by numbers) of the total algal crop in the growth season and probably a greater proportion of the biomass. The sutrface bloom formers, *Anabaena circinalis* and *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae* were particularly prominent. Other, smaller, grazeable algae, by contrast, were relatively scarce. The *Daphnia* species were the smaller bodied ones suggesting a modest fish predation but not an absence of predation altogether.

(v) Aquatic plants

Cole Mere does not have extensive development of submerged vegetation though relatively dense beds of *Elodea canadensis* and *Ranunculus circinatus* occur in the western shallows. The sparseness is probably a result of the morphometry and the exposure to wind expected along the shoreline of a moderate sized lake in an open landscape. Severe shading by phytoplankton is unlikely but the relatively high phosphorus load may stimulate epiphyte burdens that reduce the growth of the plants.

(vi) Overall assessment

Cole Mere may be one of the 'classic' meres with blue green algal blooms supported in stratified water that is naturally phosphorus-rich and nitrogen-poor. The relatively high ammonium concentrations, interpretable as coming from an excretal source, may cast some doubt on this but equally they may arise from the mineralisation of nitrogen fixing blue green algae like *Anabaena* and *Aphanizomenon* and thus be consequential rather than causal. There are no immediately local aggregations of stock and the Country Park toilets are on mains drainage. On balance it seems likely that Cole Mere is a naturally eutrophic lake and hence no restoration measures are feasible or desirable.



Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	玉	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
1001	110	C	0.40	8.96	16.3		4.0	128	132.0
Jul 24 1991	90	o C	0.35	8.64	20.4		24.0	92	116.0
Aug 14 1991			0.00	7.47	12.2		28.0	51	79.0
Sept 4 1991			0.40	7.65	21.7				60.2
Oct 10 1991			0.0	7.24	20.2		38.0	4	80.0
Oct 30 1991		٠	0000	7.35	28.0		67.0	56	93.0
Nov 20 1991	971	o C	0.50	7.55	24.2		27.0	161	188.0
Dec 18 199			050	7.51	19.2		31.9	0	32.0
Jan 22 1994			0.50	7.51	23.5		38.0	20	58.0
rep 19 1992			0.93	8.19	22.6		11.0	10	21.0
•			0.55	8.08	19,6		6.9	29	9.99
- +			090	8.21	20.0		7.3	29	75.0
			08.0	8 45	20.0		11.0	84	94.0
May 20 1992				1 :	17.6		100	16	26.0
			1.05	4/./	0.5	2.0	2.	2	
	٠				1				03 (
Winter mean		0	0.60	7.48	23.7				95.0
			0.20	0.0	3.6				08.
Growth m			0.53	8.06	19.1				75.0
91	47		0.23	0.54	3.0				35.(
Annual		0	0.55	7.89	20.4				80.0
SD	D 45		0.22	0.53	4.0				45.0

Si	0.50	26.0	0.86	1.39	1.80	2.29	1.75	1.73	1.49	0.81	1.37	0.73	0.41	1.36		1.82	0.34	1.02	0.44	1.25	
Silicate																					
Ammonium N	99	20	47	62	86	195	246	45		15		15	38	63		145	95	47	23	22	(
Ammo	œ	4	6	6	88	5	33	33	35	66	.65	9(25	42		26	52	75	0.0	31	•
Nitrate	4.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.1	1.0	1.0	9.0	0.99	1.6	1.0	0.5	1.4	,	0.8	0.22	0.7	0.5	0.8	(
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Total P	356	430	2	516	275	0 7 1	0 4 5	439	437	523	415	750	757	415	188	260	, ,	176		453	48	0.00	0+0	133	373	125	63-	
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Tot Sol P	234		/87	426		1	549	414	379	522	7 6	246	237	172	124		138	176										
Sol React P	222	7 .	240	288	1 0	6/7	265	386	379	412	0.7	346	237	172		8 5	/9	176	•	Cac	96	67	236	145	27.0	117	139	
Chloride	285	60.7	24.5	245);	30.4	24.2	20.0	24.2	1.6	20.9	25.5	29.0	23.5	2 6	7.4. 0	28.0	27.5		4	24.2	3.0	26.2	A C	ָר ע ע ע	0.62	2.6	
₹.	o o	0.90	9.27	7 70	6).	7.35	7.40	7.35	7 20	07.7	.8.	7.65	8.77	8 41		8.87	9.78	7 44	<u> </u>	ſ	75.)	0.25	8.41	700	20.0	8.15	0.84	
Total Alk	•	.e .e	1.55		<u>•</u>	2.30	1.80	1 65) c	CO.7	1.45	1.50	1.45		1 :	1.50	06.0	10.1	CC.1	,	1.66	0.27	1.50	1 0	0.37	1.55	0.34	
Phenolph Alk	•	0.30	0.30		0.00	0.00	0.10	300	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10		0.05	0.20	000	9 6	0.00		0.01	0.03	0 11	- :	0.12	0.08	0.11	
Conductivity																			237		270	39	750	407	44	259	42	
Date		111 24 1991		Aug 14 1991	Sept 4 1991	001 10 1001	04 20 1991	OCT 30 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	lan 22 1992	Eah 10 1002	ren 13 1302	Mar 1892	April 1 1992	Anril 29 1992	2001 00 1000	May 20 1992	June 10 1992		Winter mean	S	;	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD	
		-	- 1	~	(*)	> <	† r	ဂ	ဖ	^	α	0	n (2	=	7	- •	3	14	15	18	7	- 1	<u>~</u>	19	2	2	

Discharge	0.040	0.032	0.004	0.019	0.025	0.070	0.010	090'0	0.044	0.015	0.051	0.016	0.030	0.149		0.046	0.026	0.038		0.040	0.036
Silicate Si	0.78	1.65	2.45	2.60	2.47	2.76	2.81	2.56	2.16	0.35	0.23	0.69	0.80	1.05		2.57	0.30	1.31	0.91	1.67	26.0
Ammonium N	166.0	92.0	456.0	381.0	1048.0	963.0	0.689	1033.0	540.0	145.0	4.0	37.0	30.0	503.0		806.0	231.0	286.0	324.0	435.0	380.0
Nitrate N	0.460	0.087	0.840	1.670	0.230	1.390	1.310	0.500	0.660	1.120	1.090	0.520	0.160	1.090		0.970	0.450	0.730	0.520	0.790	0.490
	-	~	က	4	S	9	^	დ	၈	10	-	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

Date (Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total alk	五	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
_	263		1.50	9.83	26.5	202	259	91.00	350
1991	239		1.55	9.65	24.5	214	244	129.00	374
1991	242	0.20		60.6	22.5	322	323	121.00	444
1991	256		1.70	7.77	26.1	331			374
	251		1.80	7.40	28.3	472	656	00.00	929
	229		1.50	7.57	24.0	445	445	32.00	480
Dec 18 1991	249		1.70	7.63	24.2	205	205	0.00	205
٠ ر	238		1.45	8.12	23.1	430	200	26.00	230
. ~	230		1.50	7.83	29.4	422	422	119.00	541
· ^	299		1.40	9.18	30.6	259	529	0.82	259
1992	220		1.40	9.16	23.5	191	262	141.00	433
992	211		1.40	8.97	24.0	102	116	20.00	166
992	210		1.25	9.31	26.0	139	186	92.00	283
1992	210		1.25	7.94	21.6	500	213	00.00	213
									,
Winter mean	237		1.54	7.79	25.2	420			513
SD	6		0.11	0.25	2.9	36			28
Growth mean	240	_	1.47	8.83	25.4	244			355
SD	29	_	0.19	0.83	2.7	107			140
Annual mean	239	0.20	1.49	8.53	25.3	303			400
SD	24		0.17	0.85	2.7	133			138

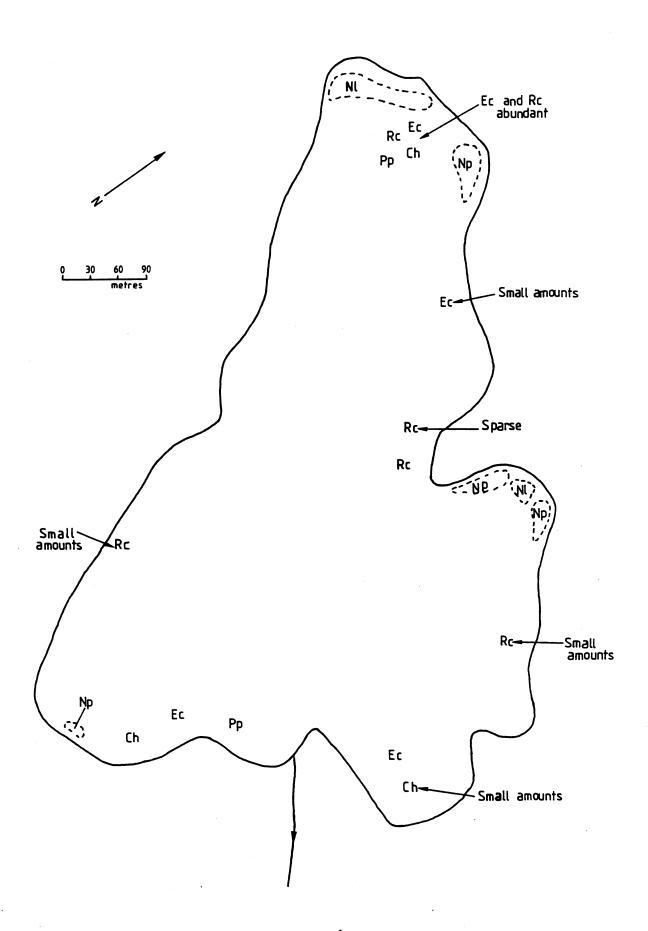
Nitrate N Ammonium N Silicate Si	_	Chlorophyll	Carotenoid	480:663	430:410	Secchi	Total Daphnia
164 0.74	67.8	Q	55.7	06.0	1.20	1.65	0.35
130	48.80	$\overline{}$	70.0	1.45	1.31	0.48	
68 1.90	35.0	0	75.3	2.17	1.29	0.65	
598 2.29	7.9	9	17.0	2.68	1.00	3.30	
1047 2.42	2	9	4.4	1.86	1.10	٨	
860 2.60	.2	0	0.9	2.57	0.92	3.95	
1153 2.51	o.	73	7.7	11.50	0.97	2.75	
806 2.31	'S	8	5.7	2.43	0.97	۸	
715 1.94	-	5	3.0	3.00	1.13	2.9	
169 0.34	29.	8	35.3	1.34	1.21	٨	
21 0.31	35.	2	43.7	1.36	1.31	1.3	
23 0.27	19.4	Q	26.7	1.51	1.19	2.0	
94 0.80	42.	20	40.3	1.05	1.19	0.5	
0.22 205 0.45 10.	10.	30	13.3	1.43	1.20	1.85	
884 2.34	1.7	9					108.00
189 0.29	6.0	œ					207.00
252 1.19	29.7	0					24.80
325 0.86	20.	၀					32.30
432 1.47	21.	2					48.60
411 0.93	21.	20					110.00

Agrier form Coccorded 34 Cyclocelle sp 67 Cymbelle sp 67 Fragillarie sp 87 Nitechis sp 87 Noccophenia 98 Rhoccophenia 99 Champal sp 1441 Champal sp 1441 Champal sp 60 Coelestrum mi Coelestrum mi Coelestrum mi Coelestrum sp 101 Coelestrum sp 101 Coelestrum set 60 Coccolestrum sp 101 Coelestrum set 60 Coelestrum sp 101 Coelestrum set 60	268				<u>.</u>	<u> </u>	25 . Et	697 858	13 			
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횥		362	≅	0	30	9	22	
April 1992 April 28 1992 May 20 1992 June 10 1992	864	4683	2627	0	* :	15.4	83.2	
April 28 1992 A	107	1018	1487	•	24.3	7.2	68.5	
April 1 1992	13	\$	2328	7.5	90.5	9.0	1.7	
Feb 29 1992	358	25	2432	63.9	19.2	14.7	2.1	
Jan 22 1992	SS	22	212	31.1	31.1	52	12.7	
Dec 18 1991	4:4	13	250	7.5	10.4	9.62	2.5	
Nov 20 1991 Dec 18 1991	5	13	147	2.5	7.7	55.1	2.5	
Oct 30 1991	35	0	121	•	55.4	44.6	0	
Oct 9 1991	223	22	267	8.2	0	83.5	8.2	Blue Grns 4.95(5.2) 47.1(38) 34.1(37.2)
Sept 4 1991	361	5147	2628	0	2.1	6.4	91.5	Others 43.6(29.5) 23.7(28) 29.8(29.1)
166	268	3551	4787	9.6	14.6	2.6	74.1	Greens 17.1(10.5) 26.7(29.6) 23.8(25.2)
July 24 1991 Aug 14 1		0299	9053	Ξ	21.9	3.3	73.7	Diatoms 26.3(28) 2.5(3.5) 9.8(18.3)
Organism J	Total others	Total Marns	Total	Distoms %	Sreens %	S trade	E Gras %	82 83 Winter mean % 85 Growth mean% 86 Annual mean %
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Cole Mere



(g)COMBER MERE

(i)Morphometry and water budget

Comber Mere is the largest mere studied, with 51.5 ha but at 11.8 m by no means the deepest. It has one substantial (COMI1) and one lesser(COMI2) inflow and is flanked by rising ground that suggests a predominance of surface input over ground water. However the outflow stream was found to carry about three times as much water as the two inflows combined and this suggests a substantial contribution either by ground water or overland surface flow after heavy rain. The low conductivity of the mere (513 uS) compared with the inflows (954 and 735 uS) suggest that low conductivity surface rain water is the extra source. The matter is slightly complicated by a small increase in conductivity in the outflow stream at the point where it could be gauged compared with the mere itself. This suggests a small water contribution to the stream after it has left the mere. Based on the outflow, nonetheless, estimates of the annual, winter and growth season flushing rates are 0.6, 0.87, and 0.06 per year respectively. The corresponding retention times are 1.66, 1.15, and 16 years. There is thus considerable stagnation of the mere in the warmer months and guite a long retention time even in the wetter ones.

(ii) Land use changes

The likely catchment of Comber Mere lies in the parishes of Dodcott cum Wilkesley, Marbury cum Quoisley, and Whitchurch (urban and rural) whose combined land use changes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	9927 121109 5502 26410 6952 10428 68912 9648	14735 179767 24516 117677 4559 6839 37964 5315
Total nutrient units	167595	309598

Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	6684 615 677 6 36	4120 1857 573 41 149
Total hectarage	8018	6740

The changes here have thus been towards a marked increase in cattle and pig keeping, no increase in arable but a transfer of permanent pasture to temporary and a marked loss of land to non agricultural purposes.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Comber Mere has a relatively high conductivity and alkalinity but both are much lower than they might be if the major surface inflow(COMI1) dominated the overall water supply. COMI 1 has a mean conductivity of 954 uS, and an alkalinity of 5.6 mequiv/l compared with 513 and 3.0 in the mere itself. Even the much smaller COMI2 has higher conductivity (735) and alkalinity (4.7). Such values in the inflows suggest that they contain water that has had extensive contact with the surrounding soils, i.e. that they are ultimately spring fed in contrast with the bulk of the water entering the mere which must fairly rapidly run off the immediately surrounding parkland, with little soil contact.

COMI 2 carries a low phosphorus load and has low phosphorus concentrations when it flows in winter and spring though its nitrate concentrations are moderate. It is low in ammonium and has the characteristics of water draining permanent, lightly fertilised pasture land. Its quality is probably similar to that of the run-off water that appears to dominate the water budget. COMI1 on the other hand , has very poor quality with very large phosphorus, ammonium and nitrate concentrations. This combination of both high P and ammonium N suggests a major excretory source discharging to it.

Calculation of the phosphorus budget of the mere indicates that COMI1 contributes 364 kg per year, COMI2 1kg and the surface run off 81 kg of the total entering of 446 kg. For this calculation the surface run off has been assumed to have a similar water quality to that of COMI2. For inorganic nitrogen COMI1 contributes 7366 kg, COMI2, 51 kg and surface run-off 3278kg of the total input of 10695kg.. Thus COMI1 is providing 82% of the phosphorus budget and 69% of the nitrogen budget.

The mere itself is rich in phosphorus year around but relatively scarce in nitrogen probably because of rapid denitrification in the littoral zone and uptake in the plant beds.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

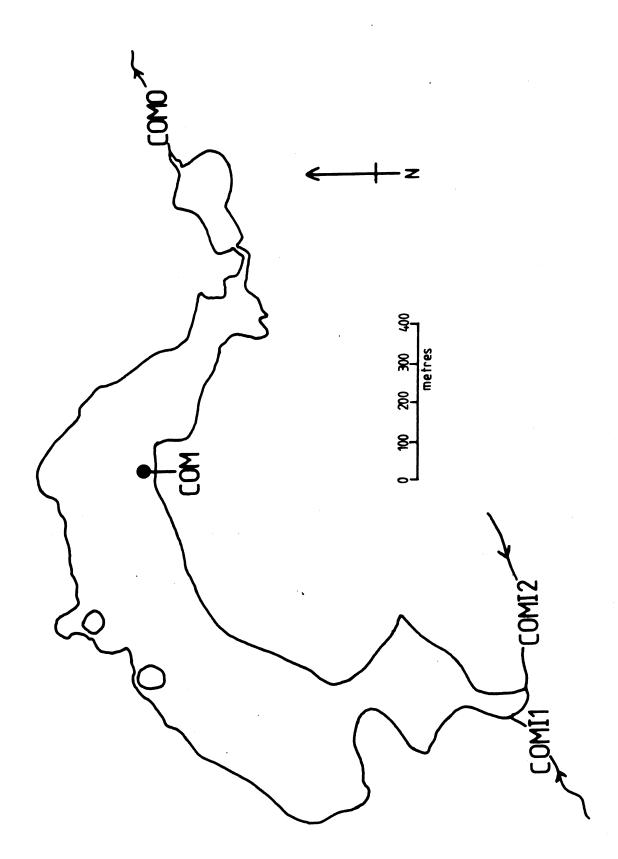
Chlorophyll a values are modest (maximum 42.8 ug/l, growth season mean only 20.5 ug/l), considering the relatively large phosphorus and nitrogen loads (0.86gP/metre squared, and 20.8 gN/metre squared). The mere is saved by its size. **Daphnia** populations are also moderately large and grazing is therefore also likely to be important in limiting the size of the algal crops. Crops of most algal groups are modest and blue-green algal blooms, although present in August are not major features.

(v) Aquatic plants

Aquatic plant development was not extensive with only sparsely distributed stands of *Ranunculus circinatus*, *Zannichellia palustris*, *Polygonum amphibium* and *Enteromorpha* in addition to the white and yellow water lilies. This may reflect the deepness of the lake and the wind exposure of its shorelines for the water transparency is sufficient to support healthy beds of submerged plants. The trophic score was high(8.85).

(vi) Overall assessment

Comber Mere is very probably artificially eutrophicated through the water that enters in COMI1. Its size and probable low fish stock (hence abundant *Daphnia*) prevent the planktonic algal crops from being very high but nutrient-induced high epiphyte burdens as well as physical factors may limit the aquatic plant growth. It would be in the interests of stabilising the present situation and of restoring a less eutrophicated state if measures were taken to remove N and P from COMI1 which is clearly the main culprit. The nutrient source is probably a farm, holding substantial head of stock. In the interim, fish stocking of the lake (except with piscivores) should be avoided.



Total P	1094	783	1628	2105	1681	371	633	439	545	299	226	1756	1425		1198	828	666	495	1060	282
Partic P	259	116	285	0	0	0	117	101	150	133	166	81	37							
Tot Sol P	836	299	1343	2105	1681	371	517	337	395	467	260	1674	1389							
Sol React P	762	636	1332	2062	1433	371	403	307	205	416	464	1674	1389		1067	827	298	534	881	614
Chloride	40.4	63.8	80.4	59.5	70.0	74.0	44.0	9.02	0.09	2'99	0.09	78.4	62.8		61.9	13.4	64.8	11.8	63.9	11.8
£	7.83	8.07	7.76	7.53	7.84	8.23	8.32	7.91	2.76	7.83	2.96	7.83	8.03		7.98	0.37	7.89	0.10	7.91	0.20
Total Alk	06.9		8.00	6.95	7.20	4.20	2.55	4.25	3.20	4.65	6.15	6.15	2.00		5.23	2.20	5.79	1.61	5.60	1.80
Phenolph Alk	0.15		0.25	0.10	0.40	0.15	0.35	0.30	0.30	0.25	0.55	0.00	0.00		0.25	0.15	0.23	0.18	0.23	0.16
Conductivity	1046	919	1043	1234	1002	956	1032	782	875	880	861	906	896		1049	32	912	82	954	116
Date	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 13 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992		April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
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Nitrate N Ammonium N	Ammonium N		Silicate Si	Discharge	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/year
3700	3700		3.59	0.0010	2.560		0.660	
111	111	4	86.	0.0017	3.740		0.810	
2,360 2512				0.0025	7.370		2.460	
3461	3461	2	56	0.0070			8.910	
2829	2829	Ø	6.02	09000	10.850		6.100	
72	72	4.	89	0.0570	169.000		12.800	
259	259	<u>-</u>	86	0.0270	19.900		10.300	
25	25	3.8	7	0.0440	288.000		11.680	
285	285	3.9	ın	0.0780	1149.000		25.700	
356	356	3.24		0.0020	12.700		0.730	
66	66	2.53	٠.	0600'0	23.800		3.950	
	972	5.58		0.0040	9.560		4.250	
	161	4.84		0.0030	3.590	7366.000	2.590	364.000
1655	1655	5.0	G	0.0240				
1741	1741	2.4	_	0.0240				
	913	36.8	_	0.0160				
1308	1308	1.0	2	0.0260				
1142	1142	4.3	Ñ	0.0190				
	1423	1.5	m	0.0250				

_	Total Alk pH	Chloride	Sol react P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
*		*	*	*	*	*
*		*	*	*	*	*
*		* :	*	*	*	*
*		*	*	*	*	*
*		*	*	*	*	*
*		*	*	*	*	*
4.1	^		51	51	0.5	25
5.2	w	8.22 40	13	62	36	86
*		*	*	*	*	*
+			*	*	*	*
4.25	.~	7.94 43.1	28	35	18	53
5.10	w		32	4	22	63
4.7(0.8) 7.84(0.53)	o.	33) 37(4)	32(27)			75(33)
4.7(0.6) 7.99(0.07)	ö		30(3)			58(7)
4.7(0.57) 7.9(0.32)	C		31(16)			67(22)

		סוווכמות סו	Discussion of	Kg N/Week	Bod Al Su	NO LA MOCK	100 f / 60
*	*	+	*				
*	*	*	*				
*	*	*	*				
*	*	*	*				
*	*	+	*				
*	*	*	*				
3.56	38	4.52	+	0.240		0.003	
2.7		3.77	+	0.190		0.00	
*	*	*	*				
*	*	*	*				
2.55	•	3.26	0.004	7.260	٠	0.128	
1.77	42	3.77	0.003	3.970	50.500	0.114	1.090
	,						
3.1(0.6)	68(42)	4.2(0.5)	+				
2.16(0.6)	44(2)	3.5(0.4)	3.5(0.4) 0.0018(0.002)				
2.65(0.7)		3.83(0.52)	0.001(0.0016)				

	Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	돐	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
-	Aug 28 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
٠ ،	Sent 18 1991	*	*	*	*	*	+	*	*	*
1 (*)	Oct 23 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4	Nov 13 1991			2.95	7.56	44.4	371	405	0	405
· rv	Dec 4 1991			3.3	7.81	42.0	3,62	362	47	408
ေဖ	Jan 14 1992		-	3.15	8.16	44.0	404	413	18	431
^	Feb 5 1992		0.4	3.0	8.37	48	386	392	94	486
. c c	Mar 4 1992	_		3.95	7.74	2.99	42	52	35	86
၈	Mar 25 1992			3.9	7.74	72	46	56	58	114
10		533		3.3	8.61	51.0	214	265	35	300
11	May 13 1992	No flow								
12		No flow								
13	June 22 1992									
14										
15	Winter mean	527(9)	0.26(0.11)	3.1(0.16)	7.98(0.36)	44.6(2.5)	381(18)			433(38)
16		820(256)	0.37(0.06)	3.82(0.19)	8.03(0.5)	63.2(11)	101(98)			167(116)
17				3.4(0.41)	8.0(0.39)	52.6(11.9)	261(161)			319(159)

Discharge	0000	0.000	0000	0.077	0.092	0.116	0.051	+	0.011	0.0001					0.084(0.03)	0.006(0.008)	0.058(0.046)
Silicate Si	*	+	*	2.38	2.13	2.48	2.18	6.05	4.79	26.0				1	2.3(0.17)	3.94(2.7)	3.0(1.77)
Ammonium N	*	*	*	465	214	106	154	57	78	62					235(160)	71(12)	165(143)
Nitrate N	*	*	*	0.48	0.85	0.72	1 39	2 63	7.53	1.68					0.86(0.39)	3.95(3.13)	2.18(2.47)
	-	- c	ν (n <	է դ	י פ	o 1	۰ ٥	0 0	0 0	1	12	13	14	15	16	17

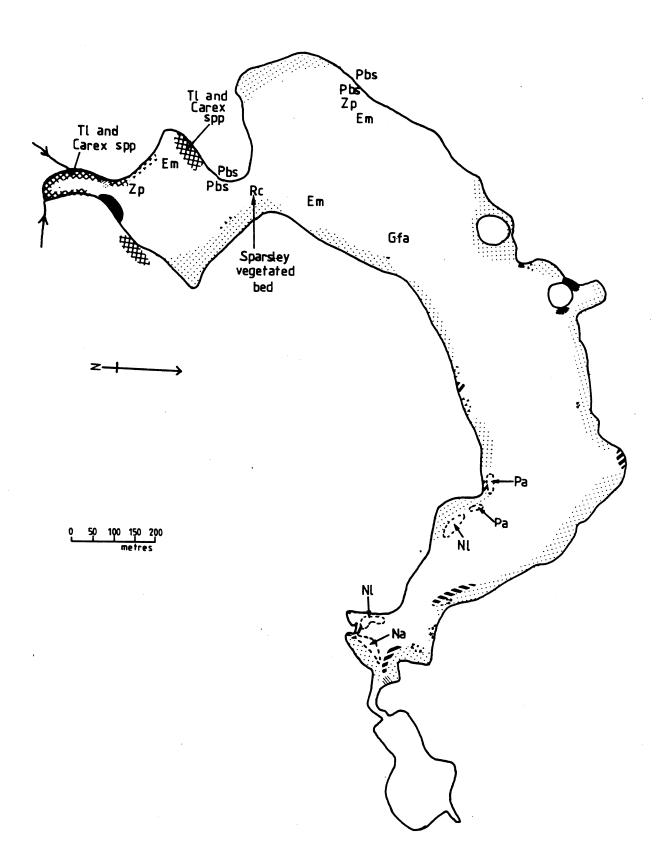
Total P	126	137	347	451	442	203	633	380	675	315	302	236	164	202	88	298	169	362	176
Partic P	36	31		407	22	0	117	72	506	89	69	51	46						
Tot Sol P	35	106		47	384	503	517	308	470	247	234	185	118						
Sol React P	15.5	90.5	347.0	360.0	378.0	503.0	403.0	273.0	272.0	232.0	203.0	155.0	100.0	411.0	64.0	188.0	106.0	256.0	141.0
Chloride	42.6	46.8	41.2	40.4	44.0	42.0	44.0	51.0	44.0	39.5	44.0	39.5	43.1	42.6	2.0	43.5	4.0	43.2	3.0
₹.	00.6	8.30	7.89	7.84	7.95	8.38	8.32	8.18	8.97	8.73	8.48	8.86	9.42	8.12	0.27	8.64	0.48	8.49	. 0.48
Total Alk	2.50		3.10	3.05	3.30	3.20	2.90	3.10	3.20	3.00	3.25	2.20	3.20	3.10	0.20	2.94	0.40	3.00	0.33
Phenolph Alk	0.50		0.10	0:30	0.25	0.20	0.35	0.20	0.50	0.20	0.35	0.35	0.75	0.28	0.07	0.37	0.21	0.34	0.18
Conductivity	472	481	208	524	516	516	527	524	531	530	527	515	494	521	9	209	22	513	19
Date	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 13 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992	Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992	Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
	-	7	က	4	2	ဖ	7	œ	တ	10 /	11		13	15	16	17	18	19	50

Total Daphnia	6 .00	2 C Q	64.0	1.52	90.0	0.0	0.04		04.0	0.00	2.28	2.59	30.60	2002	200.00	9.16	0.30	0.30	33.70	33.10 64 90	23.40	75.40	;
Secchi	0.95		0.90	^	^	^		^	^	^	1.0	^	•		^	^							
430:410	1 30		1.23	1.14	0.98	700	0.0	1.16	1	1.17	1.18	1.19		21.1	1.13	1.21							
480:663	1 7		1.44	1.23	191	2	^	1.75	•	1.15	1.48	1 34	2	^	1.33	1.1							
Carotenoids	1	7:00	39.3	19.7	20	2.6	0.3	4.7	0.0	28.0	23.7	0.75	0.53	16.7	2.7	30.3							
Chlorophyll	(42.8	27.6	162		9.6	0.0	2.9	0.0	26.8	17.6	3 00	50.3	0.0	2.2	30.4						14.7	
Silicate Si		96.0	0.84	· •		1.95	2.03	2.27	1.98	2.19	0.42		0.0	1.17	0.96	0.52		2.05	0.15	0.98	0.54	1.34	0.69
Ammonium N	1	2.35	154 00	734.00	21.00	734.00	267.00	424.00	259.00	243.00	112.00	00.31	39.00	24.00	320.00	34.00		501.00	210.00	185.00	233.00	282.00	265.00
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· winter mean %	16.1(14)	() 32.3(29.4)	(4) 49.9(35.6)											
Growth mean%					_									
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Comber Mere



(h) COP MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Cop Mere is moderately large (16.8ha) but shallow (2.7m). It is fed by the River Sow which feeds into the wetland to the west of the lake and by two smaller inflows to the north which amalgamate before entering the mere. There is a substantial outflow- the continuation of the River Sow, which discharged nearly 3 million cubic metres of water in the year investigated. The flushing rates for the year, the winter and the growing season were 12.9, 13.6 and 12.9 per year respectively and the corresponding retention times were 4,3.8 and 4 weeks respectively. The lake is thus very frequently flushed and there is little seasonal variation. The northern inflows provided 126144 cubic metres or about 4.3% of the total inflow of 2.93 million cubic metres.

(ii) Changes in land use

Cop Mere has a relatively large catchment in the parishes of Eccleshall, High Offley, Mucklestone, Ashley, Adbaston and Loggerheads for which the combined land use changes have been as follows:

1097

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	9972 121658 2540 12192 12015 18023 56075 7851	20523 250381 7959 38203 9305 13958 36374 5092
Total nutrient units	159724	307634
Permanent grass(ha Temporary grass(ha Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	a) 7332 a) 1205 1780 11 97	5415 2666 5546 254 106
Total hectarage	10425	13987

There has thus been a major increase in cattle and pig keeping and a drift towards arable and temporary grass. Changes in parish boundaries since 1931 however give an increased hectarage which confuses simple interpretation.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Cop Mere has a moderately high conductivity and alkalinity which must arise from the chemistry of the River Sow water modified by its passage through the wetland and by the minor addition of the northern inflows. Cop Mere has higher conductivity than the R. Sow but lower than the small inflows. The difference between Mere and river is about 12%, too great to be explicable by the 4% water input through the northern inflow alone so wetland processes are probably significant. Of the northern inflows, CPI1 brings in 87 kgN and 9.6 kgP, whilst the other stream, CPI2 carries 327kg N and 10 kg P per year. In contrast, the River sow contributes 10500 kg N and 783 kg P to the system but some of these loads may be retained or denitrified in the wetland. The northern inflows alone load 0.12 gP per square metre and 2.5g N per square metre. In the absence or diversion of the R. Sow, these loads would be quite small even considering that the retention time of the lake would be much increased. Both inflows are rich in nitrate but only the smaller is very rich in phosphorus. Concentrations of both N and P are high in the river Sow.

The Mere is rich in both available phosphorus and available nitrogen at almost all times of year. Retention times though short are long enough for substantial plankton development.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

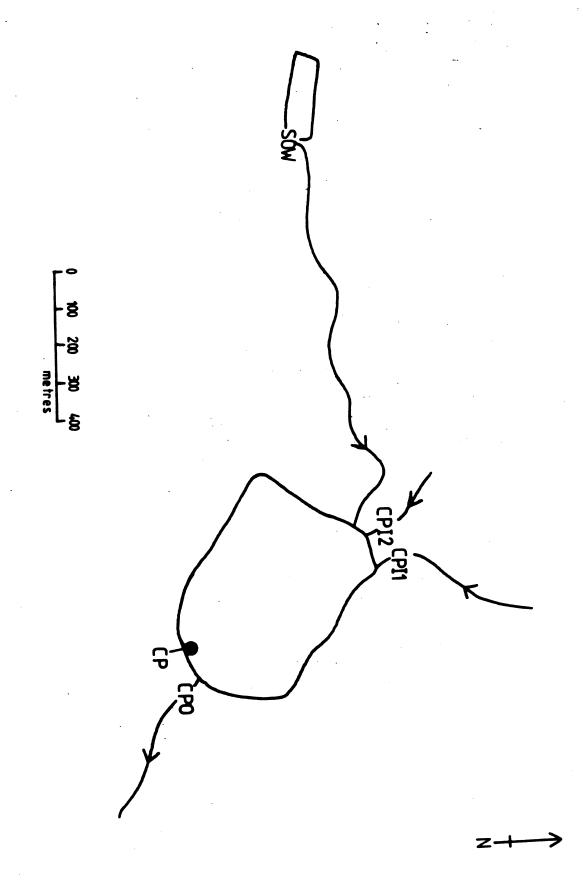
The mean chlorophyll a concentration in Cop Mere was relatively high but it was conditioned by a small number of occasions when very large crops of diatoms or flagellates were present, two of them in winter. At other times the crops were only moderate. Bluegreen algae were present in moderate numbers in summer. There was apparently little grazing pressure for *Daphnia* numbers were low, rising to double figures per litre only in early summer. Occasionally large numbers of plant associated species like *Scapholeberis mucronata* were present suggesting the possibility of extra grazing pressure at night when such species drift out into the open water.

(v) Aquatic plants

Cop Mere does not have a particularly prolific submerged flora but it is not a sparse one either. Three species of Potamogetonaceae were present, two of them classed as frequent and clumps of *Chara vulgaris* and *Elodea canadensis* were found. The trophic score was 8.5.

(vi) Overall assessment

Cop Mere is clearly eutrophicated by the nutrient-rich River Sow water which carries high concentrattions of both soluble reactive phosphorus and of nitrate. The mere water had higher concentrations of nitrate than other of the meres, but nitrogen was relatively scarce in summer when nitrogen fixing blue-green algae developed. The highest chlorophyll a concentrations developed in autumn after the period of plant growth and hence the apparent paradox of high algal populations yet persistence of submerged plants. Some safeguarding of the aquatic plant populations would follow from the control of phosphorus in the River Sow, provided that the wetland to the west of the lake remains intact. This wetland undoubtedly removes some of the nitrogen load to the system and attempts to diffuse the river water as it passes into the wetland would be beneficial. The source of phosphorus in the Sow is not known but is likely to be a point excretal source or sources. Fish predation probably reduces the potentiality for grazer control of the algae (there is an active fishing club, which probably means a large fish stock). Reduction of the fish stock would undoubtedly be beneficial but likely to be politically difficult and readily frustrated by restocking by the angling club. One of the inflows, CPI1 has low water quality but its contribution to the total inflow is so small that it would be unprofitable to tackle it unless major efforts were being made to improve the quality of the river Sow, to divert it around or culvert it through the lake.



Total P	18 791	77 835	*	+					11 176		90 218			72 498			259(121)	426(262)	371(233)
Partic P												1.							
Tot Sol P	773	758	*	•	*	380	242	182	165	170	127	38	223	426	355				
Sol React P	655	740	*	•	+	380	212	182	152	170	127	21	188	396	355		232(102)	332(257)	298(217)
Chloride	24.5	25.5	*	•	*	30.3	36.0	40.0	32.0	34.6	32.0	29.4	30.0	25.5	23.5		34.6(4.3)	28.1(4.00	30.3(5.0)
玉	7.45	7.77	*	•	+	7.7	7.8	7.64	8.62	8.02	8.27	8.22	8.12	8.22	8.37		7.94(0.46)	8.06(0.3)	8.02(0.35)
Total Alk	3.9	4.1	*		*	4.05	3.8	2.4	4.0	3.3	2.7	4.2	3.95	3.95	4.15		3.56(0.78)	3.78(0.52)	3.71(0.59)
Phenolph Alk	0.35	0.10	*		*	0.25	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.25	0.5	0.3	0.35	0.02	0.2		0.31(0.1)	0.23(0.11)	0.25(0.11)
Conductivity	524	558	*	•	*	570	290	536	595	557	200	570	539	489	512		573(27)	531(30)	545(34)
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	749 FO 1331	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 12 1991	Jan 15 1992	Feb 4 1992	Mar 3 1992	Mar 24 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Annual mean
	•	۰ ،	J (m	4		(. α	σ	_				4	15	16	17	18

kg P/year														9.570			
kg P/week	960.0	0.025	0000	0000	1.320	0.007	0.330	0.020	0.020	060.0	0.380	0.049	0.120	0.120			
kg N/year														87.000			
kg N/week	0.120	0.020	0000	0000	0.630	090'0	9.320	0.830	0.830	3.500	6.820	0.430	0.270	0.580			
Discharge	0.0002	+	0	0	0.005	0.00005	0.003	0.0002	0.0002	0.0007	0.003	0.0003	0.0004	0.0005	0.002(0.002)	(6000')9000'	0.001(.0015)
Silicate Si	5.58	4.20	*	*	7.22	3.1	4.57	4.88	4.02	2.99	3.54	2.04	2.97	2.07	4.9(1.7)	3.8(1.2)	4.18(1.4)
Ammonium N	50	46	*	*	59	27	39	91	103	47	69	58	123	0	46.5(30)	62(38)	56.8(35)
Nitrate N	0.54	0.69	*	*	0.18	1.9	5.1	6.78	6.77	8.21	3.07	2.33	0.99	1.91	3.49(2.99)	3.06(2.9)	3.21(2.79)
		_					_		_	_							

	Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	₹.	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
•	1001	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
_	4ng / 1991								+	+
7	Aug 28 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	je. (, (
m	Sept 18 1991	604			8.27	34.1	9	92	0	9
4	Oct 23 1991		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ں -	Nov 12 1991		0.25	4.3	7.54	34.3	47	20	11	61
י מ	Dec 12 1991			5. 7.	2.9	34.0	63	63	0	63
) N	lan 15 1992			3.65	7.52	46.0	84	84	0	84
. a	Teh 4 1992			3.65	20.00	48.0	55	64	17	81
σ	Mar 3 1997			2.6	7.81	53.8	28	46	45	91
, 5	Mar 24 1992			2.85	2.9	64.0	52.5	63.6	129	192
	Anril 15 1992			3.35	8.18	39.2	က	28	8	108
	May 13 1992	525	0.25	4.05	76.7	36,0	21	46	51	26
	1992 Inne 3 1992			3,55	7.9	29.4	91	123	136	529
4	June 22 1992			3.9	8.19	33.3	66	66	31	130
15										
16	Winter mean	592(23)	0.31(0.15)	4.18(0.69)	7.88(0.48)	40.6(7.5)	62.3(16)			72.3(12)
17	Growth mean	539(44)	0.17(0.14)	3.38(0.57)	8.03(0.18)	41.4(12.7)	51(36)			136(66)
18	Annual mean		0.23(0.16)	3.7(0.71)	7.98(0.310	41.1(10.6)	55.1(30)			113(61)

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	Discharge SD	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/year	
-	*	*	*	0.0000		0.000		0.000		
~ ~	*	*	*	0.0000		0000		0.000		
က	2.11	38	4.86	0.0020		2.600		060.0		
4	*	*	*	0.0000		0000		0.000		
Ŋ	1.93	51	5.99	0.0020		2.400		0.070		
ဖ	4.07		6.17	0.0003		0.790		0.010		
~	3.59		4.96	0.0060		13.100		0.310		
œ	6.34		4.79	0.0070		27.300		0.340		
တ	3.07		4.33	0.0060		11.200		0.330		
10	4.45		2.69	0.0015		4.080		0.170		
=======================================	2.67		1.96	0.0070		11.400		0.460		
12	2.5	32	2.03	0.0040		6.130		0.240		
13	2.15		3.31	0.0030		4.080		0.470		
14	2.72		3.21	0.0030		5.050	327.300	0.240	10.140	
15										
16	3.98(1.82)	•	5.48(0.7)	0.0040						
17	2.81(0.8)	(45(29)	3.2(1.1)	0.0030	0.003					
8	3.24(1.31)		4.03(1.48)	0.0030						

1	Total P	1127 715 735 295 168 168 179 112 159 159 159 159 360 310	
	Partic P	0 155 123 8 0 101 24 20 52 0	
	Tot Sol P	1177.0 583.0 769.0 140.0 45.0 78.0 175.0 7.9 35.0 139.0 103.0 245.0	
	Sol React P	814.0 458.0 835.0 126.0 16.0 67.0 154.0 7.9 17.0 106.0 86.0 218.0 108.0 81.0 272.0 319.0 272.0	
	Chloride	26.5 29.8 27.7 28.9 26.3 30.0 36.0 36.0 30.8 29.4 29.7 27.5 27.5 27.5 28.5 27.5 28.5 27.5 28.5 27.5 28.5 27.5 28.5	
-	돐	8.73 8.73 8.77 9.02 8.55 7.57 8.74 8.80 8.83 9.85 9.61 8.47 0.63 8.68	
	Total alk	3.20 3.50 3.50 3.20 2.95 2.95 2.05 2.05 3.00 3.00 3.00 3.03 3.03 3.03 3.03 3	
	Phenolph Alk	0.25 0.60 0.80 0.60 0.05 0.15 0.40 0.35 0.20 0.20 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25	
	Conductivity	481 480 524 482 482 487 505 494 470 339 386 482 482 482 482 505 366 366 366 366 370 386 386 482 386	
	Date	Aug Sep	
		1	l

kg P/year														839 000							
kg P/week	67.500	32.400	28.400	12.700	10,900	3.700	17.400	7,500	9.400	1.100	5.740	10.900	12.200	6.080							
kg N/year														4939.000							
kg N/week	89.000	15.800	75.200	72.900	76.900	65.300	208.300	141.000	301.000	26.400	117.500	127.700	7.400	5.280							
Discharge	0660'0	0.0750	0.0640	0.0710	0.1070	0.0710	0.1450	0.0690	0.1390	0.0167	0.1610	0.1130	0.1300	0.0410		0.0980	0.0360	0.0900	0.0500	0.0930	0.0410
Silicate Si	7.42	4.82	9.41		2.56	3.10	5.58	5.46	4.62	0.43	0.92	2.49	1.02	3.83		4.18	1.57	3.88	3.07	3.97	2.63
Ammonium N	1092	569	1404	29	19	187	325	317	142	28	25	118	44	163		212	143	343	487	306	415
Nitrate N A	0.34	0.08	0.54	1.63	1.17	1.33	2.05	3.05	3.44	2.54	1.15	1.75	0.05	0.05		1.90	0.86	1.16	1.17	1.37	1.10
	-	7	က	4	S	ၑ	~	œ	၈	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

Total P	192	187	640	182	231	330	283		190	4	309	172	279	155	
Partic P	ကင္ဂ	39 44	47.4	1 4	101	26	371	2							
Tot Sol P	189	148	441	186		671	233	20							
Sol React P	189	148	126	186		105	270	105	160	601	67	151	9 1	155	8
Chloride		28.0	27.0	24.0	27.5	24.0	25.5	25.5	Ċ	78.0	, '	25.6	1.5	25.9	1.6
돐	7.64	8.42	7.99	7.92	8.78	8.00	7.89	8.28		8.03	0.60	8.14	0.34	8.12	0.36
Total Alk	2.50	2.30	2.60	2.30	2.65	2.80	2.60	2.90	,	2.40	0.14	2.64	0.21	2.60	0.21
Phenolph Alk	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.25	0.20	00.0	0.10		0.15	0.02	0.20	0.12	0.18	0.10
Conductivity	418	410						405		414	9	398	12	405	12
Date	lan 15 1992	Feb 4 1992	Mar 3 1992	Mar 24 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
	-	- ^	ı m	4	٠ س	() N	. α	თ	10	-	12	13	4	15

Silicate Si	5.05	4.41	3.90	3.40	2.69	2.71	3.94	1.64		4.72	0.43	3.05	0.88	3.46	1.08
Ammonium N	56	117	29	155	49	-1	381	54		87	43	113	140	107	120
Nitrate N	2.46	4.81	4.60	4.85	2.36	4.30	3.24	2.44		3.64	1.70	3.63	1.10	3.63	1.12
	_	2	က	4	S	ဖ	~	œ	၈	0	_	2	က	4	2

Total P	1072	657	666		162	135	194	172	118	92	58	152	123	169		166	24	382	410	315	351
Partic P	21	180	177		154	72	9	20	65	95	23	61	24	0							
Tot Sol P	1051.0	477.0	17.0	133.0	8.0	63.0	188.0	152.0	53.0	3.4	35.0	91.0	0.66	169.0							
Sol React P	817.0	323.0	831.0	117.0	8.0	65.9	188.0	147.0	47.0	3.4	10.0	91.0	68.0	169.0		102.0	81.0	248.0	317.0	206.0	276.0
Chloride	26.5	29.8	29.8	26.8	26.3	28.0	28.0	40.0	30.8	32.0	31.4	28.0	27.5	27.5		30.6	0.9	• 29.0	2.0	29.5	3.5
五	7.45	9.05	7.80	8.80	20.6	8.64	7.52	8.03	8.16	9.12	8.84	8.52	9.93	96.6		8.32	0.70	8.76	0.82	8.64	0.80
Total alk	3.30	3.40		3.50	3.20	3.45	3.05	3.10	3.15	2.45	3.00	3.15	2.00	1.55		3.20	0.20	2.83	0.70	2.95	0.60
Phenolph Alk	0.00	1.10		0.80	06.0	0.40	0.15	0.30	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.20	0.75	1.05		0.44	0.30	0.55	0.40	0.51	0.36
Conductivity	482	453	530	480	443	482	490	504	495	423	437	466	343	373		480	56	448	22	457	51
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 12 1991	Jan 15 1992	Feb 4 1992	Mar 3 1992	Mar 24 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		WINTER MEAN	SD	GROWTH MEAN	SD	ANNUAL MEAN	SD
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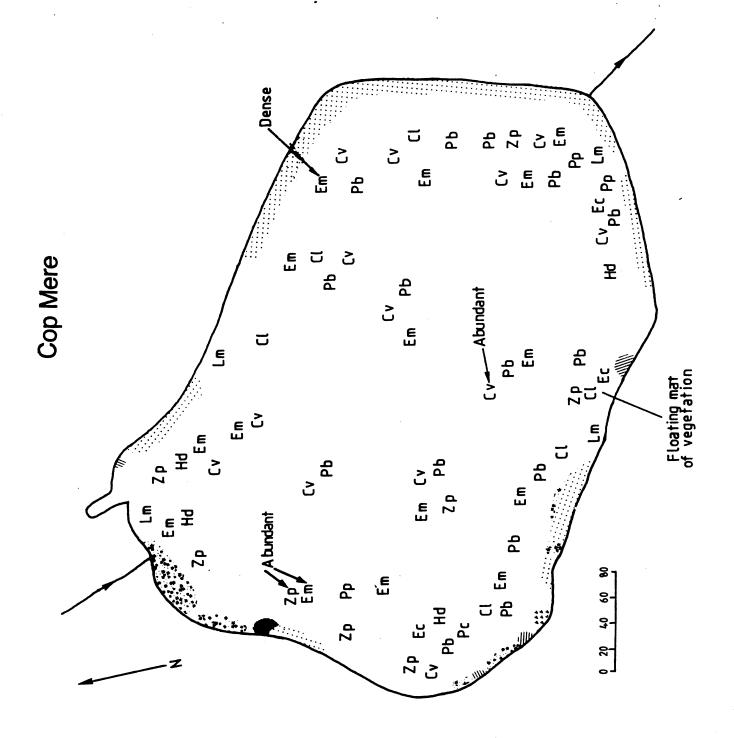
Total Daphnia	0.10	6.20	0.86	1.25	0.17	60.0	6.47	3.20	0.18	90.0	0.20	18.12	2.86	10.64		2.48	3.03	4.05	6.03	3.60	5.30
Secchi To	٨	9.0	٨	0.65	0.7	^^	٨	٨	0.5		٨	^	^	٨							
430:410	06.0	1.20	0.89	1.32	1.22	1.05	0.96	•	1.24	1.28	1.01	1.2	1.26	1.23							
480:663	2.00	1.63	4.43	1.10	1.13	1.12	3.22	•	1.3	1.27	2.04	1.87	1.07	1.38							
Carotenoids	0.70	219.70	10.33	256.00	218.00	87.30	9.70	0.00	45.30	64.00	16.30	18.70	29.00	49.70							
Chlorophyll	0:30	136.00	2.36	234.00	194.00	82.00	3.30	0.00	38.50	55.40	8.80	11.00	26.40	39.60		20.60	91.00	55.20	74.00	29.60	76.00
Silicate Si	7.29	4.80	06.6		2.24	2.75	5.55	5.79	5.18	0.47	1.04	3.12	1.11	3.65		4.08	1.85	4.06	3.12	4.07	2.70
Ammonium N	1248	329	1831	116	39	239	390	354	130	89	69	175	75	31		256	158	409	617	365	524
Nitrate N	0.330	0.016	0.290	1.510	1.220	1.690	2.510	2.910	3.780	2.400	1.230	1.650	0.150	0.270		2.080	0.770	1.160	1.220	1.430	1.160
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74 Others % 75 Blue greens % 76 77 78 Winter mean % 79 Growth mean% 80 Annual mean %

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ept 18 1991	54.1	Others 4.8(8.5) 21.1(28) 16.4(24.7)
Aug 8 1991 · Aug 28 1991 Sept 18	86.8 0.53	Greens 6.7(2.1) 16.2(16.3) 13.5(14.3)
Aug 8 1991	20.5	Diatoma 85.3(11.7) 39.8(39.9) 52.8(39.9)
Organism	Others % Blue greens %	Winter mean % Growth mean% Annual mean %



(i) CROSE MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Crose Mere is moderately large (15.2ha) and deep (9.3m). It is ground-water fed but has a surface outflow which discharged 12600 cubic metres of water in the year in question. Fllow was relatively even seasonally and the annual flushing rate was calculated to be 0.18 per year with a retention time of 5.6yr. These values compare with those of Reynolds(1979) who calculated a retention time of 2.25 years in a relatively wetter period.

(ii) Changes in land usage

The catchment of Crose Mere lies in the parishes of Ellesmere Rural and Cockshutt, changes in whose land usage have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	10821 130934 5574 26755 11780 17670 47795 6691	14420 174482 8943 42926 13055 19583 9236 1293
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	7642 652 776 7 28	3949 1623 2540 152 144
Total hectarage	9105	8408

The catchment has thus seen an increase in cattle, pig and sheep keeping, adrift to arable and a loss of permanent grazing. There has also been some woodland planting and loss of presumably permanent grazing to rough grazing.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

The water of Crose Mere is relatively hard with high conductivity and alkalinity. The concentrations of soluble reactive and total phosphorus are high but those of inorganic nitrogen compounds are low. The values recorded are similar to those found by Reynolds(1979) except for the probably climatically-related higher conductivity values.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Phytoplankton crops were low reaching a maximum of only 33.4 ug/l of chlorophyll a and having a growth season mean of only 9.2. Blue green algae were scarce during the year in question in contrast to earlier years when the mere was used extensively for the study of bloom forming behaviour (Reynolds 1971). Diatoms and flagellates were the most common phytoplankters and grazing pressure was probably high because **Daphnia** was relatively abundant in summer. The presence of **Daphnia magna** and **Daphnia pulex** suggest that the fish stock is low.

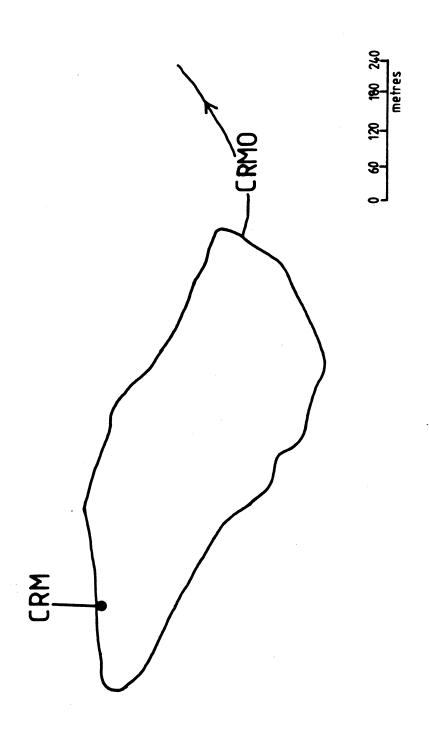
(v) Aquatic plants

Despite the clear water, the abundance of aquatic plants was comparatively low with only *Nuphar lutea* being locally abundant. An unusual feature was the area of colonial *Cymbelia*, a diatom on the north side. The trophic score was calculated to be 8.95, intermediate between the 1979 value of 9.3 and the 1987 value of 7.9. The DAFOR score was 2.5, an apparent increase over 1987 (0.5) and 1991 (2). The reasons for the sparse plants include the steeply shelving basin and the wind exposed shorelines.

(vi) Overall assessment

Crose Mere does not seem to be threatened by agents of eutrophication over and above that expected of an agricultural area. Its nitrogen supply remains low and its phosphorus supply, coming from ground water is probably naturally derived. Zooplankton grazing is probably reducing the algal crops more than at some times in the past and is probably linked to a low fish stock. This may have resulted from a fish kill some time in the recent past or may be a reflection of natural variation in recruit ment. There appear to be no restorative measures that need to be taken at present.





Total P	06	114	111	*	*	271	- 22	01.6	210	737	455	324	 		103) } -	290(49)	200(153)	236(127)	(22) (51)
Partic P	68	0		+	: +	, (5 6	40	87	0	111	189	3		Ċ					
Tot Sol P	-	96	,	= •	* •	* (231	242	284	232	343	125	661			<u>60</u>				
Sol React P	48	0	3 3	68	*	*	227	242	245	212	343		0		•	103	747/25/	(62)/47	123(111)	173(106)
Chloride	36.7	7 96 7	20.0	34.7	*	*	34	36.4	34.6	39.2	45.2	1 (35.3		1	33.3		36.1(2.3)	37.0(4.2)	36.6(3.5)
돐	8.99	77.0	8.44	8.21	*	*	2.76	7.79	8.15	8.04	20 g) ·	8.94			8.48		7.94(0.19)	8.52(0.38)	8.29(0.43)
Total Alk	2.5		6.2		*	*	3.05	3.25	3.0	3.15	2 75	2.5	3.15			2.95		3.11(0.11)	3.05(0.46)	3.08(0.33)
Phenolph Alk	00.00		0.35	0.20	*	.*	0.15	0.15	0.15	20		3.0	0.45			0.25		0.16(0.03)	0.24(0.15)	0.21(0.12)
Conductivity	463) !	4/4	489	*	*	461	495	489	493		653	469	No flow	No flow	470	*	485(16)	510(82)	499(60)
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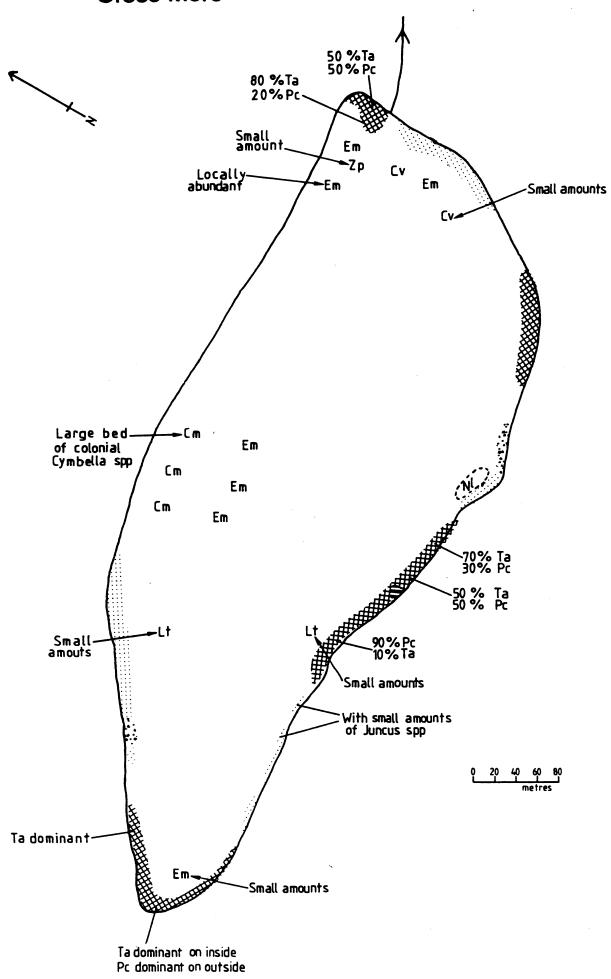
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~	0.004	245	2.47	0.0050
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ß	*	*	*	0.0000
ဖ	0.35	22	3.96	0.0070
7	0.37	290	2.81	0.0040
σ	0.42	165	2.13	0.0100
თ	0.25	86	1.72	0.0035
9	3.99	317	3.67	+
=	0	0	0.39	0.024
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13				
14	0.08	12	96.0	0.001
15				
16	0.38(0.04)	159(134)	2.97(0.93)	0.005(0.004)
17	0.75(1.6)	122(120)	1.83(1.05)	0.004(0.008)
18	0.63(1.27)	133(118)	2.17(1.1)	0.004(0.007)

Total Daphnia	0.20	0.70	38.40	25.90	1.80	0.42	0.80	0.00	0.63	0.30	2.15	16.00	10.33	221.40		0.46	0.35	31.70	68.00	22.80	(()
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Secchi																					
430:410	1.02	1.24	1.10	1.05	0.97	1.02	1.18	0.99	1.18	1.23	1.24	0.98	1.02	1.02							
480:663	1.78	2.00	3.00	2.33	٨	1.8	1.76	1.52	1.38	1.09	1.22	2.13	1.56	2.25							
Carotenoids	5.3	4.7	5.0	7.0	4.0	0.6	31.7	14.7	12.0	31.7	37.0	12.0	8.3	0.6						•	
Chlorophyll	3.3	2.4	1.7	3.0	0.0	5.5	19.8	10.6	9.5	31.9	33.4	6.2	5.9	4.4		11.4	0.9	9.5	12.5	8.6	
Silicate Si	1.26	2.19	1.66	3.18	3.25	3.98	2.77	2.04	1.86	1.78	0.63	0.74	0.25	0.94		2.66	96.0	1.59	1.04	1.90	(,
Ammonium N	88	87	119	558	603	416	445	267	87	0	0	57	42	66		304	164	165	223	205	• • • •
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Crose Mere



(j) FENEMERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Fenemere is shallow (2.2m) and small (9.4ha). It is part of a hydrologically complex system in which water may enter it through a channelised watercourse coming from the west to join a small stream (FMD) which connects Fenemere with Marton Pool. Further water supplies enter Marton Pool and eventually drain into Fenemere. There is a distinct outflow from Fenemere which is joined by a small stream emerging from the east before it discharges to the War Brook to the south. The outflow stream was accessible for gauging only after this stream had entered . A correction has thus been applied to allow for the estimated one quarter contribution of this stream to the outflow. The outflow was very small in summer but greater in winter. Calculated annual, winter and growth season values for flushing rate were 4.8,9.6 and 3.1 per year respectively. Corresponding retention times were 10.8, 5.4 and 16.8 weeks. Despite its small size Fenemere thus has substantial retention particularly in summer. All of the inflows are separately quite small and intermittent. The inflow that was gauged and which flows into Marton Pool accounted for only 6300 cubic metres per year or about 1.3%. The stream connecting Marton Pool and Fenemere accounted for even less. about 3153 cubic metres. This seems to indicate that the water in Fenemere is determined to a large extent by ground water flow from the surrouding very flat wet grasslands and that events in Marton Pool and its catchment may have a much lesser importance than the apparently well developed drainage system visible on the maps might indicate.

(ii) Changes in land usage

The catchment of Fenemere lies within the parishes of Baschurch, Myddle and Petton for which the combined land use changes have been as follows:

•	1931	1987
Cattle(head)	5348	12905
nutrient units	64711	156187
Pigs(head)	2641	2989

nutrient units	12677	14347
Sheep(head)	7051	4632
nutrient units	10577	6948
Poultry(head)	25127	609
nutrient units	3518	85
Permanent grass(ha)	4051	2023
Temporary grass(ha)	316	1008
Arable(ha)	856	2208
Woodland(ha)	6	82
Rough grazing(ha)	86	41
Total hectarage	5315	5362

There has thus been a considerable increase in stock keeping particularly of cattle, and a drift to arable and temporary grazing from permanent grazing.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Fenemere has a high conductivity consistent with that of its surface water inflows and presumably also its ground water supply. lts alkalinity is also very high as are the local chloride concentrations. Soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations are high and higher than those of the direct inflow drain. This might suggest high ground water concentrations of phosphorus but might also be linked to internal release of phosphorus from the sediment. Nitrate nitrogen concentrations in the mere are very low in summer but modest in winter and the streams also carry quite high concentrations. The ammonium concentrations in the northern inflow to Marton Pool are sometimes exceptionally high and must indicate a substantial source of farm effluent draining into this stream. The connector stream between Fenemere and Marton Pool is rich in nitrate year around, presumably drawing much of its supply from the channelised drain entering it through the pastures to the west. Nonetheless processes of nitrogen loss in the mere and its surrounding wetlands result in a severe shortage of inorganic nitrogen in summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Chlorophyll a concentrations in Fenemere were generally high and on average above 50ug/l even in the winter months. Diatoms, green algae, and flagellates were all very abundant from time to time but there was a particular dominance of green algae. Blue green algae were only lesser components and when they were abundant it was the non -nitrogen- fixing genus *Oscillatoria* that predominated. *Daphnia* numbers were large for a short period in

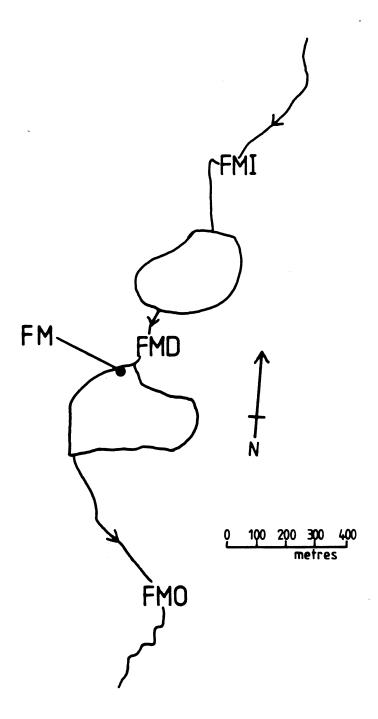
spring and early summer but thereafter were nearly absent. Grazing was thus an important factor for only a limited period.

(v) Aquatic plants

Only emergent plants, including both *Nuphar lutea* and *Nymphaea alba* were abundant in Fenemere. Apart from scraps of *Ceratophyllum demersum*, submerged plants were rare. This might be expected from the large algal crops. Trophic score has been around 7.5 in the past but has now risen to 8.5 whilst the DAFOR score has been 0.5 and 0 in 1979 and 1991. It remains probably unchanged at a value of 1.

(vi) Overall assessment

We are told that Fenemere supports a rich common carp fishery though there are no quantitative data available. However, the lack of submerged aquatic plants in water that supports large but not huge growths of algae is consistent with this. Carp disturb the botttom and caan increase thre turbidity quite considerably. The phosphorus loading from ground water is probably naturally high but the nitrogen loading has undoubtedly been increased by intensification of the local agriculture and stockkeeping. There may be little that can practicably be done about this without major changes in farming policy. If there is a population of carp in the lake then some improvement in water quality and hence light climate for aquatic plants could come from removal of this introduced species. Carp not only disturb sediment, they mobilise phosphorus from sediment and may be at least partly responsible for the high phosphorus availability and perhaps a supply of excreted ammonium that is immediately snapped up by the nitrogen limited phytoplankton. The importance of the lake for carp angling vis a vis conservation would need to be determined before such management was attempted. In general carp and aquatic plant conservation are incompatible.



	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/year
	1.49	12750	6.98	0.0002	1.720		0.110	
CI.	*	*	*	0	0.000		0000	
m	*	+	*	0	0.000		0.000	
₹+	*	+	*	0	0.000		0000	
ю	*	+	*	0	0.000		0000	
(0	*	*	*	0	0.000		0000	
_	+	*	*	0	0.000		0.000	
6 0	*	*	*	0	0.000		0.000	
a	4.84	4232	5.82	0.0002	1.100		0.040	
0	*	+	*	0	0.000		0.000	
_	20.98	435	6.9	0.018	233.000		7.910	
ر.				0	0.000		0.000	
ന				0	0.000		0.000	
₹ 1	6.19	499	7.41	0.0004	1.620	882.000	0.064	30.200
^								
ဖွ	4.84	4232	5.82	.002(.001)				
2	9.6(10.2)	4561(7.1(0.27)	.002(.006)				
00	8.4(8.6)		6.78(0.68)	.0002(.005)				

Total P	874	*			k 4	k 4	r •	: +	. !	327	*	727	j		7	607	327	(016)169	(200)	546(299)
Partic P	331	+	•	•	*	*	* -	k -	*	137	*	077	<u>+</u>		•	0				
Tot Sol P	543	+		*	*	*	*	*	*	190	*	100	287			263				
Sol React P	1150	· •	¥	*	*	+	*	*	*	144	+		252			263	•	144	555(515)	452(468)
Chloride	27.6		*	*	*	+	*	*	*	97.2	+	,	51.0			47.1	•	97.2	58.6(16.6)	68.2(23.6)
돐	8.	; ;	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	7.76	*		7.46			7.38		2.76	7.65(0.4)	7.68(0.32)
Total Alk	4.65	:	+	*	*	*	*	+	*	5.4	*		2.5			3.7		5.4	3.6(1.1)	4.1(1.3)
henolph Alk	c		*	+	*	*	*	*	*	0.5	*		0			0	1	0.5	0	0.05(0.1)
Conductivity Phenolph Alk	818	0		*	*	*	*	*	*	1026	*		664	No flow	No flow	681		1026	721(84)	797(167)
Date	1.11 24 1991	1001 ty inc	Aug 14 1991	Sept 4 1991	Oct 9 1991	Oct 30 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 22 1992	Eeh 19 1992		Mar 1992	April 1 1992	April 29 1992	May 20 1992	June 10 1992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Annual mean
	•	-	7	m	4	· N	ဖ	^	. α	σ	,	2	1	12 4	13	14	15	16	17	18

	Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	五	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
,	Jul 24 1991	721	0.0	4.7	8.08	65.3	808	263	514	777
2	Aug 14 1991	752	0.1	5.0	2.60	73.5	895	1097	100	1197
က	Sept 4 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4	Oct 9 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
S	Oct 30 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	+
9	Nov 20 1991	784	0.2	4.65	7.75	84.0	293	350	68	417
7	Dec 18 1991	789	0	5.0	7.65	74.7	234	278	120	398
œ	Jan 22 1992		0	4.35	8.28	26.9	139	182	142	324
6	Feb 19 1992		9.0	4.0	7.89	80.4	156	252	260	512
10	Mar 11 1992	780	0.3	4.15	8.11	77.4	40.7	40.7	57.9	98.6
1	April 1 1992		0	3.2	7.52	20.6	254	543	190	733
12	April 29 1992		0.2	5.8	7.87	76.0	161	188	24	213
13	May 20 1992	N _O			•	•	•))		
4	June 10 1992	736	0	3.3	7.14	78.4	489	489	303	792
15										
16	Winter mean	807(31)	0.2(0.28)	4.5(0.43)	7.89(0.28)	79(4.1)	206(72)			413(77)
17	Growth mean	751(23)	0.1(0.13)	4.36(1.0)	7.72(0.4)	73.5(5)	441(351)			635(409)
18	Annual mean	773(38)	0.14(02)	4.4(0.8)	7.79(0.33)	75.7(5.2)	347(292)			546(329)

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	N export/year P export/year	export/year
_	0.120	868	8.31	0.0002		
~	0.023	682	7.80	0.0015		
m	*	*	*	0.0000		
4	*	*	*	0.0000		
N	*	*	*	0.0000	, ·	
9	4.09		7.07	0.0500		
~	0.76	272	3.09	0.0480		
œ	2.11		5.0	0.0001		
တ	2.42		4.62	0.059		
0	0.76		2.65	0.030		
_	7.92	•	3.3	0.001		
~	1.04		1.44	0.021		
m				0.000		
4	5.85	158	8.48	0.081	1662 kg	362 kg
2						
9	2.35(1.37)	505(494)	4.95(1.6)	0.039(0.027)		
~	2.62(3.4)	333(348)	5.33(3.2)	0.014(0.026)		
ω	2.51(2.65)	402(396)	5.18(2.6)	0.021(0.028)		

	Date	Conductivity	Conductivity Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	돐	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
•	111 24 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
-	1001 F3 IDC		+	•	•		+	+	+	+
~	Aug 14 1991	*	k	*	*	¥	k	•	•	•
က	Sep 4 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4	Oct 9 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
S	Oct 30 1991	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
y (c	Nov 20 1991	795	0.15	4.2	2.76	76.0	94	129	40	169
^	Dec 18 1991	850	0	2.00	7.75	74.7	115	115	26	170
- α	Lan 22 1992	854	0.15	4.4	7.89	83,0	224	293	83	376
σ	Feb 19 1992	880	0.35	5.05	8.05	80.4	119	148	9	242
0 0	Mar 11 1992	856		4.85	8.26	83.9	33	33	93	126
	April 1 1992	795		3.6	8.11	20.6	46	46	349	395
	April 29 1992		0.3	4.9	8.02	80.0	77	71	102	178
13	May 20 1992	No flow								
	June 10 1992	No flow								
15										1
16	Winter mean	845(36)	0.16(0.14)	4.7(0.4)	7.86(0.14)	78.5(4)	138(58)			239(97)
17	Growth mean	825(31)	0.27(0.06)	4.45(0.74)	8.13(0.12)	78.2(7)	50(19)			233(1430
18	Annual mean	836(33)	0.21(0.12)	4.6(0.530	7.98(0.19)	78.4(5)	100(64)			237(107)

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	Lenemere	,

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/year
-	*	*	*	0.000	0.000		0.000	
- c	*	*	*	0000	0000		0.000	
u 0	*	*	*	0.000	0000		0.000	
n <	*	*	*	0.000	0000		0.000	
t u	+	*	*	0000	0000		0000	
, «	4.9		3.76	0.001	3.060		0.100	
) V	4.67	104	5.26	0.0001	0.290		0.010	
. α	4.12		3.86	0.0002	0.520		0.045	
0	7 14	288	3.28	0.0001	006.0		0.015	
, C	0.26		1.21	0.0001	0.020		0.008	
2 =	6.66		1.48	0.0001	0.410		0.024	
- 6	6.78	2	0.52	0.0001	0.410		0.011	
1 0) ;			0000	0000		0.000	
0 4				0.000	0.000	20.800	0.000	0.790
. 6								
9 6	5.2(1.3)	187(77)	4.04(0.85)	0.0004				
17	4.57(3.7)	(64(89)	1.07(0.5)	0.00003				
8	4.94(2.4)	134(100)	2.77(1.72)	0.0001				

Total P	562	1037	1425	209	579	395	342	349	348	113	282	192	178	413		359	25	539	416	487	356
Partic P	408		367			113	83	133	286	91	249	30	43	0	-						
Tot Sol P	154		1058			282	260	217	61	22	33	162	135	413							
Sol React P	730	292	869	209	206	241	192	217	27	4	က	143	82	413		169	26	413	331	344	302
Chloride	71.4	75.5	73.5	87.0	78.8	76.0		82.7	80.4	80.7	78.4	26.0	80.0	78.4		7.62	3.0	78.0	4.3	78.4	4.0
Ŧ	7.82	8.72	8.59	8.25	8.09	8.05	7.89	7.99	8.45	8.44	8.66	7.95	8.61	8.29		8.10	0.25	8.34	0.31	8.27	0.31
Total alk	4.45	4.90	3.16	6.30	5.70	5.10	5.05	4.45	4.65	4.85	4.45	4.80	4.50	4.30		4.81	0.32	4.74	0.84	4.76	0.71
Phenolph Alk	0.35	1.00	0.38	0.40	0.65	0.15	0.35	0.15	0.35	0.50	09.0	0.40	0.50	0.30		0.25	0.12	0.51	0.21	0.43	0.22
Conductivity	772	715	722	740	740	681	286	853	262	804	745	278	738	716		778	71	747	29	226	44
Date	Jul 24 1991	Aug 14 1991	Sept 4 1991	Oct 9 1991	Oct 30 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 22 1992	Feb 19 1992	Mar 11 1992	April 1 1992	April 29 1992	May 20 1992	June 10 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
	_	~	က	4	2	9	7	∞	တ	9	=				15	16	17	18	19	20	21

	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Chlorophyll	Carotenoids	480:663	430:410	Secchi	Total Daphnia	
	0.14	205.0	7.52	39.6	87.7	2.44	1.27	^	00.00	
٠ ٨	0.00	126.0	7.69	49.5	79.7	1.63	1.30			
ı m	0.00	0.0	7.00	81.1	114.0	1.42	1.26	0.45		
4	0.00	49.5	0.58	41.7	53.0	1.28	1.18	^	1.03	
· rv	0.44	13.0	7.91	65.7	73.7	1.13	1.21	^	. 0.22	
ဖ	1.01	77.0	69.9	64.2	66.3	1.14	1.16	^	. 0.21	
~	2.41	62.0	4.31	36,3	20.0	1.24	1.22	*	00.00	
. 🛛	4.36	202.0	3.83	33.7	36.7	1.20	1.09	^	00.00	
<u>.</u>	2.97	112.0	4.20	123.2	118.0	1.05	1.27	^	0.11	
0	1.59	51.0	1.64	63.8	68.7	1.18	1.21	^	0.18	
-	1.67	35.0	0.32	93.9	101.7	1.19	1.17	^	0.40	
· ~	1.04	202.0	1.83	7.3	9.7	1.45	1.02	^	104.90	
က	0.03	4.0	2.30	32.3	28.0	0.95	1.24	^	• 66.10	
4	0.44	2.0	5.56	53.2	57.0	1.18	1.16	1.0	93.10	
S										
9	2.69	113.0	4.76	57.9					0.08	
2	1.39	63.0	1.30	31.0					0.10	
ω	0.54	0.69	4.24	52.8					26.70	
တ	0.66	80.0	3.20	24.9					43.40	
0	1.15	81.5	4.38	56.1					19.06	
_	1.33	76.0	2.72	29.3					38.20	

Fenemere Phytopl 1991/92

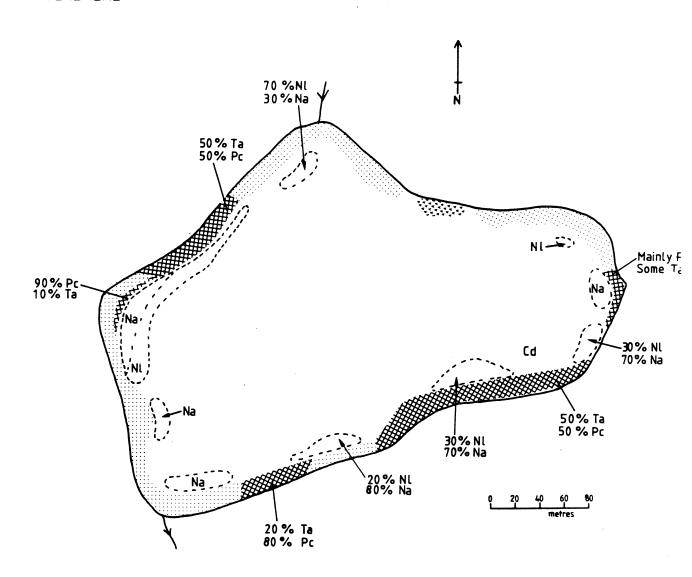
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rag crot	٠		1273	201	•	•	134		•			•	•		
phonema	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠ 5		•		•	•	•	
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hanodlec	•	٠	•	•	•	201			•			•			
os espec	•	241	405	•	•	201	.•	•	1600		603	•		٠	
dra wha	•	•			•	•	1139		•				•		
I fenest	•			201	•	•	•	•	٠			•			
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March								
Feb 19 1992	24405	16.0	31.1	51.2	1.6			
Nov 20 1991 Dec 18 1991 Jan 22 1992 Feb 19 1992	8145	37.9	35.0	21.4	9.8			
Dec 18 1991	16217	53.3	25.2	20.2	1.2			
Nov 20 1991	28356	44.7	37.6	15.6	2.1			
Oct 30 1991	66356	13.3	80.3	2.4	3.9			
Oct 9 1991	18140	•	92	2.5	13.5	Blue greens	2.7(2.1)	12.5(21.1)
Sept 4 1991	46571	17.8	41.7	11.5	28.9	Others	27.1(16.3)	14.5(14.2)
Aug 14 1991	34307	53.4	31.2	0.35	13.1	Graens	32.2(5.4)	47.6(27.2)
July 24 1991 Aug 14 1991	44104		19.8				38.0(15.9)	
Organism	147 TOTAL 148	Diatoms %	Greens %	Others %	Blue grns %		Vinter mean %	nnual mean %
	149	149	150	151	152	- 25	155 X	157 A

FENEMERE



(k) HATCH MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Hatch Mere is 4.7 ha in area and 3.8m deep. It has anumber of small drains but is likely to be fed mostly through ground water percolating through the higher ground to its north and west and to some extent from the east. There is a distinct outflow to the south which dried up during the summer period. The annual flushing rate based on this outflow was 2.4 per year with a retention time of 21 weeks. However the corresponding growth season and winter values were 1.06 per year, and 49 weeks and 5.1 per year and 10 weeks respectively.

(ii) Changes in land use

Hatch Mere has acatchment in the parishes of Norley, Kingsley and Crowton for which the land use changes have been as follows:

Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	1931 2189 26487 416 1997 443 665 26615 3726	1987 2895 35030 834 4003 1262 1893 3394 475
Total nutrient units	32875	41401
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	1062 433 566 39 17	842 551 834 57 46
Total hectarage	2117	2330

There has thus been a modest increase in the keeping of stock and some loss of permanent pasture to temporary pasture and arable.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient budgets

Hatch Mere has moderate alkalinity and conductivity. Its soluble reactive phosphorus,total phosphorus and inorganic nitrogen concentrations are low and nitrogen becomes extremely scarce in summer.

(iv)Phytoplankton and zooplankton

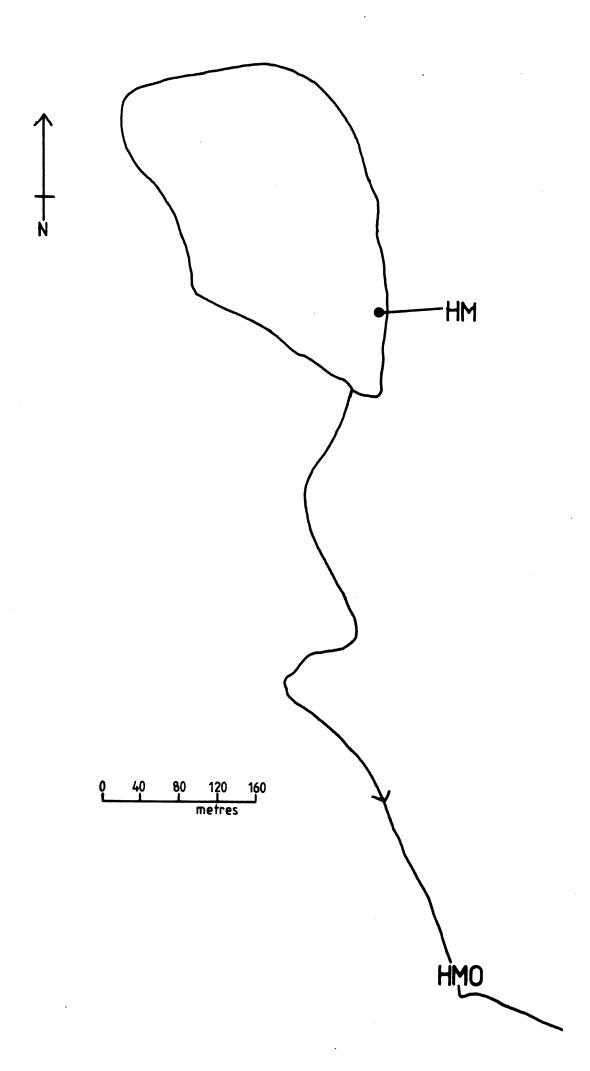
The available nutrient supplies are probably fully used by the phytoplankton because chlorophyll a concentrations are relatively high whereas grazing pressure as reflected in *Daphnia* populations is low. Blue green algae are relatively scarce and the plankton is dominated by diatoms in winter and flagellates in summer.

(v) Aquatic plants

Hatch Mere has a fairly steep sided basin and the possibilities for aquatic plant colonisation are low because of this. There are substantial beds of *Nuphar lutea* and *Nymphaea alba* at the edges but no compleyely submerged species were found. the trophic score is currently 7.6, having previously been 7.9 in 1979 and 8.5 in 1987. The DAFOR score for submerged plants has been 0 since 1987 but was apparently 0.5 in 1979.

(vi) Overall assessment

Hatch Mere is protected by the wetlands through which the drains must enter on the north and west sides and its catchment to the east is dominated by the bog vegetation of Flaxmere. There are no practicable nutrient control measures that can be taken and indeed the semi-natural nature of the immediate catchment suggests that the water chemistry is also near natural. The lack of **Daphnia** probably reflects a high degree of fish predation and some increase in water clarity might ensue from a reduction in fish stock. However this lack of **Daphnia** might also be natural in such a lake in which physical factors prevent the development of large areas of suitable plant refuges. No management is therefore suggested in the present state of knowledge about the lake.



Hatchmere Outflow HMO

Total P	*	*	*	*	*	68	•	22	109	104	112	82		99		77(28)	92(21)	86(23)
Partic P	*	*	*	* .	*	47	•	36	74	98	69	24		22				
Tot Sol P	*	*	*	*	*	22	•	19	35	18	43	61		44				
Sol React P	*	*	*.	*	*	9	•	10	7	ဖ	∞	22		44		8(2)	20(18)	15(14)
Chloride	*	*	*	*	*	54.9	ŧ	44.4	52.0	50.8	50.5	46.0		48.5		50.4(5)	49(2.2)	49.6(3.6)
¥	*	*	*	*	+	7.53	7.77	8.21	2.90	8.11	7.97	7.81		8.09		7.85(0.3)	8.0(0.14)	7.92(0.22)
Total Alk	*	*	*	*	*		•	2.1	2.05	2.1	1.9	2.05		2.2		2.08(0.004)	2.06(0.13)	2.07(0.1)
Phenolph Alk	*	*	*	*	*	1.15	•	0.0	0.05	0.1	0.3	0.0		0.0		0.4(0.65)	0.1(0.14)	0.22(0.42)
Conductivity P	*	*	*	*	*	459	482	489	491	485	473	478	No flow	477		480(15)	478(5)	479(10)
Date	*	*	*	*	*	Nov 27 1991	Dec 18 1991	lan 29 1992	Feb 26 1992	Mar 17 1992	April 8 1992	May 6 1992	May 27 1992	June 17 1992		Winter mean	Growth mean	Annual mean
	-	- ۸	ı m	4	Ŋ	ဖ		, ας				12			15	16	17	18

Discharge SD											٠					0000	0.020	0.00
Discharge	000	0000	0000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.045	0.005	0.007	0.016	0.00	0.005	0000	2000	0.00	0.014	0.00	0.007
Silicate Si	*	*	*	+	+	2.78	3.17	2.24	0.72	1.03	0.97	0.64		0.93		2.23(1.07)	0.89(0.17)	1.56(1.01)
Ammonium N	*	*	*	*	*	286	82	65	133	49	39	115		53		142(100)	64(35)	103(81)
Nitrate N	*	*	*	*	*	0.14	1.68	2.50	2.31	2.67	3.83	2.52		1.49		1.66(1.1)	2.63(0.96)	2.14(1.07)
	_	2	ო	4	S	9	^	œ	တ	10	11	12	13	4	15	16	17	8

Conductivity Phenolph Alk Total A	Conductivity Phenolph Alk Total A	Phenolph Alk Total A	Total Alk	. 0	<u>F</u>	Chloride 44 9	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
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503	503 0.0	0.0	2.60		8.00	51.1	24	•	•	103
488 0.3	488 0.3	0.3	3.00		8.03	49.0	16	16	168	82.
476 0.1	476 0.1	0.1	2.5(_	7.81	46.0	10	16	66 6	<u> </u>
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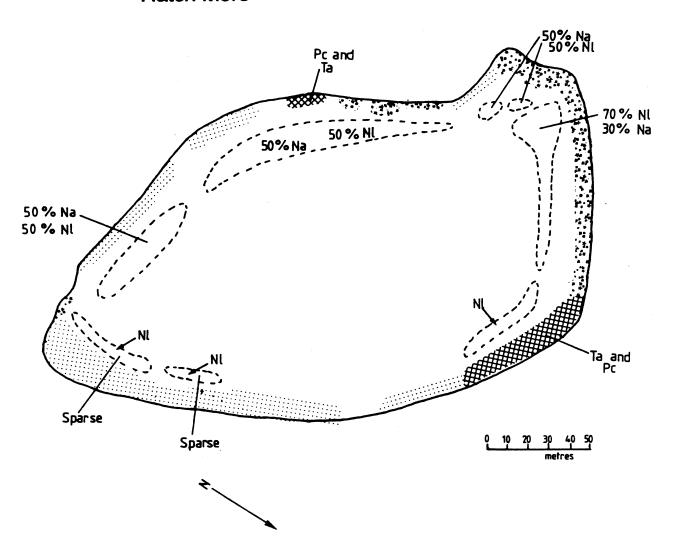
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greens % 25.2 0 0 0.9 5.0 3.4 2.1 3.7 2.4 Olatorns Greens Others Blue greens ter mean 47.3(19) 2.0.8(5.6) 28.9(19.8) 3.02(1.6)	greens % 25.2 0 0 0.9 5.0 3.4 2.1 3.7 2.4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Others %		20.7	30.1	20.3	34.3	53.4	0.4	36.3	75.7	6.92	82.7	27.6
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14.4(18.6) 28.2(27.7) 53.2(26.5)	The second secon	14.4(18.6)	28.2(27.7)	53.2(26.5)	4.17(9.3)									

Hatch Mere



(I) LITTLE MERE

Little Mere is part of the Mere Mere SSSI and is a basin at the north end of Mere Mere that is separated from it by a permanent sluice. Recent coring suggests that it is a man-made lake formed by the damming of a stream and the flooding of a former bog in relatively recent times Only a brief account is given here as a very detailed study of it will be included in a thesis to be available in mid-1993.

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Little Mere is both small (2.5ha) and shallow (1.7m). It receives water from Mere Mere over the sluice but in the last two years there has been little or no flow in the growing season. It also received water from a small sewage treatment works situated directly on its bank until early in 1991. The effluent from this works dominated the water chemistry and, through the nutrients stored in the sediments will continue to do so for some future period.

(ii) Land use changes

The catchment of Little Mere is essentially that of Mere Mere (q.v.) but the dominance of the sewage treatment works has been so great as to make catchment influences minor at present.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Data are given for the mere for the period after the effluent was diverted by pipeline to an outlet below the mere. It has a modest alkalinity but a relatively high chloride concentration which may be related to the use of road salt on the main highways that surround it. The soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations remain very high, as does that of ammonium. Nitrate concentrations are relatively low. Because the water of Mere Mere is low in these nutrients and in any case because the inflow did not flow for much of the year in question, the source of the nutrients (other than nitrate) can be confidently ascribed to the sediments. Values have fallen since the diversion of the effluent but are still very high, particularly where ammonium is concerned.



(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Despite the huge nutrient potential for algal growth, algal crops were very small except on a single occasion in late May. The reason for this is the large population of Daphnia magna which exists in the open water and more especially at the edges of the beds of water lilies that cover large areas in the mere. Grazing is clearly very important in Little Mere and is permitted by the very low fish stocks. The fish stock has been kept low by deoxygenation due to the quality of the effluent entering the mere. The oxygen concentrations are still low but increasing and recolonisation of fish from Mere Mere is now becoming feasible. The current phytoplankters in the mere are small flagellates and green algae. Blue green algae are scarce perhaps because they are disfavoured by the relatively high free carbon dioxide concentrations arising from the richly organic bottom sediments. Again this is a situation that may change as the mere adjusts to the diversion of the effluent.

(v) Aquatic plants

The aquatic plant community is well developed in the clear water and includes extensive beds of lilies and *Polygonum* amphibium. Also present are *Potamogeton* spp. Beds of *Hydrodictyon* were abundant in 1992.

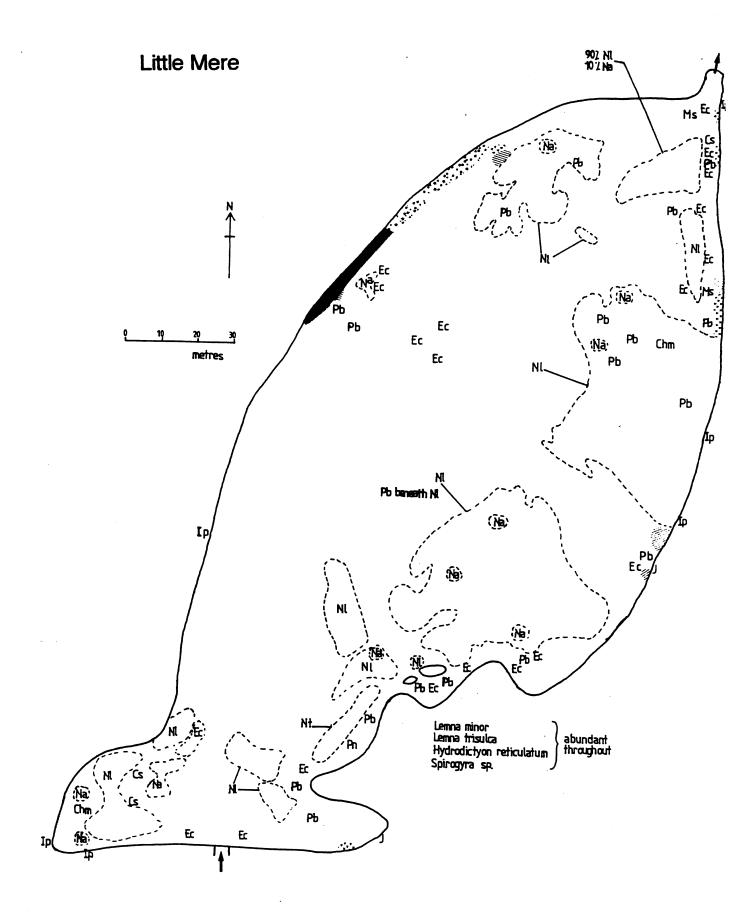
(vi) Overall assessment

Little Mere is part of a management experiment involving the diversion of sewage effluent from the Mere Mere-Rostherne Mere system. The situation in it is being continuously monitored and should reveal a considerable body of valuable information on lake recovery. No further management should therefore be applied until it has reached some sort of new stable state and the changes evaluated.

Secchi depth Total Daphnla	2.950				3	31.200	16.700	55.200	32.200	26.900	1.960	42.800	37.300	31.000	75.700	4.000	31.000	3.400	3.100	25.300	22.600	3.900	1.600		0	2.000	007:1		22.500	21.000
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A430:A410	0.900		1370	2.5	37.1	8	0.970	0.900	1.000	- 8	1.300	1.000	0.900	0.800	1.000	1.000	0.900	1.1	0.900	0.900	0.800	0.900	0.800	0.800						
A480:A663	6.200		1.330	025.	99	1.900	3.100	3.500	4.100	2.000	1.300	3.200	3.100	5.300	1.300	2.400	6.000	1.700	2.700	2.300	14.000									
Carotenoids	6.200	900	39.200	20.00	20.800	20.200	8.800	10.600	16.300	8.400	167.000	7.600	9.200	6.400	15.000	13.200	2.400	10.300	10.000	9.000	4.700	11.300	3.000	4.700						
Chlorophyll a	1.100	000	23.500	23.300	14.100	11.900	3.100	3.300	4.400	4.600	141.000	2.600	3.300	1.300	12.800	6.160	0.440	9.600	4.000	2.900	0.400	0.00	0.00	0.000	9 200	9 6	13.100	2000	11.400	28.900
Silicate Si C	0	0	2 430	2.130	2.230	1.400	1.420	1.660	2.080	1.940	2.030	3.050	2.860	1.820	2.450	2.680	2.880	3.770	3.920	4.470	3.390	3.600	2.810	1.570	2 560	200	00.0		2.560	0.800
Ammonium N	816.000	2016,000	1425,000	2234 000	2334.000	18/3.000	1932.000	2624.000	4834.000	2807.000	3433.000	2473.000	4861.000	2928.000	4123.000	1593.000	2166.000	1376.000	1245.000	1937.000	1998.000	1453.000	845.000	636.000	1275 000	2002	2796 000	1352 000	2451.000	1370.000
Nitrate N	1.430	000	0.520	0.00		0.610	0.300	0.350	0.240	0.250	0.580	0.130	0.120	0.120	0.060	0.170	0.090	0.120	0.010	0.120	0.090	0.220	0.430	0.290	0.640	0.460	0.230	0	0.340	0.330
Total P	311.000	2016 000	608.000	847 000	2000	927.000	000'//	1317.000	2143.000		2485.000	2/20.000	3459.000	1912.000	1774.000	1384.000	1464.000	1657.000	1140.000	1586.000		1112.000	851.000	٠	000 086	651 000	1686.000	773.000	1510.000	792.000
Total Sol P	280.000	795,000	556.000	798 000	2000	261,000	000.000	000.887	2231.000	200	2111 000	2117.000	3443.000	1919.000	1729.000	1280.000	1288.000	1483.000	207.000	100.000	1448.000	1307.000								
Sol React P	196.000	703.000	511.000	727.000	553 000	000.000	1176,000	000.000	2646,000	2025.000	245	2107,000	310,000	1734.000	1398.000	1196.000	1306.000	1551.000	657.000	12/7.000	1197.000	1307.000	825.000	363.000	746.000	357,000	1541.000	725.000	1360.000	/36.000
Chloride	67.300	70.100	71.000	73.500	75 000	75 500	75.500	9000	73.500	74 200	73.500	64.000	2 200	23.50	73.500	24.7	20.200	35.500	79.300	36.300	73 400	23.400	22,200	8.78	71.800	1.300	73.600	3.600	73.200	3.300
₹	7.540	7.370	7.420	7.670	7.760	7.770	7.560	7.550	7.560	0006	7.370	7 380	7 3 7 0	7.360	7 160	7 530	7 480	7 260	2000	200.7	7.240	7 350	2		7.380	0.110	7.530	0.430	7.500	0.390
Total alk	1.400	1.550	1.450	1.450	1.380	1.550	1.580	1.850	2.100	1.800	1.780	1.980	1 200	1 7 50	1 550	1 550	1.550	2250	222	1 830	086	2 130	1680		1.700	0.300	1.760	0.260	1.760	
Phenolph alk	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	000	0000	0000	0000	0.000	0.150	0.025	0.000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000		0.000		0.010	0.040	0.008	
Date	1 Jan 7 1991 2 Jan 22 1991		4 Feb 19 1991	5 Mar 5 1991	6 Mar 19 1991	7 April 2 1991	8 April 16 1991	9 April 30 1991	10 May 14 1991	11 May 27 1991	12 June 11 1991	13 June 25 1991	14 9 1991	15 Lik 22 1991	16 Aim 6 1991	17 Aim 20 1991			20 Oct 9 1991			23 Dec 3 1991		52	26 Winter mean	27 SD	28 Growth mean	08	30 Annual mean	}

Organism Jar Achnanthes Amphora Aster form							•	•	•	•		16				• • ;	
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Acnuantines Amphora Aster form	•				•		•		•	•						•	•
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	14.8 52.1	9.6 4.19	91.4 91.4	5 60 5 60	18.2 2.6	26.1	31.1	16.5	4. 4. E. E.	4 .0	00	30.2 0	10.9 1.8	26.4 0	9.0 9.0	13.4	,,,
Blue greens %			0	•	S	ı i	ı i	•									
	Diatoms	Greens	Others 57.7(29)	Blue greens 2.4(3.1)													
Ŭ	28.6(31.4)	33.1(24.7)	36.3(31)	2.3(3.7)													
60 Annual mean	21.4(28.1)	33.7(20.3)	12:101:01														

Dec 18 1991	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		D		•	٠.	•	•	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	₹ '	•	• '	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• !	701	* ;	; '	•	•	6	•	•	•	•	13	•	142	6	7/2	7.6	4.7	82.6	5.2
Dec 3 1991	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 5		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• •	•	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	12	•		3 -	2 2	·	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	12	•	151	0 9	6	7.1	3.6	89.3	0
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Sept 23 1991	•	• •	•		•	•	•	12	12	•	•	į	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	426	36	36	•	•	•		•	į	•	i	5	40.0	•	525		4.6	0 1	9 9	,
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(m) MERE MERE

Mere mere will be the subject of a detailed thesis to be available in mid-1993 and hence only a brief summary is given here.

(i) Morphometry and nutrient budget

Mere mere is 15.8 ha in area and 8.1 m in maximum depth. With the golf driving range that occupies part of its western littoral, it may lay claim to have one of the more bizarre uses of waterspace in the UK. It receives water from a small stream at the southern end and discharges over a weir to Little Mere to the north. There may also be a ground water supply.

(ii) Changes in land use

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	475 5795 148 710 131 197 4530 634	897 10943 559 2683 1006 1509 38400 5376
Total nutrient units	7336	20511
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	262 171 350 2 34	159 180 417 1 2
Total hectarage	819	759

There has thus been a major increase in stock keeping, some loss of grazing and a drift towards arable, with some loss of agricultural land to other uses.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Mere Mere has moderately hard water with a mean conductivity of 523 uS/cm and alkalinity of 1.51 mequiv/l. Its soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations are low, with the former building up a little in winter but falling in summer. Nitrate and ammonium concentrations are also very low to vanishing point in summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

The phytoplankton crops were modest, averagingonly 20.1 ug/l chlorophyll a in summer but reached occasional much higher peaks in late summer associated with blue-green algae. These may have been biased by surface aggregation although an integrated tube sample was used in the epilimnion for this lake. Numerically, small flagellates dominated the phytoplankton with other groups having moderate proportions. Daphnia was relatively scarce and probably only moderate grazing pressure was exerted.

(v) Aquatic plants

Mere mere has a well developed plant community with one of the highest diversities of submerged species in the meres and a substantial biomass.

(vi) Overall assessment

Despite its suburban setting, its banks lined with a golf course on one side and large houses on the other, Mere Mere persists in a state that has considerable conservation value. Almost certainly it has undergone some eutrophication, judging by the changes in land use but this appears not to have been serious and the nutrient concentrations are among the lowest in the mere's area. There are no immediate management measures that need be taken provided that no substantial changes occur in the bankside management of the golf course.

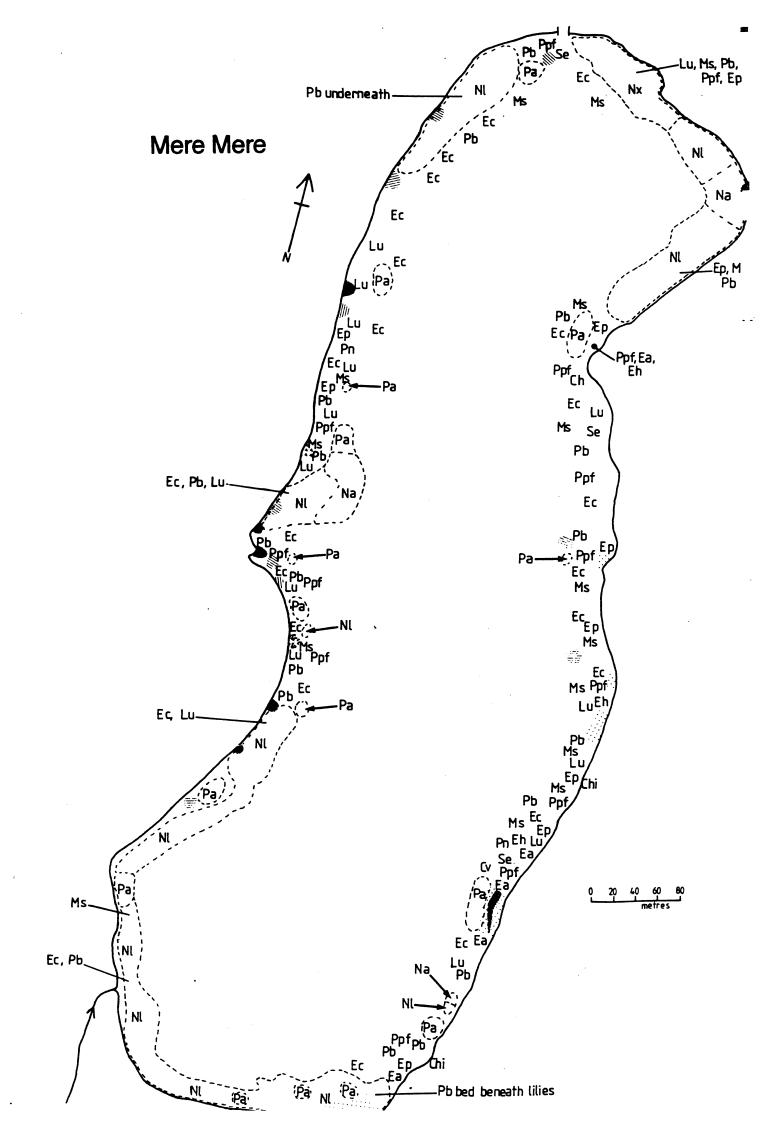
Nitrate N	1.420	1.470	1.340	0.970	0.920	0.630	0.630	0.430	0.000	0.030	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.040	0.160	0.120	0.250	0.370	0.370	1.110	1.430	1.340	2.130	1.240	1.440	1.900	2.000	1.130	1.200		89.000	0.720	0.810	0.670	0.830	0.6/0
Total P	68.000	32.000	40.000		28.000	26.000	27.000	35.000		80.000	72.000	28.000	90.000	000.06	69 .000			32.000	32.000	40.000	42.000	26.000	20.000	22.000	62.000	20.000	45.000	24.000	73.000		46.300	14.000	26.000	21.400	53.500	20.000
Tot sol P	17.000	11.000	20.000		30.000	49.000	0.000	15.000	22.000	13.000	17.000	24.000	2.000	32.000	11.000	22.000		21.000	20.000		29.000	20.000	28.000	37.000	47.000	19.000	36.000	4.000	5.000							
Sol React P	2.000	1.000	0.000	3.000	6 .000	0000	1.000	0000	2.000	0.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	000.6	00009	13.000	14.000	11.000	21.000	24.000	23.000	12.000	22.000	3.000	1.000	1.000	0.000	2.000	16.000	1	17.500	5.500	3.100	3.800	7.100	7.800
Chloride	73.500	75.500	27.600	22.600	76.300	77.600	74.000	73.500	22.600	73.500	74.200	75.000	75.500	78.300	74.200	74.700	77.500	72.000	74.700	74.500	73.800	80.000	81.600	84.000	78.100	73.300	72.000	74.000	68.000	1	76.100	3.300	75.400	3.000	75.600	3.000
₹	7.730	7.540	7.790	7.800	7.700	7.730	7.789	8.010	8.870	9.120	8.390	8.150	7.730	7.710	7.720	7.320	7.730	7.660	7.780	7.580	7.480	7.040	7.540	7.810	8.130	7.820	7.800	7.770	7.810		7.520	0.240	7.950	0.400	7.830	0.410
Total Alk	1.300	1.200	1.200	1.550	1.280	1.650	1.300	1.400	1.430	1.380	1.300	1.550			1.750	1.650	2.000	1.700	1.700	1.450	1.430	1.400	1.900	1.260	1.300	1.250	2.200	1.800			1.650	0.220	1.450	0.260	1.510	0.260
Phenolph alk	0.000	0000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.250	0.230	0.000	0.000	0000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0000	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.040	060.0	0.030	0.080	
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Date (April 2 1991	April 6 1991	April 30 1991	May 14 1991	May 27 1991	June 11 1991	-	•		Aug 6 1991	Aug 20 1991	Sept 9 1991	Sept 23 1991	Oct 10 1991	Oct 22 1991		Nov 19 1991	Dec 3 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 9 1992	Jan 21 1992			Mar 3 1992	Mar 18 1992	_	April 14 1992	April 28 1992	121		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	S	Annual mean	SD
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Mere
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Daphnia	1.900	0.400			8.000	10.800	28.100	46.400	7.100	6.300	10.300	8.700	2.500	006.9	4.200	13.500	2.600	2.100	0.100	4.100	0.030	0.100	1.400	0.900	5.400	1.300					3.600	4.800	9.300	11.900	7.400	10.700	
Secchi depth	1.450	1.900	2.000	3.150	3.100	2.250	2.500	2.050	1.000	0.700	1.000	1.430	0.930	1.600	1.900	1.950	2.450	3.750		2.300			2.600	2.050		1.800	1.630	2.500	2.410								
A430:A410	1.220	1.230	1.160	0.800	1.030	1.130	1.200	1.160	1.290	1.300	1.190	1.250	1.200	1.100	1.160	1.000	1.200	0.900	0.800	0.900	0.800	0.900	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.110	1.120	1.100	0.800								
A480:A663	1.330	1.500	1.900	8.000	1.800	1.700	1.800	1.600	1.500	1.600	1.500	1.600	1.200	1.800	1.500	2.000		1.900	14.000	3.700	7.000	2.000	2.300	1.500	1.700	1.100	1.700	1.500	3.000								
Carotenoids	33.200	18.600	18.700	3.200	13.600	18.800	21.800	23.800	84.800	105.600	37.200	34.300	45.300	30.000	27.700	23.300	6 .000	10.000	4.700	3.700	2.300	4.000	7.700	19.300	13.700	2.660	15.000	4.000	17.600								
Chlorophyll a	27.500	14.100	10.600	0.400	8.100	12.300	13.200	16.100	62.300	74.800	28.200	23.700	42.900	18.300	20.900	12.800	0.000	5.900	0.370	1.100	0.400	2.200	3.700	13.900	8.800	7.700	9.530	2.900	6.400		3.300	4.300	20.100	18.900	15.500	17.800	
Silicate Si	0.620	0.370	0.460	0.410	0.590	0.500	0.600	0.670	0.800	0.470	0.920	0.260	0.480	066'0	0000	0.040	0.620	0.810	0.510	1.030	1.340	1.390	1.710	1.460	1.220	1.060	1.040	0.790	0.600		0.930	0.540	0.680	0.340	0.750	0.410	
Ammonium N	0.000	0.000	3.000	62.000	72.000	27.000	0.000	12.000	0.000	14.000	73.000	20.000	16.000	232.000	173.000	142.000	179.000	157.000	167.000	230.000	169.000	163.000	218.000	4.000	0.000	51.000	18.000	6 .000	5.000		178.000	30.000	37.500	61.000	26.3 00	83.000	
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Synedra ulna	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	34		•	•	? •		٠	
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Annual mean	24.6(21)	10.5(8.3)	51.9(20.4)	13(61)													

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(n) OAKMERE

Oakmere will be the subject of a detailed thesis study which will be available in mid 1993. Only a brief treatment is therefore given here.

(i) Morphology and water budget

Oakmere is 18.3 ha in area and up to 5.6 m deep in normal years. In the last two years its level has been steadily falling as a result probably of reduced rainfall in the area and it is now more than 1m shallower. It lies in a sandy basin with peat underlying part of its northwestern end and appears to be entirely supplied by ground water. Its retention time is unknown but probably of the order of several months to several years.

(ii) Changes in land usage

Oakmere's probable catchment lies in Oakmere Parish for which the land use changes have been:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	623 7601 119 571 96 144 4717 660	462 5636 3452 16570 72 108 168 24
Total nutrient units	8976	22338
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing (ha)	342 216 230 1 17	192 63 215 4 9

The changes in this parish have thus been rather different from those in other mere parishes in that cattle numbers have declined at the expense of those of pigs, and that there has not been such extensive conversion to arable. Much land has been lost to non agricultural uses which are dominated by gravel and sand extraction.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Oakmere has very soft water of low conductivity and alkalinity. It also has a low pH (mean 5.14) and thus is unusual among the generally very alkaline meres. Soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations are also low though higher than might be expected from a lake of comparable conductivity and alkalinity in an upland catchment. Inorganic nitrogen is also scarce and both nitrogen and phosphorus may be limiting to algal growth in summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Algal crops were low (mean of 8.4 ug/l chlorophyll a in the growing season and this may partly be ascribed to nutrient limitation. The algal community was dominated by green algae with all other groups scarce or in the case of blue-green algae, negligible. Grazing may also have been an important determinant of the algal crops for in some years *Daphnia* is abundant and in others *Diaphanosoma*.

(v) Aquatic plants

The aquatic plant community is sparse as might be expected in a lake of low fertility with a largely sandy substratum but extensive stands of *Littorella uniflora* grow in the littoral zone.

(vi)Overall assessment

Oakmere does not appear to be suffering from serious eutrophication. The catchment changes, as elsewhere in the area, have undoubtedly increased the nutrient loads to some extent this century, but there are no immediate practicable steps that can be taken to reduce them. The water level is a cause for concern as it is not certain that the present fall in level is solely linked with weather fluctuations. The fall appears to have been greater than for other meres but this may simply reflect the more permeable basin substrates at Oakmere. It has been suggested that nearby sand extraction may have been responsible but in a ground water fed basin this is unlikely. Sand extraction may expose the water table

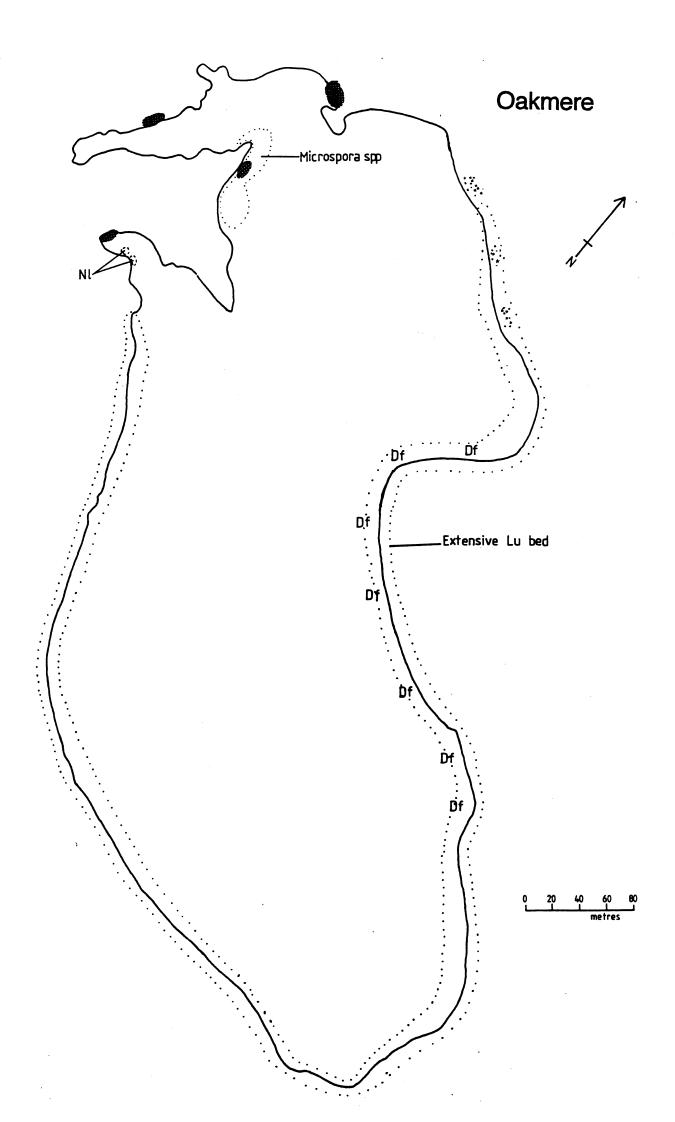
	පි	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	¥	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Total P	Nitrate N
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- 1991	•		0.000	0.010	5.210	22.000	0.000	0.000	37.000	0.020
- 1991	•	J	0.000	0:030	4.960	24.500	0.000	12.000	000.99	0.010
1991	•	•	0.000	0.030	4.980	22.400	8.000	21.000	48.000	0.010
1991	•	•	0.000	0.020	4.930	20.400	13.000	32.000	20.000	0.000
1991	•		0.000	0.020	4.930	23.400	1.000	12.000	22.000	0.100
- 166	•	•	0.000	0.020	4.880	25.000	2.000	18.000	48.000	0.090
	•	•	0.000	0.060	5.110	24.500	4.000	10.000	52.000	0.000
1991	1		0.000	0.040	5.120	26.100	2.000	10.000	32.000	0.040
- 1991	•	J	0.000	0.040	5.020	26.100	8.000	22.000	40.000	0.060
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1992 187	187		0.000	0.040	5.140	23.500	10.000	21.000	77.000	0.280
1992	•		0.000	0.020	4.920	21.400	18.000	29.000	93.000	0.240
- 2661	•		0.000	0000	4.730	24.000	000.9	34.000	87.000	0.250
1992	•		0.000	0000	4.880	23.300	22.000	45.000	24.000	0.250
- 1992	•		0.000	0000	2.000	20.000	3.000	12.000	82.000	0.180
8 1992	1		0.000	0.040	4.910	18.700	18	46.000	62.000	0.210
1992 178	178		0.000	0.010	4.580	21.800	2.000	21.000	47.000	0.160
Winter mean 191	191		0.000	0.018	5.040	23.100	,		73.400	0.200
SD 6		,	0.000	0.017	0.260	1.600			18.000	0.070
Growth mean 178		~ ~	0.000	0.032	5.180	23.200			26.000	0.080
OS			0.000	0.019	0.330	2.200			15.000	0.080
Annual mean 187			0.000	0.028	5.140	23.200			61.000	0.170
6 QS		•	0.000	0.020	0.320	2.000	7.700		17.000	060'0

Daphnia/Dphs	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.100	0000	141.000	31.400	83.400	17.700	16.600	24.200	4.300	0.800	0.000	0000	0000	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0000		0.025	0.000	16.800	36.200	11.800	31.100
Secchi depth	1.050	0.950	0.840	0.750	1.400	2.250	1.350	2.000	1.700	3.500	3.400	1.860	3.000	1.750	1.450	1.550	1.000	1.000	1.500		1.400		1.900		1.400	1.000	1.000							
A430:A410	1.090	1.080	1.100	1.050	0.900	1.090	0.950	1.000	0.900	1.000	0.900	1.000	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	0.700	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	1.000	1.000	1.100	1.100							
A480:A663	1.290	1.390	1.800	2.100	0.800	1.390	1.700	3.200	2.100	2.600	2.200	2.300	2.100	1.500	1.800	1.900	2.200	17.000	2.000	1.800	1.700	1.600	1.500	2.000	1.800	1.100	1.000							
Carotenoids	19.300	15.000	16.400	12.300	4.800	15.000	13.000	10.200	6.400	000.6	5.200	14.400	2.600	23.000	13.000	19.300	14.000	5.700	9.300	15.300	11.700	8.300	5.300	3.300	13.000	16.700	000.6							
Chlorophyll a	15.400	11.900	006.6	009.9	2.000	11.900	8.400	3.500	3.300	3.700	2.600	7.040	4.000	10.100	8.100	11.400	2.000	0.400	5.100	9.200	7.700	2.900	4.000	1.800	8.100	16.500	006.6		5.100	3.000	8.400	4.000	7.400	4.000
Silicate Si	0.130	0.400	0.340	0.540	0.220	0.230	0.080	0.060	0.240	0.370	0.210	0.340	0.470	0.480	0.980	0.060	1.120	0.800	0.760	0.770	0.460	0.830	0.730	0.730	0.590	0.550	0.560		0.780	0.180	0.360	0.230	0.480	0.290
Ammonium N	15.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	19.000	0.000	136.000	101.000	131.000	64 .000	17.000	32.000	28.000	93.000	154.000	177.000	151.000	108.000	128.000	141.000	117.000	1.000	8.000	8.000		134.000	27.000	30.000	42.000	60 .000	63.000
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Navicula		•	•			•	•				2	•			•	•	•		
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Total diatoms	•	25			2066	7037	17826						5756	21580	5817				
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Total blue grns	0	•		0	0	0	J						0	0	7763				
30 TOTAL	0	22	202		9902	7037	17960						1080	09612	9	•			
i	•	•		5	c	c		•			3.9	0	0	0	•				
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Greens 78	•					0	0.7				8.	0	8 .0	0	s.0				
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36 37 38 Winter mean%	Diatoms 1.04(1.4)	Greens 86.9(12.4)			Blue greens 0.15(0.4)														
39 Growth mean%	6.1(24.2)	82.9(33) 84 2/27 R)) 5.06(10.8) 7.2(11.2)		0 05(0 24)														
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•		•	•	•	•	•	345	153	<u>.</u>				•	•	٠.	139	•	•	0	498	139	0	637	0	78.2	21.8	0
	•	•	•	•	S	s	2	248	047	•	•					137	•	s	0	258	137	s	410	2.4	65.9	33.4	7.
•	•	•	•		•	12	•	266	997			•		•	•	41	2	•	12	992	49	0	327	3.7	81.3	15	0
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but not lower it unless there is vigorous pumping of water to a watercourse that removes the water well away from the area. The local operation does not appear to do this but the situation should be further investigated.

(o) OSS MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Oss mere is 9.5 ha in area and has a maximum depth of about 3m. It has no apparent surface inflows and is presumed to be fed entirely by ground water. No estimate of its retention time can yet be made.

(ii) Changes in land use

Potentially the catchment area of the mere lies within the parishes of Whitchurch, Marbury cum Quoisley, Dodcott cum Wilkesley and Wirswall. Changes in these parishes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	10390 126758 5694 27331 7314 10971 70441 9862	15657 191015 6635 31848 4853 7280 117041 16386
Total nutrient units	174922	246529
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	7006 639 702 6 36	4297 1953 1536 49 149
Total hectarage	8389	7984

There has thus been a marked increase in cattle keeping, a loss of permanent grassland to temporary grassland and arable and some loss of agricultural land overall.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Oss Mere has water of moderately high conductivity and alkalinity, high soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations and very low inorganic nitrogen concentrations. It appears that these reflect the nature of the surrounding drift for there are no obvious sources of nutrients other than this and catchments that have experienced similar agricultural changes elsewhere in the area have much lower phosphorus concentrations.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

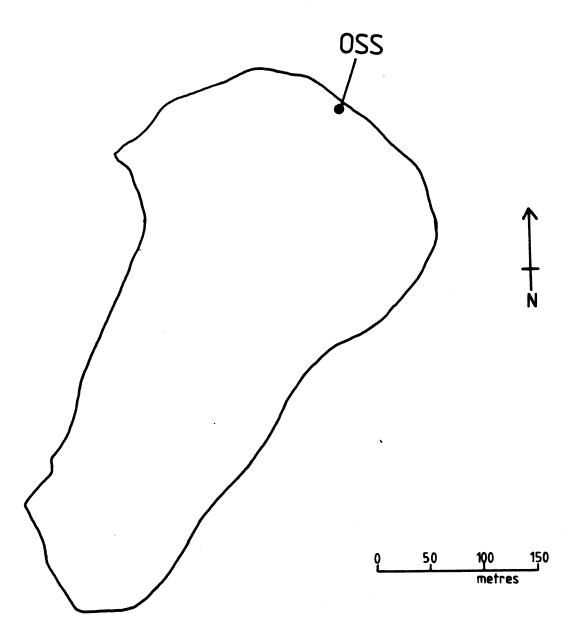
Oss Mere had moderate phytoplankton crops (growing season mean 31.7 ug/l chlorophyll a) which had a relatively strong representation of blue-green algae, though green algae and diatoms were more numerous. The populations of *Daphnia* were relatively high, reaching 305/l on one occasion so it is surprising that the chlorophyll a concentrations were as high as they were. Partly it was because chlorophyll values were high in winter when *Daphnia* was scarce and it is also possible that some of the summer values were biased high by blue-green algal aggregation towards the water surface. The bloom forming *Microcystis* aeruginosa was a common member of the plankton.

(v) Aquatic plants

The aquatic plant community of Oss Mere was sparse in species and low in biomass. No species was more plentiful than 'rare'. The shape of the basin and the open, exposed situation may preclude against colonisation. The trophic score has varied from 7.9 in 1979 and 1991 to 8.6 in 1987. The DAFOR score was 5 in 1979, 1 in 1987 and is 2 at present. It is likely that this fluctuation arises from differences between observers rather than swings in biomass.

(vi) Overall assessment

Though there are some peculiar features that may have been too simply rationalised (the chlorophyll/*Daphnia* paradox and the scarcity of aquatic plants) it appears on balance that Oss Mere is in a reasonably natural state and is not being significantly affected by inputs of nutrients from anthropogenic sources. There are thus no measures that need be taken to manage it at present.



Total P	298	437	465	530	416	226	141	144	115	167	111	68	356	344	C	232	671	321	189	296	1/4
Partic P	150.0	180.0	136.0	0.0	115.9	84.0	0.89	87.0	80.0	139.0	47.0	14.0	12.0	0.09							
Tot Sol P	448.0	257.0	329.0	530.0	300.0	143.0	73.0	57.0	35.5	28.0	64.0	75.0	344.0	285.0							
Sol React P	377.0	201.0	312.0	513.0	300.0	143.0	56.0	28.0	7.1	3.0	24.0	23.0	281.0	253.0		132.0	122.0	199.0	179.0	180.0	164.0
Chloride	40.8	42.6	46.8	41.2	38.4	40.0	40.0	40.0	39.2	40.0	37.3	40.0	39.2	39.5		39.6	0.8	40.6	2.6	40.3	2.2
五	8.72	9.33	08:0	9.50 7.10	8.16	8.03	8.64	8.39	8.23	8.38	8.08	8.31	8.19	60.6		8.31	0.27	8.58	0.50	8.50	0.45
Total Alk	3.25	330)))	2 50	2.55	3.30	3.05	2,50	2.80	2.70	3.05	3.25	3.35			2.75	0.52	3.15	0.28	3.02	0.40
Phenolph Alk	0.75	1 10)	0.35	0.25	0.30	0.25	0.35	0.20	0.35	0.45	0.25	0.15	09.0	٠	0.29	0.05	0.47	0.31	0.41	0.27
Conductivity	478	467	484	125	496	200	490	497	497	490	491	492	497	479		496	4	490	15	491	13
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Aug 20 1331	Sept 18 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 4 1991					April 15 1992			June 22 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
	-	- ر	u (n 4	ֆ ո	n () N	. α	σ	, 5				4		16	17	18	19	20	21

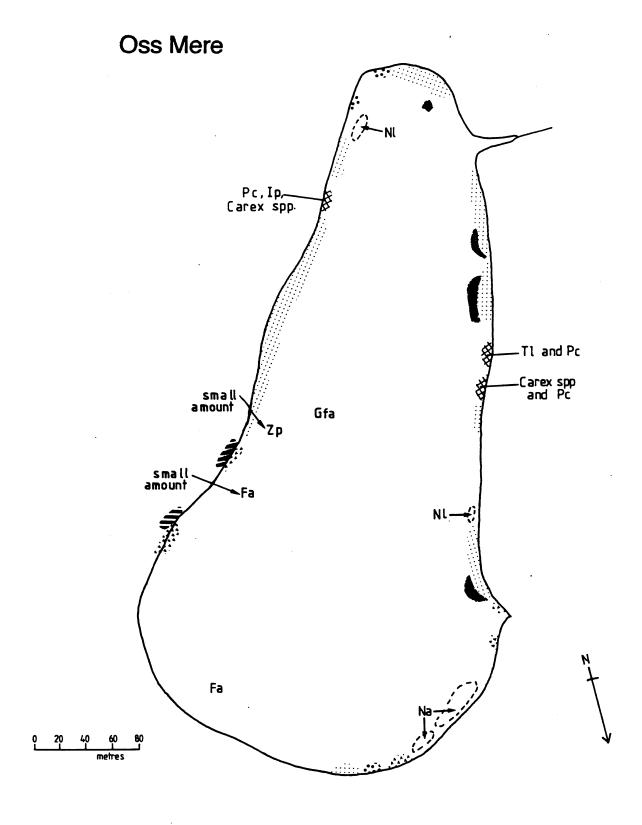
Total Daphnia	0.53	32.00	6.75	1.38	0.18	0.18	2.52	2.28	104.30	1.02	305,00	91.30	23.00	15.20		1.29	1.29	58.00	94.50	41.80	83.00
Secchi	0.55	0.45	0.50	^	^	٨	0.85	0.85	0.75	9.0	٨	٨		7.5	!						
430:410	1.27	1.28	1.33	0.97	1.20	1.20	1.16	1.13	1.13	1.11	1.10	1.24	0.64	1.24							
480:663	1.96	1.81	1.74	3.60	1.17	1.24	1.24	1.49	1.13	1.17	8.44	1.12	1.90	1.54							
Carotenoid	71.3	152.0	118.0	0.9	46.0	31.3	80.7	53.7	30.0	36.7	45.0	28.0	12.7	27.7							
Chlorophyll	36.7	84.8	0.69	1.7	39.7	27.9	71.5	39.6	29.3	34.5	5.9	27.5	7.3	19.8		44.7	19.0	31.7	27.0	35.4	25.0
Silicate Si	2.54	2.26	4.39		5.07	3.20	2.60	1.43	1.52	0.89	1.01	1.73	5.66	3.04		3.08	1.52	2.23	1.10	2.49	1.24
Ammonium N	36	12	40	388	-	168	64	36	34	131	150	0	781	0		29	72	157	249	132	214
Nitrate N A	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.08	0.05	0.14	0.03	0.13	0.25	0.34	0.00	0.08	0.12		0.08	0.05	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.10
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12 Total others	121	241	29	290	1186	362	28.5	200	3 5		238	11061	280	1556
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_	1.	3.4	5.1	.	38.5	61.2	1.1	0.99	44.9	29.2	6	•	•	•
18 Others &	42.6	6.03	9.7	54.1	39.2	20.6	10.8	30.6	44.9	4.0	24.8	9	e. c.	77
ě	9 6	-	<u>.</u>	33.1	9.61	*	78.1	0.38	0.79	3.5	70.3	- C	6.53	2 .
S Brind grass &	22.5	.	.	2.7	2.7	6 9	•	3.0	9.5	57.9	1.8	0	12.0	4.04 4.0
21	Distorna	Greens	Spera	Rive greene								•	i	7.0
22 Winter mean %	•	25.3(12)	26.6(35.2)	3.9(4.2)										
23 Growth mean%	•	43.1(300	22.7(27.9)	24.3(32)										
24 Annual mean %	_	38(27)	23.8(28.8)	18.5(28.2)										



(p) PETTY POOL

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Petty Pool is small (11.7 ha) and shallow (3.1 ha). It receives water from a main inflow stream (PPI) draining agricultural land to its west and a smaller inflow (PPWI) draining woodland and a golf course to the east. The distinct outflow to the south carried 1.13 million cubic metres of water in the year in question but the combined inflows could account for only about half of this, 0.5 million cubic metres. The errors in spot gauging can be considerable and the data may in fact reflect a reasonable balance. However there is clearly a possibility that ground water may also contribute significantly. The flushing rate was 6.2,9.2 and 4.5 per year on annual, winter and growth season bases, with corresponding retention times of 8.4, 5.6 and 11.5 weeks respectively. These calculations are based on the outflow volumes.

(ii) Changes in land use

The catchment of the pool is quite large and lies in the parishes of Cuddington, Weaverham, Hartford and Davenham for which the land use changes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	1548 18731 198 950 344 516 9993 1399	2234 27031 333 1598 859 1289 321 45
Total nutrient units	21596	29963
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	1262 384 468 13 20	742 353 647 45 34

There has thus been the common pattern in the area of some increase in stockkeeping, particularly of cattle, a loss of permanent grass to to arable and some loss of land to non agricultural uses.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

The conductivity of Petty Pool falls ,at 465us/cm, between those of the two inflow streams (500 and 306 uS/cm). The alkalinity, however is greater (2.35 mequiv/l) than either (0.83 and 1.68 mequiv/l). This suggests that the balance of the water budget is made up of ground water, as ground water ,through its longer contact with soil, tends to have high major ion concentrations. A similar pattern is found with chloride concentrations.

The nutrient concentrations in the main inflow, which is perhaps the closest in major ion composition to the ground water source, are very high and likely to be so because of farm contamination. The ground water nutrient concentrations cannot thus easily be predicted. Soluble reactive phosphorus concentrations in the main inflow averaged 737 ug/l, the total phosphorus was over 1mg/l, and the ammonium concentrations were extremely high as were nitrate levels. This combination undoubtedly points to a major excretal source of N and P on the stream. Total loads of 4616kg N and 405kg P were calculated for this stream. In contrast, the woodland inflow draining the golf course had rather low phosphorus concentrations and modest nitrate concentrations reflecting a degree of fertilisation but not a serious problem. Much of the nitrogen was denitrified in the littoral zone of the pool for nitrogen in summer fell to very low values whilst phosphorus was high.

The export of phosphorus from the outflow was 304 kg/yr which can easily be accounted for by the inputs from the streams. An estimate cannot thus be made of the ground water phosphorus concentration without an estimate of how much phosphorus is retained within the sediment at the bottom of the lake.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Phytoplankton crops in the pool were relatively high with autumn peaks of up to 157 ug/l chlorophyll a and an annual mean of 60.5 ug/l. Green algae and diatoms were prominent but blue green algae were not major components of the community. The major chlorophyll peaks were derived from autumnal diatom populations. Apart from an early summer population, *Daphnia* was scarce and

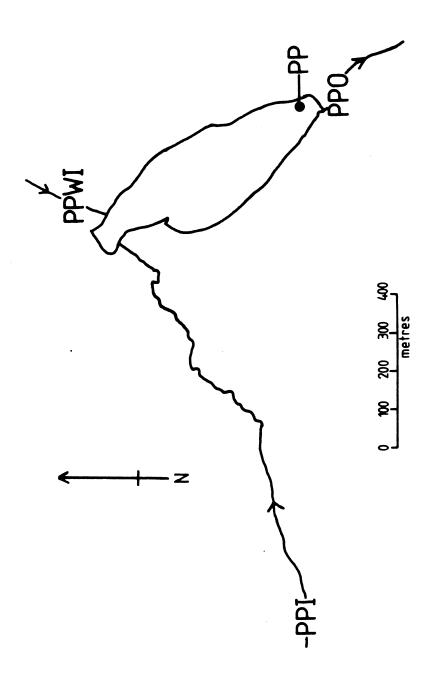
grazing pressure is unlikely to be a major determinant of the algal crops.

(v) Aquatic plants

Submerged plants were very scarce in Petty Pool with only rare occurrence of *Elodea canadensis*. White water lilies and the floating *Polygonum amphibium* were locally abundant but the overall situation seems to reflect the poor light climate resultant from the large algal crops and relatively turbid water at most times of year.

(vi) Overall assessment

Although the pool may recieve substantial quantities of ground water of probably high quality, it seems very likely that the highly polluted main surface inflow is reducing the potentiality of the pool to support aquatic plants and hence its conservation value. Investigation and eventual removal of the farm nutrient sources to this stream would be highly desirable and should give some improvement. Alternatively, since the phytoplankton is a highly edible one, biomanipulation by removal of zooplanktivorous fish would also clarify the water on at least a short term basis. It would not be a permanent solution, however, because the phosphorus concentrations at present are well above the values at which a stable aquatic plant community can be expected to be maintained (50-150 ug/l total P).



kg P/week kg P/year 0.160 0.005 0.000 0.150 0.150 0.090 0.070 0.060 0.070

3.7.

								2	Petty Pool Woodiand Inti PPW	IMAH IJUI DU							
Dete		Conductivity	Conductivity Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	£	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	kg N/week	kg N/year	ž
1 Jul 31	1991	240	0	1.44	7.09	24.5	S	;	;	;				0000	200		
A.m. 21	1001	286	•	220			36	ç	5	98	1.53	5/3	3.26	0.0030	3.38		
			•		97.	30.0	\$	22	6	5	2.08	157	4.53	0000	0.140		
		067	-	660	7.82	23.4	35			4	1.78	2	4.60	0.0015	1.680		
0ct 16	1991	• ;	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	00000	0000		
200	1991	240	•	6.0	6.73	28.0	19	5	3	23	890	74	9 55	0.0040	1.820		
6 Nov 27 1991	1661	300	0	6.0	6.84	33.3	23	30	2	9	1.33	364	4.87	0.0050	5.120		
7 Jan 8	1992	379	0	6 0	6.75	26.0	S	9	6		2.14	185	999	0.0020	2.810		
8 Jan 29	1992	219	•	6.0	7.68	31.5	38	6 00		88	1.79	197	5.35	0.0007	0.840		
9 Feb 26	1992	359	•	•	98.9	•	35	55	37	2	1 49	176	5.73	0.0020	2.020		
Mer 17	1992	284	0	8 .0	6.9	34.9	45	67	•	. 5	1 49	134	6.26	0.0020	1.960		
1 April 8	1992	267		6.0	6.71	31.0	33	5	. c	3 5	2 3.5	6	2.48	0.0020	2.950		
2 May 6	1992	280	•	0.95	7.19	32.0	30	, C	•	; \$	9		-	0.0020	2.020		
3 May 27	1992	249	•	0.95	20.0	28.0	37	3.	2 5	9	21.0	2	4.72	0 0000	2.750		
4 June 17	1992	226	0	6.0	7.39	28.3	3 6	36	90	3 8	1.74	29	5.11	0.0008	0.870	105.000	
S Winter	E C	378	0	0.88	80	37.2	r.			;	•		:	0000			
2 80	S	142	•	0.08	0	3.5	S -			- -	8 · ·	8 2	, c	0.0030			
8 Growth		260	•	0.81	7.18	50	2			2 5	5.5	2 2	2	0.000			
•	S	22	0	0.16	0.33	*	?			8 =	2.0	2 2	9	0000			
0 Amnual	E .	306	0	0.83	7.1	31.7	36			2 5	121	152	5.25	0.0020			
_	S	103	0	0.13	0.36	9 .3	9			16	0.44	6	0.93	0.0010			

	25	3.63	4.37	1.91	0.57	1.27	0.41	2.18	2.29	2.47	90	1.89	0.32	1.52	7.	1.72	0.87	1.92	1.33	1.85	1.15	
	Silicate																					
	Ammonium N	267	229	11	195	123	87	169	69	173	173	132	4	197	99	124	47	154	77	143	67	
	Nitrate N	0.17	000	000	0.22	0.36	0.46	1.02	1.42	1.28	1.30	1.56	0.44	0.34	0.07	16.0	0.48	0.46	0.58	0.62	0.57	
	Total P	492	531	735	301	296	158	129	62	115	116	121	136	253	366	145	97	339	214	270	201	
	Partic P	69	116		•	115	Ξ	43	0	46	7	8	37	42	•							
	Tot Sol P	423	415		301	181	4	87	62	2	45	2	66	211	366							
	Sol React P	416.0	347.0	4.22	241.0	142.0	16.0	63.0	29.0	16.0	15.0	13.0	2.3	169.0	284.0	53.0	53.0	171.0	158.0	129.0	140.0	
	Chloride	55.1	55.3	46.9	18.9	45.0	47.1	25.0	48.2	•	57.2	50.5	20.0	48.0	46.5	47.3	4	51.2	4	49.9	4.4	
	Ŧ	7.60	7.89	7.87	7.87	7.97	8.97	7.82	8.15	8.53	8.75	8.44	80.6	8.65	9.53	8.29	0.46	8.4	0.65	8.37	0.57	
•	Total Alk	2.36	2.60	2.80	2.90	2.20	2.50	2.00	2.25	•	2.05	2.1	2.25	2.4	2.65	2.24	0.21	2.46	0.3	2.40	0.29	
	Phenolph Alk	00.0	0.00	0.0	0.20	0.10	0.20	0.0	0.05	•	0.25	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.09	0.23	0.25	0.19	0.22	
	Conductivity	488	482	490	465	448	429	469	472	492	478	462	446	461	432	462	24	467	2	465	12	
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Aug 21 1991
Sept 11 1991
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Nov 27 1991
Jan 8 1992
Jan 26 1992
Feb 26 1992
Feb 26 1992
Mar 17 1992
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Nay 6 1992

Discharge
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0.047
0.043
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0.065
0.043
0.027
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0.036

Total Daphnia	97.200	0.110	0.470	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.060	10.490	0.640	0.560	1.150	0	0.000	0.000	12.200	32.000	7.900	25.800
	٨	^	٨	٨	٨	^	٨	٨	٨	^	^	0.6	^	٨							
Secchi																					
430:410	1.12	1.05	1.19	1.30	1.28	1.28	1.13	1.05	1.20	1.22	1.16	1.16	1.08	1.22							
480:663	1.14	1.38	1.03	1.16	1.18	1.22	1.51	1.80	1.17	1.21	6.61	1.24	1.41	1.70							
Carotenoids	33.0	22.0	115.0	89.7	123.0	173.0	46.7	0.6	74.0	75.3	61.7	2.69	13.7	2.96							
Chlorophyll	31.9	16.2	113.0	78.1	106.0	157.0	34.1	5.5	69.7	68.6	10.3	61.6	10.6	84.3						60.5	
Silicate Si	3.26	4.84	1.97	0.73	1.41	0.50	1.94	2.44	2.50	1.70	1.90	0.18	1.37	1.10		1.76	0.83	1.89	1.40	1.85	1.20
Ammonium N	145	68	69	104	24	85	114	48	118	16	0	54	30	45		78	41	61	46	29	43
Nitrate N	600		20.0	0.16	0.40	0.38	1.21	1.54	1.24	1.17	1.32	0.36	0.32	00.0		0.95	0.53	0.38	0.51	0.58	0.58
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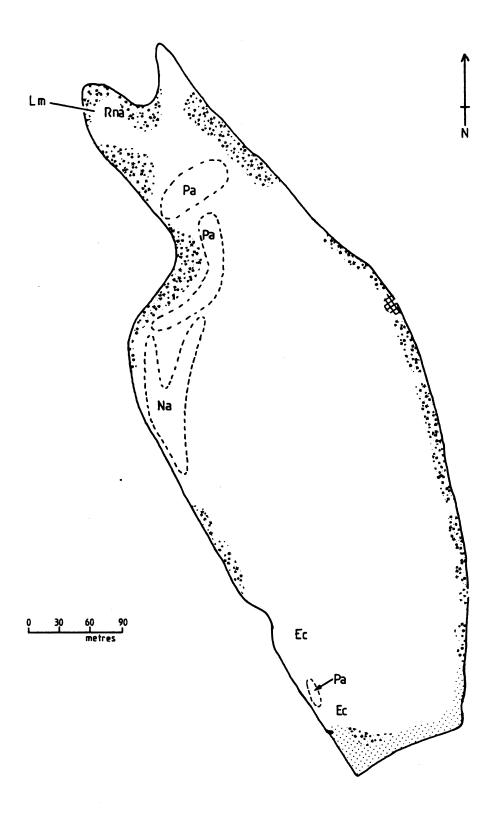
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Tot Sol P	414	412	1		320	179	46	72	46	14	25	23	ດ	144	356							
Sol React P	363	240	2 1	28	208	134	20	52	35	4	ß	2	0	111	292	•	20	51	150	147	114	***
Chloride	49.0	76.0	40.0	46.9	22.6	58.0	49.0	54.0	46.3	•	54.0	54.4	52.0	48.0	46.5		51.8	S	49.7	3.3	50.4	
돐	7 56	10.1	+0.7	8.34	8.15	8.08	9.03	7.74	8.16	8.52	8.76	8.43	9.15	8.89	99.6		8.31	0.49	8.51	0.69	8.44	
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Petty Pool



(q) QUOISLEY MERES

(i) Morphometry and water budget

The two Quoisley Meres lie at the bottom of a prominent basin whose aesthetic is marred by prominent aerial electricity wires. Neither is very large- the Big Mere to the west is 4ha in area and has a maximum depth of 2.4m, whilst the Little Mere has an area of 2.2ha and a maximum depth of 1.8m. The two are connected through two drains running east-west to the south and north of the pair and there is probably a two way flow along these drains dependent on local conditions following rain. The net flow however is from two streams that drain into the south of the Little Mere and then from Little Mere to the Big Mere. An additional field drain is piped into the Big Mere and could be sampled by removal of a fibreglass lid that covered it. Two small surface drains may flow into the Big Mere but did not carry water during the period of this study. Run off water undoubtedly also enters the meres from the sides of the large bowl that contains them. Estimates of the flushing rate of the system as a whole from the stream and drain flows are thus underestimates and of retention time, overestimates. However the calculated flushing rates were 3.7, 4.5 and 2.9 per yearon annual, winter and growth season bases with respective retention times of 14,12, and 18 weeks.

(ii) Changes in land use

The catchment area of the meres includes parts of the parishes of Marbury cum Quoisley, Wirswall and Norbury for which land use changes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head)	2209 26950 1106 5309 1070 1605 12017	4322 52728 4234 20323 562 843 94387
nutrient units	1682	13214

Total nutrient units	35546	87108
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	1043 123 162 2 3	1018 483 219 9 29
Total hectarage	1333	1758

There has thus been a major increase in animal keeping, and an acquisition of land through boundary changes.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Conductivities and alkalinities in the area are high and values in the meres themselves are consonant with a simple mixing of the drain and inflows of slightly differing ionic strengths. The piped drain carrying water from the hillside fields to the south has the greatest strength but the streams are not much more dilute. The Big Mere has lower concentrations than the Little, which may mean that it recieves more direct rainfall run-off. Its slightly higher chloride concentration may also result from this. The two inflows entering the Little Mere have moderately high soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations with QOI1 being the richer of the two. It is also the richer in nitrate and concentrations are high (up to 14.9 mgN/I). The piped drain also has high phosphorus concentrations and very high nitrate levels. Ammonium concentrations are low and these waters have the characteristics of those that come from fertile pastures.

The Little Mere and the Big Mere, particularly the latter, have total phosphorus concentrations that are greater by far than any of the inflows and this must mean that release from the sediments is important in these shallow lakes. Nitrate concentrations in the Little Mere were lower than in the inflows but greater than in the Big Mere. This is consistent with the flow pattern and the progressive loss of nitrogen by uptake and denitrification as water passes through the system. Ammonium concentrations in the lakes are higher than those in the inflows and this also is consistent with release from the sediments.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Chlorophyll a concentrations were low in both meres with the Little Mere having some higher winter values. Blue green algae were not prominent and the only significant chlorophyll peaks came from cryptomonad flagellates. *Daphnia* were plentiful in both lakes and

grazing is likely to have been an important determinant of the size of the algal crops.

(v) Aquatic plants

Nuphar lutea almost completely covers the Little Mere in summer to the exclusion of other species. The Big mere has less extensive coverage of lilies but **Nymphaea alba** is additionally present and **Elodea canadensis** is locally abundant. The trophic score for the Big Mere has remained at 7.5/7.6 since 1979 and the DAFOR score has increased to 3 from 0 in 1979 and 1987.

(vi) Overall assessment

The catchment changes, as elsewhere in the mere's area, must have imposed a degree of eutrophication on the system but the nutrient sources are diffuse and not easily controllable. The Little Mere has such extensive lily beds that it is not surprising that it has no other plants. The daphnids may be abundant because fish are scarce but equally the lily beds provide an extensive refuge that could allow fish stocks and daphnids to coexist. The Big Mere also has large numbers of daphnids but fewer refuges and here a low fish stock is a feasible explanation. In such isolated meres it is quite likely that the fish stock may have been depleted or lost by past fish kills under winter ice or in very hot summers, for example. No nutrient control measures are here feasible but it is desirable that no fish stocking takes place until the current state of the fish community has been fully determined.

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kg N/week	3.200	3.360	0000	7.260	6.200		20.700	27.200	27.300	7.500	23.900	10.000	15.900	12.900						
Discharge	0.001	000	0000	0.005	0.0035	0.005	0.00	0.005	0.005	0.00	0.00	0.005	0.00	0.003	2000	0.0014	0.003	0.0027	0.00	0.003
Sificate Si	4.28	3.02	•		5.62	16.4	4.82	3.95	4.12	3.83	3.85	4.03	4.31	4.81	4 83	0.68	4 03	0.51	4.3	0.67
Ammonium N	258	=======================================	•	39	9	169	45	46.8	64	88	4	±	0	\$	37	2 2	2	22	9	. K
Nitrate N	5 09	5.53	•	2.96	2 89		4.85	8.95	86.8	14.87	5.61	8.25	6.56	7.08	9	8	7.55	3 03	7 05	3.04
Total P	281	409	•	99	60	60	97	129	155	482	146	83	178	202	Š	2 =	223	142	187	129
Partic P	151	306	•	3.4	3.2	45	•	35	92	409	57	0	75							
Tot Sol P	130	103	•	65	85	67	97	8	11	73	88	83	103	==						
Sol React P	105	66	•	89	29	29	97	5	11	73	69	69	103	98	=	1	83	11	83	91
Chloride	32.7	32.0	•	33.0	36.4	34.0	36.0	40.0	35.3	36.0	35.3	32.0	33.3	33.3	36.6	2.5	33.7	1.5	34.6	2.2
Ŧ	7.62	7.86	•	8.25	8.07	8.24	8.48	8.53	8.16	8.7	8.23	8.24	8.42	8.45	8.33	0.21	8.15	0.26	8.2	0.25
Total alk	4.55	5.70	•	5.9	5.3	6.05	5.7	4.85	5.1	3.9	4.85	9.9	5.7	5.55	5.48	0.52	5.32	0.81	5.37	0.71
Phenolph Alk	8.0	0.3	•	6.0	8.0	9.0	0.15	0.65	0.45	9.0	0.45	0.7	0.4	0.02	0.55	0.28	0.52	0.26	0.53	0.26
Conductivity	747	746	•	732	727	729	648	8	687	655	999	694	691	969	107	38	703	35	702	34
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992	Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992	Winter mean	S	Growth mean	S	Annual mean	S
	-	7	m	*	S	9	7	•	6	2	=	12	13	7	5 5	17	2	19	2	21

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	5 6 7	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	£	Chloride	Sol React P	Total Sol P	Partic P	Total P	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge	kg N/week	kg N/year	kg P/week	kg P/yea
				26.3	7 03	37.0	017		76	152	3.20		4.72	0.00016	0.310		0.150	
- (1861 / BmV			5.4	21.8	34.0	2.0	Ş	127	228	3.40		3.22	0.00075	1.570		0.10	
7	1861 97 Bn			2		32.0		3 =	. 5	169	28.0		3.47	0.00130	0.750		0.130	
m N	apt 18 1991					2 6	26.0	- 6	5 4	2	6 6		; ;	0.00150	4 490		0.070	
•	Oct 23 1991			0.60		35.0	21.2	7 6	•	2 2	2.5		\$ 10	0.00140	2.350		0.036	
-	1881 ZI 704			4.73	20.0	, C	24.5	7		, ec	;		4 90	0.00200			0.046	
	Dec 4 1991			G &		40.0	36.0	36	20	96	3.26		4.34	0.00300	6.150		0.065	
٠,	An 14 1992			4.55	8 50	36.0	26.0	23	•	9	6.28		3.60	0.00300	11.660		0.110	
	100 5 1992			4.75	7.82	39.0	25.0	22	9	98	6.01		3.94	0.00200	7.370		0.100	
2	A 1992			3.70	7.66	4	22.0	30	131	191	11.77		3.54	0.00400	3.100		0.390	
- ₹	1001 31 P			4.60	7.98	35.3	4	6	22	121	4.99		3.19	0.00300	9.160		0.220	
: :	M 13 1992			5.15	8	36.0	25.3	£	155	199	6.48		2.76	0.00100	3.950		0.120	
- 2	my 13 1992			5.20	80.08	33.3	38.0	99	38	83	5.46		3.56	0.00100	3.380		0900	•
7 2	hrne 22 1992	647	0.40	5.15	8.30	35.3	\$2.0	105	148	252	5.47	31	3.60	0.00100	3.330	230.000	0.150	v o
2					;	;	,			;	•			00000				
9	Winter mean	•		4.69	8 .13	37.1	29.3			\$	7		4.50	0.00200				
2	S			0.1	0.28	6 .	5.4			12	6.1		0.67	0.00080				
	Smarth mean			2.07	8 .0	35.9	46.1			154	5.26		3.60	0.00160				
2 9	S			0.68	0.18	3.5	23.0			9	2.83		0.55	0.00100				
2 2	Annual mean	899		4.95	8	36.2	41.3			123	4.99		3.84	0.00180				
: 5	S			0.59	0.21	3.1	21.0			22	5.6		0.72	0.00100				

6.490

Total P	258	318	422	302	3 6	440	348	161	145	127	103	29	181	489	334	273	144	260	139	264	135
Partic P	33	49		40	P 6	208	20	5	24	93	86	17	36	28	06						
Tot Sol P	225	569	422	250	707	232	298	151	121	34	49	20	145	431	344						
Sol React P	168	569	319	CUC	707	200	257	151	106	10	43	20	105	419	243	179	65	186	139	184	120
Chloride	36.7	38.3	43.0	7 6	37.0	38.4	38.0	40.0	40.0	43.1	40.0	37.3	38.0	35.3	35.3	39.1	1.1	38.4	3.0	38.6	2.4
표	7.12	7.47	7.52	- L	05.7	2.60	7.57	7.95	8.33	8.23	8.09	8.01	7.85	7.61	7.47	7.86	0.36	2.69	0.35	7.74	0.34
Total Alk	4.90	5 40	5		5.75	5.30	5.80	5.25	4.75	4.55	4.55	4.40	4.70	4.85	5.00	5.28	0.43	4.90	0.44	5.05	0.45
Phenolph Alk	0.20	0		0	0.30	0.30	09.0	0.25	0.45	0.35	0.45	0.30	0.15	00.0	0.00	0.40	0.16	0.19	0.17	0.25	0.19
Conductivity	634	664	600	000	299	662	664	645	662	638	618	809	602	597	602	658	6	631	31		59
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 201001	Aug 20 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992	Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992	Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	OS	Annual mean	SD
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	Total diatoms	80		213						4620					
1 62	Total greens	1137	154	133	223					8514				107	13
	Total others	214		107		_				892					
-	tal blue arms	106		80						99					
	TOTAL	1537		533	•	_	1494	239	429	14092			017		
83	Ze emo					•				• (•	•			
	Greens %	74	29	52	21.8		7.7		. 42	32.0			25.53	6.99	2.16
. 98	Others %	_			-										
	Blue greens %			15.0				10.9		0.5					
7 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Winter mean Growth mean Annual mean	Diatoms 19.4(15.2) 26.8(16.1) 24.7(15.7)	Greens 38.6(33.6) 42.7(24.2) 41.5(25.9)	Others 40.3(43.2) 26.7(27.7) 30.6(31.6)	Blue greens 3.4(5.2) 3.9(5.3) 3.74(5.1)										

Total P	728	922	932	745	395	328	295	258	142	41	100	135	490	296		319	58	439	335	404	286
Partic P	22		184	86	0	0	4	10	32	4	45	10	4	84							
Tot Sol P	902	226	749	629	395	328	291	248	110	37	55	125	446	212] -						
Sol React P	573	736	831	633	390	320	291	248	110	16	39	86	404	212	!	314	62	364	310	356	260
Chloride	36.7	43.0	42.6	43.3	40.4	40.0	40.0	48.0	43.1	44.0	39.2	40.0	45.1	41.2	!	42.1	4.0	41.8	2.5	41.9	2.8
£	7.73	8.35	8.37	7.93	7.87	7.89	8.41	8.51	8.16	8.59	8.38	8.06	8.01	8.12		8.17	0.34	8.17	0.25	8.17	. 0.27
Total Alk	4.30	4.70		2.00	4.80	5.25	4.85	4.70	4.45	4.60	4.45	4.55	4.60	4.70		4.90	0.24	4.59	0.20	4.69	0.25
Phenolph alk	0.40	0.70		0.40	0.35	0.25	0.20	09.0	0.35	0.50	0.55	0.30	0.10	0.00		0.35	0.18	0.37	0.22	0.36	0.20
Conductivity	605	618	625	620	621	622	. 611	621	613	602	298	603	601	298		619	S	809	10	611	10
Date	Aug 7 1991	Aug 28 1991	Sept 18 1991	Oct 23 1991	Nov 12 1991	Dec 4 1991	Jan 14 1992	Feb 5 1992	Mar 4 1992	Mar 25 1992	April 15 1992	May 13 1992	June 3 1992	June 22 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
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hnia	75.0	1.8	39.0	0.4	10.4	69.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	1.9	17.9	12.5	71.6	23.0		20.0	33.1	84.0	29.0	62.9	13.0
Total Daphnia	2		æ																		_
Secchi	٨	۸	^	۸	۸	۸	^	۸	۸	٨	۸	۸	٨	٨							
430:410	1.10	1.17	1.24	1.10	1.00	0.83	0.91	•	66.0	1.06	0.38	1.14	1.04	1.1							
480:663	1.19	1.50	1.66	1.38	1.50	^	2.0	•	•	1.33	1.41	1.14	1.17	1.34							
Carotenoids	19.0	28.0	29.3	12.0	4.0	4.3	9.3	0.0	5.3	14.7	20.7	2.7	2.0	13.0							
Chlorophyll	16.2	18.9	17.8	8.8	2.7	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	12.1	16.1	2.6	9.9	10.6		1.9	2.5	11.0	6.5	8.4	2.0
Silicate Si	4.79	1.25	2.48		3.94	4.65	5.03	4.59	3.04	0.72	0.46	1.21	4.38	90.9		4.55	0.45	2.71	2.00	3.27	1.87
Ammonium N	55.0	2.0	393.0	123.0	178.0	3795.0	252.0	247.0	32.0	113.0	32.0	161.0	435.0	0.0		1118.0	1785.0	135.0	157.0	416.0	982.0
Nitrate N /	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.26	•	0.53	0.48	0.42	0.16	0.54	0.14	0.03	0		0.42	0.14	0.16	0.19	0.22	0.21
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(r) ROSTHERNE MERE

Rostherne Mere will be the subject of a detailed thesis to be available in mid 1993. Only a brief account is given here.

(i) Morphometry and water budget

At 48.7 ha, Rostherne is nearly the biggest of the meres studied and by far the depest at 27.5m. It receives water from a stream which is ultimately derived from Little Mere and Mere Mere but receives water also from direct streams and possibly ground water. The hydrology is complex and no simple description can yet be given. Many data however are now available and are currently being fully analysed.

(ii) Changes in land usage

Rostherne Mere is served largely by Mere parish but also by Rostherne Parish. The combined changes in these have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	828 10102 311 1973 298 449 7042 986	1351 16482 641 3077 1565 2320 38530 5394
Total nutrient units	13510	27273

Permanent grass(ha)	431	324
Temporary grass(ha)	243	276
Arable(ha)	522	580
Woodland(ha)	4	1
Rough grazing(ha)	35	4
Total hectarage	1235	1185

Stockkeeping has thus increased but field usage has remained relatively stable with some loss of land to non agricultural purposes.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

Rostherne Mere has moderate alkalinity that is greater than those of Little Mere and Mere Mere upstream of it. This may reflect additional ground water supplies entering it. Its total and soluble reactive phosphorus concentrations are high and may (or may not) reflect the supply of sewage effluent that previously reached the mere from Little Mere. Nitrate concentrations are low but nitrate is rarely totally depleted whilst ammonium concentrations are rather higher in winter than might be expected.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Chlorophyll a concentrations are on average modest but rise to nearly 100 ug/l in late summer when blue-green algal blooms are common. *Daphnia* are not very abundant but not as scarce as in some of the meres. Grazing, however is unlikely to be a major factor in determining phytoplankton abundance.

(v) Aquatic plants

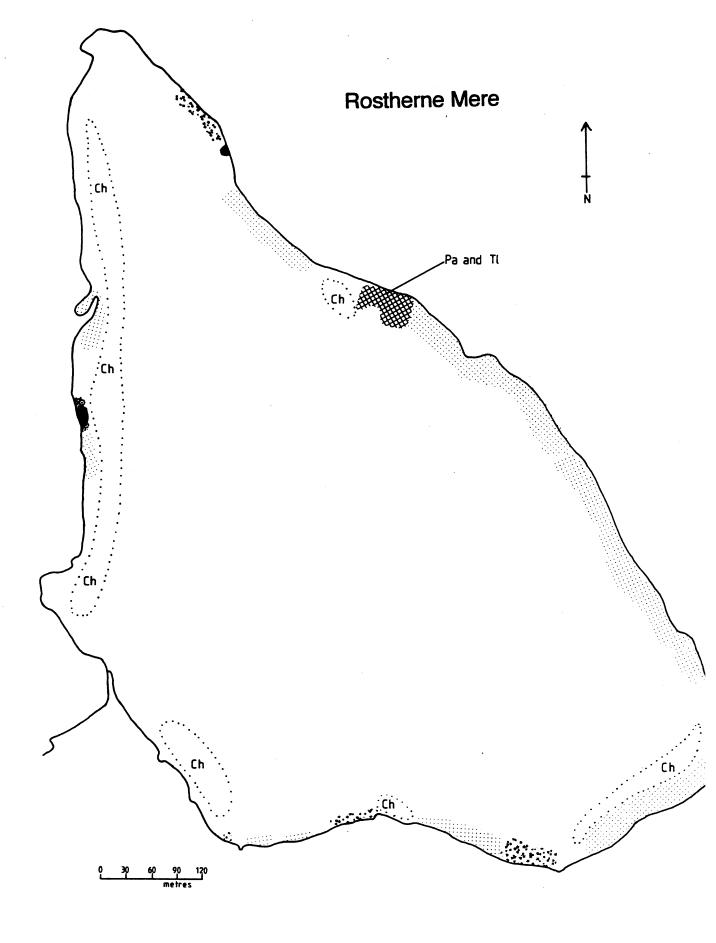
Rostherne is a deep lake and opportunities for plant colonisation are few. The submerged flora is sparse but *Callitriche* is abundant at the edges.

(vi) Overall assessment

It is difficult to assess the status of Rostherne Mere because it may be in a state of transition following the diversion of sewage effluent from it. For the moment it is sensible not to impose further management until the effects of the diversion have been assessed. This may take several years. A more detailed picture will emerge when data collected over the past three years have been fully analysed.

Sat, Sep 5, 19	Total Daphnla	0.0	8	80	80	000	0.03	0.60	0.70	9.60	21.70	9.50	15.10	8.9 9	0.40	2.30	1.60	3.00	39.80	21.40	4.40	6.80	9.0	7.20	1.50	6.4	3.6	9.8	0.5	9.6 6.6
	Secchi depth Total Daphnla	1.750					2.750	3.100	2.150	3.900	8.150	4.500	2.300	2.800		2.700	1000	1.850	1.240	0.880	1.150	1.000	1.700	3.500	2.500					
	A430:A410	0.900	0.900	1.000		1.000	1.1	1.170	1.380	1.180	0.800	1.040	1.160	1.230	-149	1.000	1340	1.300	1.300	1.170	1.280	1.100	1.040	0060	0.800					
	A480:A663		4.600	4.600		4.500	2.400	1.800	1.800	2.000		1.500	1.240	1.400	1.370	1.420	1.600	2.100	1.900	2.200	2.000	2.700	10.300		15.000					
	Carotenoids	2.000	4.600	0.800	0.00	1.800	3.400	8.200	13.000	9.800	1.200	13.600	23.800	21.800	22.400	29.000	96.800	65.700	72.000	000.69	49.300	52.300	10.300	2.700	2.000					
	Chlorophyll a	0.00	1.100	0.00	0.00	0.440	1.500	2.060	0.00	5.300	0.000	9.900	21.100	16.700	18.000	22.400	77 400	35.200	42.500	34.800	24.900	21.600	1.18	0.00	0.370	3.000	7.500	22.600	23.200	21.500
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Rostherne Mere RM	Nitrate N	0.650	1.480	1.430	1.290	1.030	1.190	1.890	1.080	0.930	0.770	0.960	0.830	1.210	1.140	0.680	0000	0.030	0000	0.130	0.260	0.230	0.230	0.340	0.370	0.810	0.570	0.720	0.540	0.540
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86.0 70.2 0 12.9 9.8 67.6 37.1 29.6 3.1 77.3 42.3 5.5 3.0 41.4 67.2 35 35 0 0 0 0 4.2 5.7 59.0 71.1 0.1 13.4 85.4 79.4 58.6 32.8 65.0 Dlatoma Greens Others Blue greens Others Blue greens 0 14(24.2) 58 8(26.8) 27.3(31.9) 19 1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 3.4(134.) 13.5(15.2) 39.4(134.)	86.0 70.2 0 12.9 9.8 67.6 37.1 29.6 3.1 77.3 42.3 5.5 3.0 41.4 67.2 5.0 71.1 0.1 13.4 85.4 79.4 58.6 32.8 Diatoma Greens Others Blue greens 0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 27.3(31.9) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 34.4(34.) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2) 32.4(32.9)	Steene %		6.53	- 60	7.67	8. c	0.0 7.0	220	?	9	6 G	20.5 27.2	ם יי	17.6	•	C	, .	
Diatoms Greens Others Blue greens 0 0 0 0 4.2 5.7 59.0 71.1 0.1 13.4 85.4 79.4 58.6 32.8 65.0 0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 27.3(31.9) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.2) 39.4(28.2) 37.4(29.3)	0 0 0 0 4.2 5.7 59.0 71.1 0.1 13.4 65.4 79.4 58.6 32.8 Diatoms Greens Othern Blue greens 0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 27.3(31.9) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 34(34) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)	Others %	96.0	70.2	0	12.9	. eo	67.6	37.1	29.6	3.5	77.3	42.3		3.0	4.14	67.2	36	
Diatome Greens Others 0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(17.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(18.2)	Diatoms Greens Others 0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)	Blue greens%	0	0	0	0	0	4.2	5.7	29.0	71.1	0.1	13.4	85.4	79.4	58.6	32.8	97.	
0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)	0 14(24.2) 58.8(26.8) 19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)		Diatoms	Greens	Others	Blue greens													
19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)	19.1(30.7) 13.5(15.4) 33.3(26.4) 14.6(27.8) 13.6(17.2) 39.4(28.2)	Winter mean		14(24.2)	58.8(26.8)	27.3(31.9)													
	(3.03) (3.11) (3.13)	Growth mean		13.5(15.4)	33.3(26.4)	34(34)													



(s) TABLEY MERE AND TABLEY MOAT

(i) Morphometry ans water budget

Tabley Mere has a rather irregular shape compared with other of the meres and the existence of follies on an island and around it testifies to a degree of landscaping in the past, perhaps including the raising of water levels of a preexisting natural lake. There are really two lakes, the mere proper and a smaller pool to the north, which receives water from the mere. This pool is called Tabley Moat for it suurounds a former Hall. The Mere is 19.4 ha in area with a depth of 4.4m; the moat is about 2ha with a depth estimated at 1.5m. The mere has two main inflows, one (TBMMI) from the north in the direction of the M6 motorway, the other (TBMI1) draining land from the east. There are two outflows, a major one (TBMO) over a sliuice to the west and a smaller one which seeps through woodland to Tabley Moat. The Moat has a small inflow of its own coming in from the north of it but this was dry during this study and an outflow (TBLO) to the north west. To obtain some information on ground water in the area, a small pond (TBPd) and a field drain (TBFD) close to the mere were sampled throughout for the pond and when it flowed in winter for the drain.

The combined inflows to Tabley Mere delivered 1.28 million cubic metres of water per year. The combined outflows from the system lost 1.67 million cubic metres. This can be considered a reasonable balance and suggests that ground water is relatively insignificant in this system. Based on the outflow volumes the flushing rates of the Mere were 3, 4.4 and 1.9 per year on annual, winter and growth season bases with corresponding retention times of 17,12 and 27 weeks. For Tabley Moat the flushing rates were 12.6, 16.8 and 10.5 per year for the annual, winter and growth season periods. Respective retention times were 4,3 and 5 weeks.

(ii) Changes in land use

The catchment of the Tabley system lies in the parishes of Tabley inferior and superior and Bexley, for which the land use changes have been:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	1128 13649 189 907 428 642 10741 1504	1741 21066 43 206 346 519 8135 1139
Total nutrient units	16702	22930
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing(ha)	610 341 322 6 19	380 259 462 7 44
Total hectarage	1298	1152

There has thus been the rather common pattern of some increase in cattle keeping at the expense of other stock, but with an overall increase in potential nutrient load, a loss of grassland to arable and some loss of land to non-agricultural uses.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

As reflected in the conductivities of the pond and field drain, the ionic content of the immediate ground water is low (375 and 452 uS/cm) compared with the two inflows, gathering water from some distance away. The conductivity of the inflow that drains catchment close to the motorway is higher (863) than that of the other inflow to Tabley Mere (652) and carries about double the chloride concentration though a lesser alkalinity. The source of the chloride may be road salt. The conductivity and chloride concentrations of the mere are consonant with a simple mixing of the two inflow waters but there is a lower alkalinity in the mere than in either inflow. Alkalinity is not fully conservative and some carbonate ions thus seem to be precipitating in the mere. The moat has a slightly lower conductivity and higher alkalinity than the mere suggesting

either an additional small source of water (perhaps the inflow that did not flow this year) or chemical changes in the water passing through the wet woodland that separates the mere and the moat. Much of this water passes by seepage.

The local ground water is moderately rich in phosphorus and low in nitrate as measured in the pond but the existence of moderately high ammonium levels in this pond suggest that its water chemistry may be modified by cattle and that some of the phosphorus may be derived from cattle excreta. Ground water is unlikely to be a major nutrient source for this system however. The field drain was markedly less rich in phosphorus, and had much greater nitrate concentrations. It probably reflected the composition of surface run off after some soil contact rather than deep ground water composition.

The major inflow streams are both very rich in soluble reactive and total phosphorus, and nitrate. The eastern stream is also very rich in ammonium. The phosphorus concentrations could be natural in the motorway stream but the chances are that there is contamination by farm effluent and this is certainly the case for the eastern inflow. The motorway inflow carried 7315 kgN and 384 kgP per year; the eastern inflow carried 5891 kgN and 439 kgP per year. The combined load on Tabley Mere was a very high 4.32 gP per square metre and 68 gN per square metre.

Concentrations of phosphorus in both the mere and moat were consequentially high and inorganic nitrogen concentrations were also generally higher than in most other mere sites. Inorganic nitrogen availability, however was very low in both for a period during the summer.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

Although there was a distinct and prolific spring peak of phytoplankton, concentrations during the rest of the year in Tabley Mere were low and numbers of *Daphnia* were high. The spring peak was of small diatoms and diatoms were important components of the community. Nitrogen-fixing blue-green algae were present in summer but were not prominent, though occasionally they aggregated as blooms in the southern part of the lake. Tabley Moat was similar but additionally sustained a large population of flagellate green algae in autumn. *Daphnia* grazing was also likely to have been very important in the Moat.

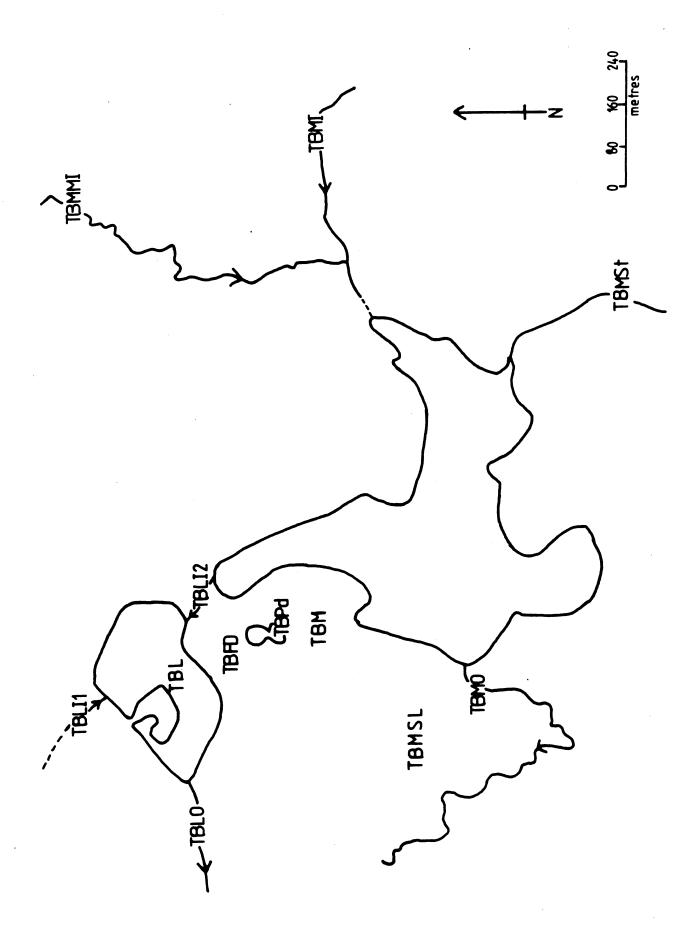
(v) Aquatic plants

Both mere and moat were rich in aquatic plant diversity and biomass. *Callitriche hermaphroditica* dominated the mere with

Potamogeton berchtoldii. Hydrodictyon and filamentous algae were common and four other species of vascular plant were present. The moat has a classic Phase 2 community with abundant Ceratophyllum demersum and other submerged species with extensive beds of Nuphar lutea with Nymphaea alba.

(vi) Overall assessment

Both the moat and the mere are in Phase 2 states. They have been undoubtedly eutrophicated by the farm effluent entering through the surface streams and it is this which presently maintains the high plant biomass. Such communities are stabilised by mechanisms such as Daphnia grazing. The plants provide refuges and allow coexistence of abundant grazer Cladocera with normal fish communities. There is an active fishing club on both mere and moat. The danger for such sites is that their nutrient loading is high enough for only small changes in additional switch mechanisms to cause a loss of plants and an establishment of phytoplankton dominance. Switch mechanisms are various and can include mechanical damage to the plants, decrease in water level giving increased access of birds to the plants, increases in alien bird grazers, like Canada geese, and use of herbicides on surrounding areas. They can also include mechanisms that eliminate the Cladocera for a period, such as pesticide drift, severe winter icing that kills piscivorous fish and favours zooplanktivorous fish or severely increased salinity. There are dangers of some of these mechanisms operating at Tabley Mere and the results could be precipitous and dramatic. It would be highly desirable to restrict the nutrient input coming through both inflows as soon as possible. Arablisation should also be avoided on the immediately surrounding land and the present flock of Canada geese should be reduced as much as possible.



Inflow
Motorway
Mere
Tabley

kg P/year								384.000						
	3.100	2.10	2.030	2.620	19.500 005.4	18.100	2.330	1.690						
kg N/year								7316.000						
kg N/week	35.600	54.700	74.900	157.700	609.000	209.000	23.000	64 400						
Discharge	0.014	0.019	0.029	0.016	0.069	0.022	0.00	0.00	9	0.021	0.023	0.023	0.022	5
Silicate Si	01.4	3.66	4.88	4. 28 8. 88 8. 88	4.21	3.72	2.80	9. e.	4.31	4.32	4.36	0.74	4.34	663
Ammonium N	357	437	358	430	378	200	292	158	<u> </u>	613	303	213	457	987
Nitrate N	3.85	4.35	3.91	8.05	14.21	15.00	10.30	13.42	15.11	71.7	4.80	4.40	9.80	2.00
Total P	2393	184 358	184	258	467	324	1659	458	399	251	72	870	630	716
Partic P	522	0	20	33	253	144	929	0	50					
Tot Sol P	1870	358	134	224	214	180	731	428	373				•	
Sol React P	1331.0	160.0	119.0	147.0	136.0	180.0	731.0	298.0	305.0	144.0	17.0	468.0	332.0	377.0
Chloride	49.0	116.0	88.0	255.6	98.0	105.0	156.0	128.0	129.0	135.0	089	37.0	122.0	22.0
₹		7.54	7.41	9.14	7.56	7.49	7.34	7.68	17.7	7.66	0.28	0.20	7.57	0.25
Total Alk	2.15	3.15	2.45	2.10	3 8	2.15	2.65	2.10	2.20	2.70	0.40	2.38 0.37	2.52	0.41
Phenolph Alk	00.0	0.05	00.0	0.00	0.35	0.30	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.11	0.15	0.07	0.0	0.13
Conductivity		831										819		
į	1 Oct 16 1991	2 Nov 6 1991	4 Jan 8 1992	5 Jan 29 1992	6 Feb 26 1992	And 8 1992	9 May 6 1992	10 May 27 1992	11 June 17 1992	12 13 Winter mean	14 SD	15 Growth mean	17 Annual mean	18 SD

18 FD
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Table

kg P/year		200
kg N/year kg P/year		8.700
Discharge	0.0001 0.0002 0.0002 0	0.0000 6 0.0000 8
Silicate Si	4.4.4.10.4.4.10.4.4.10.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4	6.3 0.6
Nitrate N Ammonlum N	112	125 26
Nitrate N	4.26 4.46 4.66 4.66	4.46
Total P	31 168 35 4	78
Partic P	100 + 11 + +	
Tot Sol P	20 118 23 * * *	
Sol React P	13 108 23 * *	55 52
Chloride	69 30 58 4 8 8 4	23
£	6.60 6.79 7.01 * *	6.0 8.5
Total Alk	N. Ø. * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	2.3
Phenolph Alk	00.0	00
Conductivity	45 8014 874 874 874	452 30
Dete	Nov 27 1991 Jan 8 1992 Jan 29 1992 Feb 26 1992 Mar 17 1992 April 8 1992	Winter mean SD

Date	Conductivity	Conductivity Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	Ł	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si	Discharge
Jul 31 1991	-	0.0	2.46	9.00	118	926	230	100	630	0.430	494.0	5.95	0.0026
Aug 21 1991	-	9.0	2.50	9.14	119	359	425	84	473	0.078	61.7	1.71	•
Sept 11 1991			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	0
Oct 16 1991			2.4	8.67	86	184	175	126	269	0.18	179	1.19	0.023
Nov 6 1991			2.35	7.82	8	454	473	82	551	0.52	703	8 .	0.028
Nov 27 1991			2.7	8.01	82.4	280	309	119	427	1.7	1533	2.3	0.034
7961 8 ust			2.1	7.78	92	180	208	66	307	2.71	448	4.15	0.085
An 29 1992			2.4	8.27	90.7	160	160	0	160	11.31	300	4.21	0.043
Fab 26 1992			2.6	8.78	128	13	25	106	158	7.59	92	2.69	0.035
Mar 17 1992			2.35	8.86	==	m	35	45	8	5.97	47.4	0.26	0.184
April 8 1992			3.15	8.66	95	•	38	35	22	7.62	48	0.19	0.038
May 6 1992			5.6	8.73	96	89	68	12	=	2.8	88	0.99	0.027
May 27 1992	707	0.45	2.2	9.27	120	90	120	199	319	0.39	93	3.58	0.021
June 17 1992													
Winter mean		0.14	2.43	8.13	94.6	217			321	4.77	615	3.03	0.045
S	78	0.17	0.23	•	19	163			171	4.54	529	Ξ	0.023
Growth mean		0.32	5.5	8.76	108	220			340	2.5	145	1.98	0.049
S		0.19	. 0.3	0.41	12	228			592	3.1	161	2.1	0.067
Annual mean		0.27	2.48	8.5	103	229			332	3.44	341	2.42	0.047
S		0.19	0.27	0.51	9_	194			222	3.76	432	1 76	0.05

kg P/year	439.000	
	0.200 1.760 3.050 87.200 1.270 0.380 1.380 1.380 1.380 1.380 1.380 0.000	·
kg N/year	5891.000	
kg N/week	1.300 25,000 69,400 1135,500 35,100 23,000 23,000 57,000 6,030 1.130 0,000	
Discharge	0.0003 0.0050 0.1679 0.1679 0.0090 0.0090 0.0050 0.0000 0.0000	0.0400 0.0700 0.0030 0.0050 0.0186 0.0470
Silicate Si	9.01 3.25 3.12 3.12 4.36 4.97 4.97 3.84 3.58	4.31 0.78 4.59 2.48 4.45
Ammonlum N	4920 2024 123 1332 684 1925 1188 441 2018 2619	2450 3354 2404 1622 2427 2427
Nitrate N A	2.32 6.23 6.23 5.91 2.79 7.88 5.15 6.81 6.81 6.97	5.53 1.78 3.77 2.68 4.65
Total P	1097 582 265 863 833 624 373 230 1694	496 302 1350 1146 911
Partic P	473 123 0 65 65 46 56 211 1898	
Total Soi P	624 582 740 233 559 327 174 174 1883	
Col Beact D		342 175 649 408 496
Phinide	20080000	61.7 12.0 56.1 18.7 58.9
7	7.41 7.41 7.47 7.27 7.24 7.30 7.45 7.45 7.09	7.56 0.43 7.34 0.14 7.45
¥ 1	3.68 3.68 2.00 1.30 4.45 2.60 3.70 3.70 3.25 2.85 4.85	3.23 1.28 3.30 1.05 1.10
•	74 American	0.07 0.03 0.03 0.05 0.05
	Conductivity PV 615 618 618 618 618 618 618 628 627 667 713 613 667 618 618 618 618 618 618 618 618 618 618	647 61 658 47 652 52
	Date C Aug 21 1991 2 Aug 21 1991 3 Nov 6 1991 4 Nov 27 1991 5 Jan 8 1992 6 Jan 29 1992 7 Feb 26 1992 8 Mar 17 1992 9 April 8 1992 11 May 27 1992	12 June 17 1992 13 Whiter mean 15 SD 16 Growth mean 17 Annual mean 19 Annual mean

Ammoniu
Nitrate N
Total P
Partic P
Tot Sol P
Sol React P
Chloride
Ŧ.

Discharge	0.0010	0.0012	9000.0	0.0020	0.0040	0.0030	0.0110	0.0100	0.0100	0.0190	0.0170	0.0040	0.0003	0.0001	•	0.0080	0.0040	0.0001	0.0080	0.0060	0.0060
Silicate Si	1.68	1.86	1.95	4.66	6.30	3.55	5.31	5.87	3.72	0.45	0.42	2.75	4.52	4.52		4.95	1.25	2.53	1.69	3.39	1.92
Ammonium N	217.0	165.0	170.0	96.4	248.0	795.0	455.0	264.0	143.0	82.0	45.0	479.0	53.0	4.0		381.0	257.0	145.0	143.0	230.0	216.0
Nitrate N	0.050	0.120	0.084	0.090	0.230	0.780	4.020	7.580	4.720	3.150	4.140	0.740	1.940	2.080		3.470	3.020	1.380	1.530	2.120	2.300
Total P	1055	1238	1542	1479	985	679	327	153	8	93	82	182	\$	351		445	380	714	809	618	238
Partic P	25.0			292.0	6.7	70.0	0.0	0.0	30.0	74.0	29.0	3.0	0.0	0.0							
Tot Sol P	1030	1459		1187	978	609	327	153	23	19	52	179	Ŝ	351							
Sol React P	924	1127	126	821	908	563	20	153	\$	2	ED	-24	\$	351		316	351	435	422	392	388
Chloride	79.6	85.0	85.0	71.7	76.0	57.0	0.99	63.0	80.0	76.2	68.0	0.99	26.0	48.5		68.4	0.6	70.7	12.5	6.69	11.2
£	7.75	1.74	7.90	7.79	7.59	7.76	7.73	8.22	8.01	8.86	8.29	1.11	7.59	7.63		7.86	0.25	7.92	0.41	7.90	0.35
Total Alk	3.12	3.40	3.60	3.60	3.10	3.20	2.20	2.70	2.50	2.40	2.60	3.10	3.95	4.15		2.74	0.40	3.32	0.58	3.12	0.59
henolph Alk	0.00	00.0	0.10	0.30	0.20	0.25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.30	0.35	0.10	00.0	0.0		0.0	0.12	0.14	0.15	0.11	0.14
Conductivity Phenolph Alk	642	648	688	633	638	597	612	639	929	650	630	620	899	687		-		_		645	22
Date	Jul 31 1991	Aug 21 1991	Sept 11 1991	Oct 16 1991	Nov 6 1991	Nov 27 1991	Jan 8 1992	29 1992 nat.	Feb 26 1992	Mar 17 1992	April 4 1992	May 6 1992	May 27 1992	June 17 1992		Winter mean	SO	Growth mean	S	Annual mean	S
	_	~	~	4	· •	•	~	•	•	2	=	12	_	=	2	16	17	2	6	20	2

Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	£	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P	Nitrate N	Ammonium N	Silicate Si
1001	•		2.16	7.58	53.0	432.0	432	222	645	0.29		5.9
A.m. 21 1991	,		2.50	7.34	0.09	382.0	205	153	657	0.14		3.5
Cent 11 1991			2.35	7.47	55.4	65.0			307	0.41		2.9
Jept 11 1991			2.35	7.41	53.0	171.0	274	52	588	0.24		7
May 6 1991			1.80	7.35	76.0	81.3	122	88	180	0.28		4 .3
May, 27, 1991			1.90	7.36	56.9	40.0	73	S	123	0.24		3.4
Le 8 1992			1.60	7.59	54.0	0.69	86	31	128	0.45		3.7
An 20 1992			1.60	7.98	4.44	49.0	6	73	122	0.55		7
Eat 26 1992			1.50	60.8	26.0	16.0	52	35	16	0.19		3.3
Mr. 17 1992			1.50	8.33	54.0	10.0	5	68	149	0.12		4
April 4 1992			1.80	7.79	56.3	9	27	200	231	0.13		2.5
Apr. 6 1992			1.55	7.99	54.0	2.0	75	145	220	0.05		1.9
At. 27 1992			1.75	7.62	26.0	35.0	102	219	321	0.0		1.9
June 17 1992	376	0.0	1.85	7.73	9.99	103.0	195	405	9	0.03	36	<u>-</u>
Window year	·		1,68	7.67	57.5	51.0			129	0.34		3.6
5	17	00	0.16	0.35	11.5	25.0			32	0.15	377	Ö
Growth mean	380		1.98	7.70	55.4	134.0	•		381	0.15		2
S	30		0.37	0.31	2.2	164.0			197	0.14	_	õ
Annual mean	375		1.87	7.69	56.1	104.0			162	0.22		m ·
SD	92		0.34	0.31	6.7	136.0			200	0.17		õ

				٠		٠															
Total P	618	361	250	848	396	350	292	j	151	126	112	. 8	265	364		291	103	336	253	323	215
Partic P	163	56	;	137	•	38	86	3	103	26	8 2	j c	57	126	-						
Total Sol P	455	335		711	396	312	182		48	34	31	84	508	238)						
Sol React P	549	279	183	297	396	251	154	•	4	_	_	20	161	188		204	161	224	218	218	196
Chloride	73.5	123.4	126.0	94.4	0.96	118.0	92.0		132.0	120.7	89.3	52.0	118.0	111.0		110.0	19.0	101.0	25.6	104.0	23.0
돐	7.73	9.44	9.71	8.53	8.13	7.86	7.82		8.75	8.93	8.84	9.01	9.03	10.22		8.14	0.43	9.05	0.71	8.77	0.76
Total Alk	2.48	2.50	2.40	2.90	2.40	2.95	2.10		2.60	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.20	2.15		2.51	0.36	2.43	0.22	2.45	0.26
Phenolph Alk	00.0	1.00	1.00	0.40	0.10	0.15	0.00		0.30	0.30	0.40	0.35	0.25	0.95		0.14	0.13	0.52	0.37	0.40	0.36
Conductivity	702	681	289	653	641	714	685	Frozen	848	692	712	663	711	643		722	88	691	38	701	26
Date	Jul 31 1991	Aug 21 1991	Sept 11 1991	Oct 16 1991	Nov 11 1991	Nov 27 1991	Jan 8 1992	Jan 29 1992	Feb 26 1992	Mar 17 1992	April 8 1992	May 6 1992	May 27 1992	June 17 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
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Total Daphnia	124.00	10.04	50.74	26.30	16.64	0.18	0.20	•	0.18	3.06	3.60	41.20	1.89	94.40	,	4.30	8.20	39.50	43.80	28.60	39.70
Secchi	^	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	۸		^	۸	۸	۸	^	^							
430:410	1.10	1.17	0.83	0.89	0.96	0.82	0.81		1.67	1.20	1.20	0.69	0.98	0.91							
480:663	0.86	1.50	2.50	0.0	1.23	1.62	3.25		1.47	1.29	1.28	2.00	1.36	2.78							
Carotenoids	8.30	4.00	3,33	2.70	12.70	11.30	13.00		116.00	53.00	44.00	2.30	15.00	8.30							
Chlorophyll	10.60	69 2	1.35	6.70	10.40	7.70	4.40		86.90	45.10	37.80	0.40	12.10	3.30		27.40	39.70	13.30	16.50	17.60	25.00
Silicate Si														1.83							1.35
Ammonium N	747.0	1280	30.0	0.08	6560	1444.0	444.0		58.0	62.0	9.5	73.0	236.0	14.0		651.0	584.0	154.0	233.0	284.0	410.0
Nitrate N	0800	6000		0.000	0.00	1.450	3.770		6.740	5.260	8.170	2.200	0.250	0.000		3.090	2.810	1.780	2.980	2.180	2.880
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7.4	Aph flag	_	•	174	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
2	Coelosphaer		•	•	•	•	• •	• •	•	•	•	•		29	•
92	Lyngbya sp	_	•	•		•	•		•	•	•	•			•
11	Merismo sp	_	•	•		•	•	2 •	•	•	•	•			•
	Phormidium sp		2	- ;				•	•	•	•	•			•
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2 6	Total distorm		926	4			9			4600	3150			22	121
3 2	Total other		3577	92			88							220	817
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2 2	2													7.1	59.5
S	Clatoms %	*	6.6											4.1	7.6
6	Greens %	*	14.3	_		13.8	10.3		16.1	8.9	7.6	4.3		32.4	 4. 6
8 E	Others %	* *	55.3 20.5	•	44.3 4.9									- 6	6.82
92		:													
e 2			1(18.7)	6.	(5.7) 29.8(20.6)	5) 0.25(0.5)									
98	Growth mean Annual mean		47.3(27.8) 51.6(25.0)	11.2	8) 25.4(19.7)		_								

Total P	296	475	449	628	295	347	307	183	170	112	22	66	202	354		314	159	332	217	326	192
Partic P	85	31		0	29	ß	66	23	133	82	37	9	56	39							
Tot Sol P	511	444		628	495	341	208	160	37	31	40	93	146	315							
Sol React P	519	367	395	469	439	277	181	160	15	S	S	63	113	234		214	157	241	203	232	182
Chloride	127.0	119.0	115.0	94.0	114.0	80.0	92.0	2.06	132.0	118.0	93.2	92.0	116.0	105.0		102.0	21.0	109.0	13.0	106.0	16.0
玉	7.92	9.07	9.27	8.66	7.76	7.81	7.71	8.18	8.76	8.94	8.64	8.70	9.24	69.6		8.04	0.44	8.90	0.50	8.60	09.0
Total Alk	2.50	2.60	2.55	2.50	2.40	2.85	2.05	2.30	2.65	2.30	2.60	2.65	2.20	2.35		2.45	0.31	2.47	0.15	2.46	0.21
Phenolph Alk	0.00	0.55	0.55	0.30	0.20	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.30	0.40	0.25	0.45	0.65		0.23	0.17	0.38	0.20	0.31	0.21
Conductivity	721	692	289	640	641	719	691	727	847	278	713	289	203	929		725	92	269	40	202	54
Date	Jul 31 1991	Aug 21 1991	Sept 11 1991	Oct 16 1991	Nov 11 1991	Nov 27 1991	Jan 8 1992	Jan 29 1992	Feb 26 1992	Mar 17 1992	April 8 1992		May 27 1992	June 17 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
	_		m						6	9	=				15	16	17	18	19	50	21

Total Daphnia	3.080	0.370	47.460	0.400	2.000	0.800	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.180	15.100	14.400	14.300			1.160	2.170	11.900	15.900	7.780	13.400
Secchi	٨	٨	^	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	٨	0.6	^							
430:410	1.11	1.11	1.36	0.94	0.72	0.90	0.69	0.67	1.26	1.21	0.98	0.86	1.02	1.30							
480:663	1.08	1.00	1.73	2.25	12.00	2.60	2.00	2.60	1.09	1.24	1.33	5.25	1.41	1.15							
Carotenoid	4.3	5.0	45.0	0.6	4.0	4.3	10.0	9.3	7.77	64.0	9.3	2.0	19.3	60.3							
Chlorophyll	4.40	5.05	26.30	4.00	0.34	1.80	2.20	1.80	78.50	56.80	7.70	1.50	15.00	57.90		16.90	34.40	19.90	22.60	18.80	26.10
Silicate Si	5.55	1.91	1.35	1.30	1.88	1.82	4.15	4.42	2.87	0.21	0.27	1.05	3.41	2.84		3.03	1.22	1.99	1.71	2.36	1.59
Ammonium N	681.0	113.0	44.5	192.0	726.0	1039.0	448.0	367.0	175.0	32.0	55.0	137.0	121.0	19.0		551.0	337.0	155.0	205.0	296.0	316.0
Nitrate N A	0.400	0.074	0.005	0.190	0.540	2.080	2.710	10.370	7.970	6.020	7.250	3.050	0.250	0.000		4.730	4.200	1.920	2.860	2.920	3.530
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2	5 Lyngbya sp		•	•	•		•	13	•	•	•	•	• ;	•
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										D. C.			2,5	
Clatoms %							•			7.0		9.	; .	
Greens %										3.3		32.1		
Others %										0.7		25.6	89.5	
Ship groups 94	12.9	20.5												
DING BIGGIES Y														
_ =	Distorns			Bire	•									
Winter mean				w	.									
Growth mean	24(30)	14.3(14.3)	3) 21.5(20)	36.7										
Annual mean				23										

Total P	1181	1528	1409	1276	262	603	239	135	177	105	83	222	1093	1227	•	390	293	903	289	720	252
Partic P	0	48		0	0	109	48	0	09	74	26	135	0	285							
Tot Sol P	1181	1480		1276	797	494	190	135	118	32	27	87	1093	942							
Sol React P	1096	1275	1157	1010	699	391	154	135	111	2	2	64	891	945		292	239	715	532	564	486
Chloride	27.6	85.0	85.0	71.7	80.0	74.5	64.0	29.6	84.0	79.4	75.7	70.0	70.0	64.6		22.6	8.7	75.4	7.0	75.5	7.0
五	7.43	7.41	7.73	7.66	7.78	7.59	7.67	8.52	8.01	8.68	8.48	8.59	7.57	7.47		7.90	0.37	7.89	0.53	2.90	0.47
Total Alk	3.04	3.40	3.70	3.80	3.00	3.50	2.30	2.80	2.70	2.75	2.90	3.00	3.70	4.35		2.86	0.44	3.40	0.52	3.21	0.55
Phenolph Alk	0.00	00.0	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.25	0.20	0.35	00'0	00.0		0.04	0.05	0.13	0.17	0.10	0.14
Conductivity	646	299	680	618	627	596	615	591	899	999	625	596	642	612		619	31	639	284	632	30
Date	Jul 31 1991	Aug 21 1991	Sept 11 1991	Oct 16 1991	Nov 6 1991	Nov 27 1991	Jan 8 1992	lan 29 1992	Feb 26 1992	Mar 17 1992	April 8 1992	May 6 1992	May 27 1992	June 17 1992		Winter mean	SD	Growth mean	SD	Annual mean	SD
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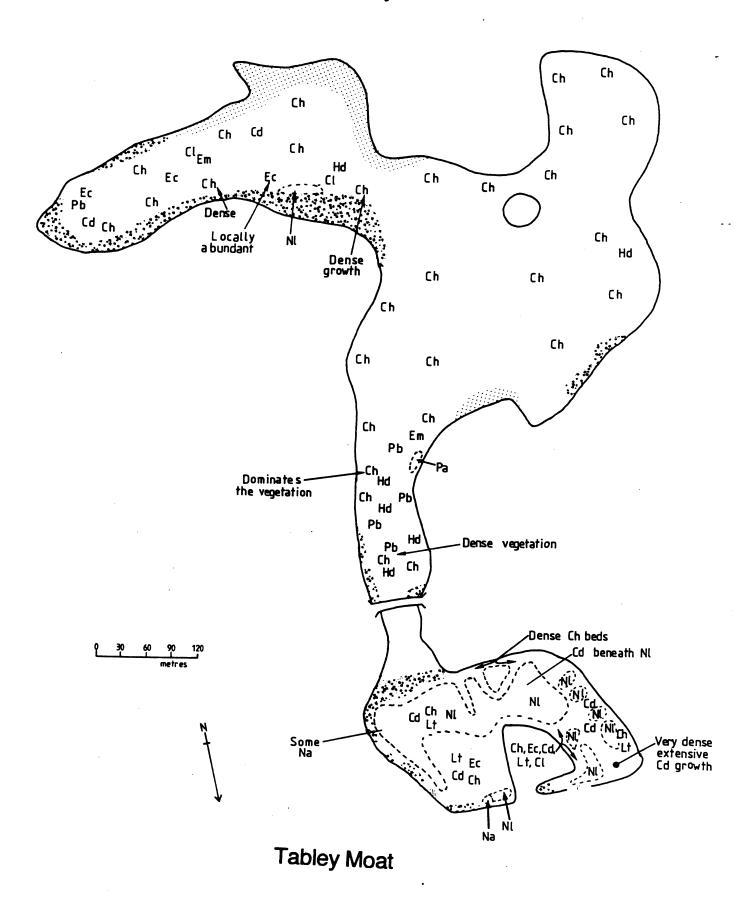
Total Daphnia	160.70	51.86	224.40	6.15	0.45	13.86	0.62	2.87	1.15	3.64	3.78	1.95	98.70	2.00		3.78	5.70	61.50	82.70	40.90	71.00
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Secchi																					
430:410	0.87	0.84	0.87	1.19	0.36	1.28	0.78	0.92	1.01	1.24	1.17	1.21	0.85	0.81							
480:663	٨	1.5	1.75	1.18	1.14	1.06	2.4	2.38	2.06	1.22	1.34	1.02	2.4	1.5							
Carotenoids	5.3	2.0	2.0	40.0	218.0	61.3	8.0	10.3	24.0	2.79	32.7	56.0	8.0	1.0							
Chlorophyll	0.00	1.40	4.00	34.30	194.00	63.80	3.70	4.80	12.80	61.20	26.80	60.50	3.70	0.70		21.30	28.60	21.40	25.50	21.40	25.30
Silicate Si	2.37	1.87	1.79	4.87	6.59	4.87	5.05	5.88	3.68	0.51	0.38	2.31	4.01	5.04		5.20	1.10	2.57	1.72	3.52	1.98
Ammonium N	393.0	187.0	25.0	57.2	119.0	748.0	622.0	670.0	77.0	63.0	21.0	28.0	1004.0	265.0		447.0	322.0	227.0	319.0	306.0	326.0
Nitrate N	0.040	0.000	0000	0.00	0.150	0.610	3.930	7.580	4.830	3.800	4.720	0.130	0.140	0.680		3.420	3.090	1.060	1.840	1.900	2.530
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7	Chloroctir min	•	9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
75	Gonvostomum	•	•	•	362	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
92	Mallomonas	•	•	•	•	•	9	•	•	•	•	8	•	•	•
11	Chloromonas	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	201	•	•	•
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79	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	Anabaena sp	27	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	Anab fl ag	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
82	Cylindrosperm	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Q	•	•	•
	Dact raph	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8	•	•	•
2	Gloeocaps rup	•	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
88	Merismon so	•	•	•	•	•	•	54	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
88	Mcrocystis	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	13	•	•	•	•	•	•
87	Symech aerug	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	13	•
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8															
9	Total distome	522	429	225									403		
6	Total greens	195		214									15885		
5 6		?		107									5		
	۴			•									0		
		744		546	3818	2653	4099	577	494		17351	6873	16389		682
56															
96	Distoms %	70.2		41.2											
26	Greens %	26.2		39.2											
6		0	13.3	19.6	30.5	3.8	18.6	30.2	5.3		2.6	12.8	9.0		35.2
66	Blue	3.6		•	•										
5															
5		Diatoms	_	Others	Blue										
102		24.2(25.9)	46.2(34.2)	27.1(30.3) 15.8(12.6)	2.5(4.0)										
3 2	Annual mean			19.8(20.3)	1.59										

Tabley Mere



(t) TATTON MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

Tatton is a largish mere of 31.7ha with a maximum depth of around 11m. It has inflows through wetland to the south where the town of Knutsford lies close to it and a single outflow to the north. A small mere, Melchett Mere lies close to its outflow and appears to be fed entirely from ground water plus diffuse run off from the parkland that surrounds the mere. The flushing rates, based on gauging of the outflow, on annual, winter and growth season bases were 1.1,1.45, and 1 per year with corresponding retention times of 46,36 and 54 weeks. Water is thus held in the basin for a relatively long period with little seasonal variation.

(ii) Changes in land use

The catchment of Tatton Mere lies within the parishes of Tatton and Knutsford for which the land use changes have been as follows:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	556 6728 154 739 1269 1814 2408 337	496 6002 0 0 321 482 23 3
Total nutrient units	9618	6487
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha)	851 47	214 28

Arable(ha)	147	318
Woodland(ha)	3	25
Rough grazing(ha)	0	0
Total hectarage	1048	585

These parishes are unusual in showing a decline in stock keeping, a familiar drift to arable from grassland but a very marked loss of land to non agricultural uses as the local town has expanded.

(iii) Major ions and nutrient loads

The local ground water ,as reflected in Melchett Mere, is moderately rich in ions with quite high alkalinity. It is also low in phosphorus and in nitrate. Tatton Mere has slightly greater conductivity and lesser alkalinity reflecting local heterogeneity but confusing the interpretation of Tatton's rather high soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations. These may be natural but equally may be derived from old effluent inputs fom Knutsford. The town is mains sewered but the effluent is discharged elsewhere. With such high phosphorus concentrations it might be expected that inorganic nitrogen would build up also in winter if there is an ultimate excretal source and there is a small but distinct increase. The inflow comes through areas of wetland that would mute such increase even in winter. The nutrient status of the mere thus remains problematic with some reason for suspicion of effluent entry.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

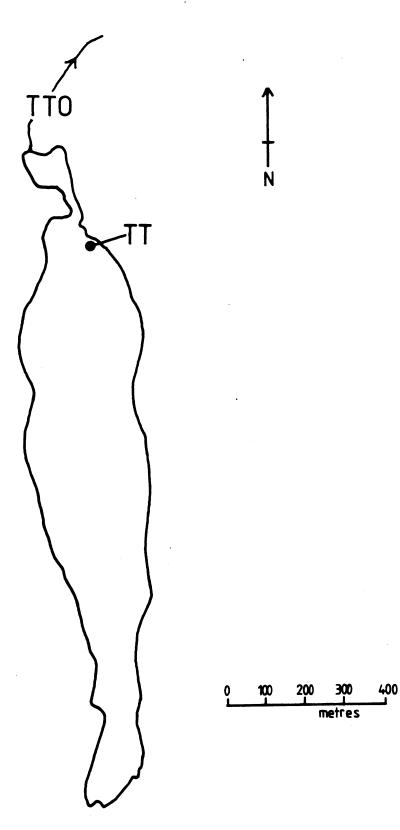
Apart from a spring peak of diatoms, chlorophyll a concentrations were low, whilst *Daphnia* populations were very modest. Bluegreen algae were also scarce. The algal crop thus seems to be controlled by the low nitrogen availability and it is surprising, considering the long retention time and high alkalinity that nitrogen fixing blue-green algae were scarce.

(v) Aquatic plants

A full survey could not be carried out because of the prohibition of powered boats on the mere but it was clear from a littoral survey that aquatic plants were relatively abundant and diverse with nine submerged vascular plants plus one species of *Chara* being recorded. *Myriophyllum spicatum*, *Elodea canadensis* and *Potamogeton pectinatus* were particularly plentiful. These are all highly tolerant species. The trophic score was 8.8, alittle higher than those recorded in 1979 and 1987 (8.5,8.6) but probably not significantly so. The DAFOR score remains high at 27, with 1979 and 1987 values having been 24 and 17.5 respectively.

(vi) Overall assessment

Despite a suspicion of effluent contamination, which may eventually prove to be unfounded, Tatton Mere is in a reasonable state with low algal crops, that are nutrient controlled, and a rich aquatic plant assemblage. It is desirable that the issue of nutrient source be further investigated but it is likely to be one that will decrease rather than increase as old septic tank systems are replaced by mains sewerage. On balance the phosphorus levels are so high that any such source should be very obvious. That it is not makes it likely that the high phosphorus concentration is natural and that the drift to the south of the mere is phosphorus rich. No immediate action seems necessary at Tatton mere.



Discharge	0 0040	0.0430	00100	09900	0.1330	0.0790	0.1700	0.0360	0.0003	00150	01080	00600	0.0260	0.0530	0.0840	0690	0.0560	0.0400	0.0460	0.0500
Silicate Si	1.24	68.0	0.38	0.69	1.74	2.23	2.79	2.87	0.72	0.27	0.70	0.58	0.40	0.99	202	80	990	0.32	1 18	0.88
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Nitrate N	000	000	000	0.23	0.20	0.34	0.55	0.42	0.0	0.42	0.34	0.0	000	0.00	0.32	0.18	0.1	0.17	0.19	0.20
Total P	223	187	181	319	311	312	208	333	286	330	180	129	279	176	250	137	223	2	268	66
Partic P	39.0			0.0	18.0	26.5	237.0	34.0	182.0	205.0	41.0	0.99	130.0	0.0						
Tot Sol P	184	202		319	262	285	172	588	ğ	125	139	62	150	176						
Sol React P	171	157	154	272	569	152	267	298	2	125	126	62	125	154	231	16	150	53	177	9/
Chloride	57.0	29.6	59.6	67.9		55.0	28.0	51.9	26.0	57.2	54.4	28.0	0.09	9.99	55.2	2.5	58.9	3.8	87.8	3.8
£	8.29	9.05	8.78	80.8	7.92	8.25	8.22	8 .40	9.28	9.17	8.65	9.80	90.6	8.99	8.40	0.51	8.76	0.37	8.64	0.44
Total Alk	2.24	2.20	2.40	1.90	2.50	2.95	2.50	2.75	2.40	2.70	3.10	2.65	2.75	2.40	2.62	0.23	2.48	0.36	2.53	0.31
Phenolph Alk	0.17	0.40	0.20	0.40	0.10	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.50	0.35	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.16	0.07	0.31	0.1	0.26	0.12
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Nitrate N	0.23	0.33	0.28	0.25	0.08	000	0.0	0.0		0.28	0.05	0.0	0.11	0.15	0.14
Total P	36	34	25	27	36	35	20	12		32	9	56	2	58	6
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£	8.12	8.35	8.20	8.53	8.37	8.11	8.56	99.8		8.22	0.12	8.45	0.21	8.36	0.21
Total alk	2.90	3.95	2.90	2.95	2.90	2:90	2.85	2.65		3.25	0.60	2.85	0.12	3.00	0.39
Phenolph Alk	0.20	0.15	0.20	0.15	0.30	0.15	0.25	0.20		0.18	0.03	0.21	0.02	0.20	0.02
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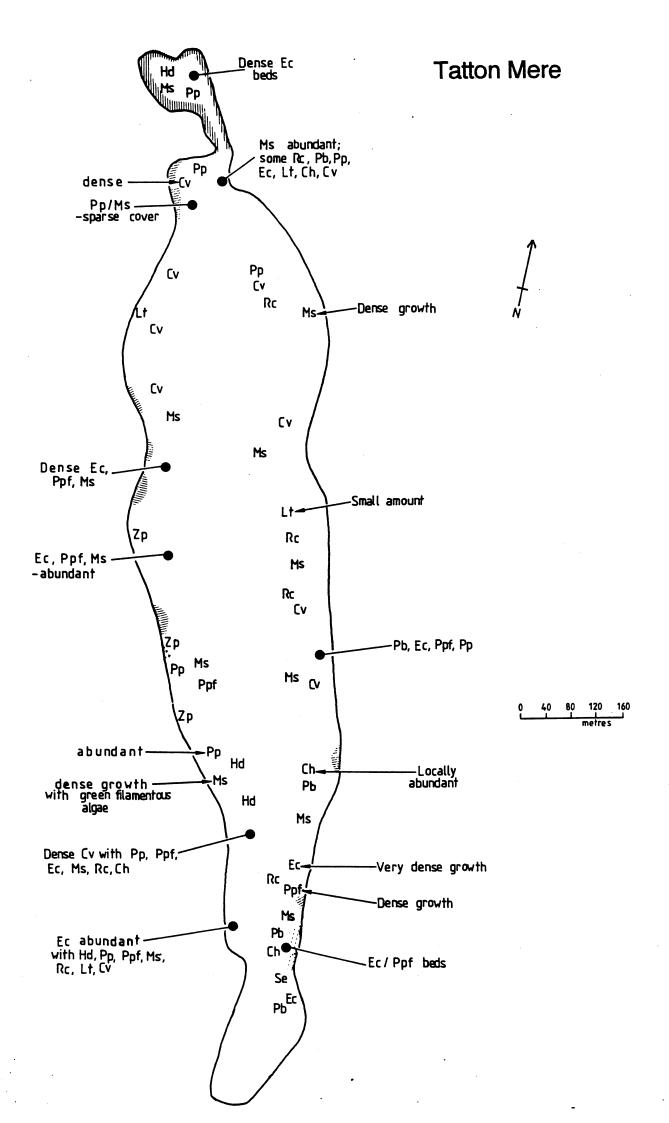
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480:663	1.36	1.38	1.39	2.00	1.91	2.40	2.67	11.50	2.18	1.38	1.43	2.00	1.93	2.33							
Carotenoids	5.0	11.3	27.3	12.7	14.0	4.0	8.0	15.3	128.0	45.0	3.3	7.3	9.7	2.0							
Chlorophyll	4.00	11.45	19.90	6.40	7.41	1.83	3.30	1.50	64.50	33.40	2.60	4.00	5.50	3.30		15.70	27.30	10.10	10.30	12.10	17.40
Silicate Si	1.58	2.03	1.23	0.48	1.54	1.71	2.58	2.83	1.66	0.32	0.33	0.88	1.64	2.00		2.06	0.60	1.17	0.69	1.49	0.78
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. 6	Dart mahir	•	•	265	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	54	•	6		Q
9	Oscillatoria	•			•		•	•	•	•	13	•	•			
2 2	Obermidium	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	13	•	•	•		
3 2	Calendaria	8	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
5 5	Strgonerna	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	25	•	•	•	•	•		
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		1364	57.													92
\$	Total greens	201	102													2 2
02	Total others	308	146		308											2 8
g	Total bga	107	0	824												3 5
20	TOTAL	1886	1472		775	521	749	5387	986	28760	2958	213	1340	660		788
8	:	;	:													8
60	% distorus	72.3	76.4		48.1		26.7									•
9	% greens	5.7	13.7			7.7	0	17.2	38.0	4.5		2 46	 •	2.6		3.5
=	%others	16.3	6.6				73.3									<u>ء</u> ج
12	86bgs	5.7	•	13.4			?									.
3	,				•	2										
<u>-</u>		Diatoms	Green algae	Others	She preens											
15 ×	15 Whiter mean%	53.5	13.2													
16	S	30.5	14.7		2.5											
7 64	17 Growth mean%	37.7	29.6	26.1												
•	S	32.6	23.8													
1 6	vear mean%	42.9	23.8		5											
2	20 SD	31.5	21.9	21.4	6.0											



(u) WHITE MERE

(i) Morphometry and water budget

White Mere is an isolated basin with no apparent permanent surface inflows and is probably fed almost entirely by ground water. It is deep (13.8m) and 25.5ha in area.

(ii) Changes in land usage

Whitemere has a catchment area that is probably contained within the Ellesmere Rural Parish for which the land use changes have been:

	1931	1987
Cattle(head) nutrient units Pigs(head) nutrient units Sheep(head) nutrient units Poultry(head) nutrient units	8569 103685 4434 21283 7721 11582 37706 5279	12501 151262 5774 29715 10658 15987 2927 410
Total nutrient units	141829	195374
Permanent grass(ha) Temporary grass(ha) Arable(ha) Woodland(ha) Rough grazing	6124 457 580 3 28	3502 1314 1706 141 118
Total hectarage	7192	6781

There has thus been an increase in stock keeping and a loss of grassland to arable and non-agricultural uses.

(iii) Major ion chemistry and nutrient loads

White Mere has only modest conductivity and alkalinity compared with other of the meres but it has among the highest soluble reactive and total phosphorus concentrations with the rather staggering mean annual value for total P of 1456ug/l. Its inorganic nitrogen concentrations are however low and nitrogen is very scarce in summer. It seems likely that the high phosphorus is a natural phenomenon.

(iv) Phytoplankton and zooplankton

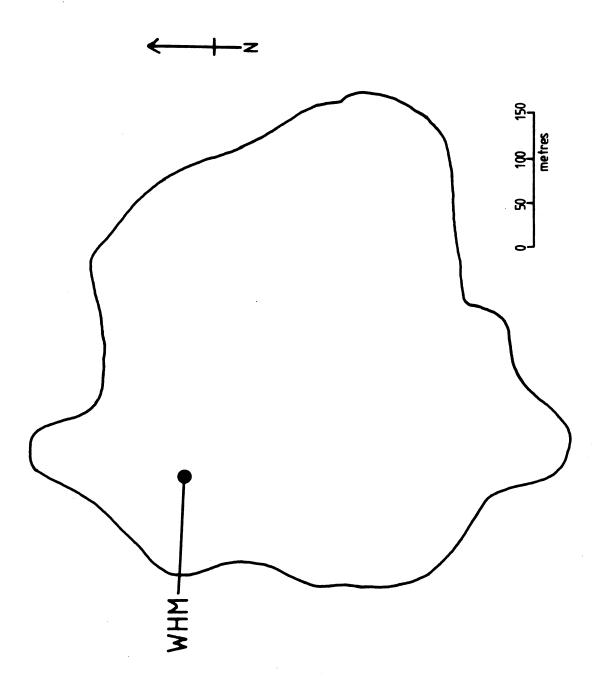
Chlorophyll a concentrations were modest and the community contained a significant proportion of blue-green algae. *Daphnia* numbers were moderately high but fluctuated greatly. White Mere is stratified in summer and vertical migrations may have confounded the sampling strategy used, on some occasions. Both grazing and shortage of nitrogen are likely to be important determinants of the algal crops.

(v) Aquatic plants

At appropriate depths, aquatic plants were abundant with *Elodea canadensis* particularly so and *Ranunculus circinatus* frequent. The trophic score was 8.2, compared with similar values of 8.1 and 8.6 in 1979 and 1987. The DAFOR score has fallen from 18.5 in 1987 to 11 but this index is so observer-dependent that even such an apparently large change may mean little.

(vi) Overall assessment

There appear to be no particular problems at White Mere from the eutrophication point of view. It seems to be a 'classic' high phosphorus mere that has undoubtedly undergone some eutrophication as are sult of agricultural changes in its catchment but these changes have not led to severe symptoms of eutrophication. The water remains clear and there is as much plant development as might be expected in such a site. No immediate management is required.

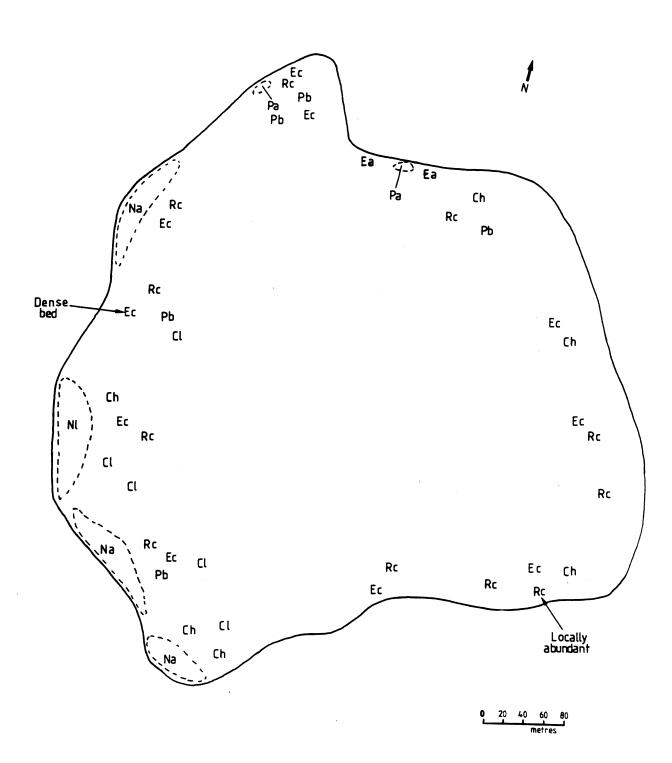


	Date	Conductivity	Phenolph Alk	Total Alk	£	Chloride	Sol React P	Tot Sol P	Partic P	Total P
,		966		1 85	90 6	38.8	883	844	243	1087
_	JUI 24 1991	956				0 77	1015	1296	179	1475
~	Aug 14 1991	300) 28:-	Ø.93	44.0	2	067		
(1)	Sept 4 1991			1.20	8.56	36.7	1415	1619	<u></u>	6891
4	Oct 9 1991			2.10	7.74	43.5	1447			1686
r ur	Oct 30 1991			2.15	7.43	9.09	1225	1629	203	1833
י מ	Nov 20 1991			2,00	7.67	•	1086	1226	158	1384
) r	Nov 20 1991			2.15	7.60	36.4	1402	1896	0	1896
٠ ٥	lon 22 1992			2.00	7.92	38.5	1312	1601	0	1601
0	Sall 22 1992 Eah 10 1092			1.90	8.10	39.2	1256	1256	0	1256
י כ	Mar 11 1992			2.05	8.38	43.5	1313	1313	0	1313
	April 1 1992			1.85	9.04	35.3	844	1606	0	1606
	April 20 1092			1.80	9.05	40.0	831	831	418	1249
	May 20 1992			1.80	8.60	40	1042	1042	0	1042
<u>.</u> 4	June 10 1992	286	0.15	1.65	8.98	37.3	1031	1031	0	1031
										•
9	Winter mean			5.00	7.82	38.0	1264			1534
12	OS:			0.10	0.23	1.5	133			280
. α	Growth mean			1.83	8.57	42.1	1105			1427
0	CS:			0.27	,0.58	7.2	231			292
2 2	Annual mean			1.88	8.36	41.1	1150			1456
21	SOS	18	0.11	0.25	0.61	6.5	216			285

	Ammonium N Silicate Si	Chlorophyll	Carotenoids	480:663	430:410	Secchi	Total Daphnia
211	0.51		20.00	1.67	1.16	1.65	8.68
374	0.95		38.70	1.27	1.24	0.80	
238	0.68		23.00	1.68	1.32	1.75	
414	1.19		23.70	1.48	1.10	2.10	
742	1.40		00.6	1.59	1.04	٨	
587	0.44		12.00	1.64	1.05	3.0	
719	0.45		5.30	1.78	0.86	2.5	
565	0.56		47.70	1.51	1.26	^	
574	0.74		2.33	3.50	1.26	3.7	
250	0.27		11.70	1.13	1.16	2.75	
0	0.12		22.00	1.25	1.05	2.0	
	0.49		27.70	1.00	1.18	1.6	
229	0.83		7.00	1.91	1.03	>3.55	
0	0.45	5 22.40	30.00	1.48	1.04	2.1	
	0.55						6.50
	0.14						6.70
248	0.69						16.80
227	0.40	9.10					16.50
352	0.65						13.90
256	0.35						14.90

Organism	July 24 1991 Aug 14 1991	Aug 14 1991	Sept 4 1991	Oct 9 1991	Nov 20 1991	Dec 18 1991	Jan 22 1992	Feb 19 1992	=	April 1 1992	Aug 28 1992	May 20 1992	June 10 1992	266
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Aphanocap el	88	134	•	•	•		•	•		5 ,	9 '		•
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Aphanocapsa	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	124		•	٠
Coelosph naeg	•	•	112	•			•	•	1	tc-			•
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Gloeocystis	•	٠	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gomphos lac	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gormphos apon	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•	13	•	•
Microcyst aer	45	•	22	•		•	•	•	•		2 '		•
Oscillatoria	•	•	•	•	•	<u></u>	•	•	•		•	•	•
Osc ten	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		٠	•	•
Phormidium	69	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Total diatoms	99	134	67	66	1407	191	,	3011	2103	600	•		107
Total greens	594	536	200	25	295	68	2	442	642	224	783	48.	750
Total others	1384	201	557	107	134	2	194	2	2894	727	90	268	1085
otal blue grms	314	1005	156	22	0	=======================================	750	•	9	209	1179	3	0
TOTAL	2358	1876	980	225	1836	240	2038	1651	10492	2456	1768	749	1942
Diatoms %		7.1	8.9	17.3	76.6	67.1		69	6.5	36.4	c	c	5
Greens%	52	28.6	20.4	23.1	16.1	16.2	67	26.8	-	-	27.3	64.2	38.6
Others %		10.7	898	47.6	7.3	11.2	¥ 5	~	27.6	300	6	35.8	6 5 5
Blue greens %		53.6	15.9	12.0	0	5.4	36.8	•	38	24.5	66.7	0	0
Whter mean Growth mean Annual mean	Diatoms 53(35) 17.7(22.6) 29.5(30.9)	Greens 15.6(9.6) 26.9(17.1) 23.5(15.7)	Others 20.9(25.2) 36.6(19.8) 31.7(21.8)	Blue greens 10.6(17.7) 20.7(24) 17.6(22)									



SECTION 1 SUMMARY OF STATE OF THE MERES AND REMEDIAL MEASURES REQUIRED

Mere	State		Measure	s suggest	ed
		None	Nutrient control	Reduce fish	No re- stocking
Berrington	+	+		-	• .
Betley	+/-	-	+	+	+
Betton	+	+	-	-	-
Bomere	+	+	•	-	. •
Chapel	+/-	-	+	-	+
Cole	+	+	-	-	-
Comber	+/-	•	+	-	+
Cop	+/-	•	+	+	+
Crose	+	+	-	-	• '
Fene	<u> </u>	•	-	+	+
Hatch	+	+	-	-	•
Little	+/-	-	+	-	+
Mere	+	+	•	-	•
Oak	+	+	•	-	-
Oss	+	+	-	•	-
Petty	•	•	+	+	-
Quoislev L	. +/-	+	•	-	+
Quoisley E	3 +/-	+	•	•	+
Rostherne	+/-	-	+	•	-
Tabley Mr	+/-	-	+	•	-
Tabley Mt	+/-	-	+	-	-
Tatton	+	+	-	-	-
White	+	+	-	-	-

Of the twenty-three sites considered, 11 are believed to be in a satisfactory state (+) from the point of view of eutrophication. They may have undergone some increase in loading during the past few decades but there is probably little that can be immediately and practicably done to reduce this for the sources are diffuse and reduction would require major changes in agricultural policy.

Twelve sites are considered to be in a seriously threatened state(+/-) or have been severely altered by eutrophication(-). Of these sites, nutrient control alone is needed in three, some manipulation of the fish stock or avoidance of re-stocking in three and both measures in a further six. The nutrient control has already been put in place at two sites (Little Mere and Rostherne Mere) by diversion of sewage effluent. Apart from a domestic effluent problem at Chapel Mere, and additionally even there, the problem at the other sites is farm effluent and nutrient control should be diversion of the effluent so that both N and P are removed. It is likely that phosphorus availability is naturally high in the area and that eutrophication may have been nitrogen-driven in many instances. In this respect it is important that, as a general precautionary measure, all wet meadow and wetland areas adjacent to the lakes should be maintained with high water tables. Denitrification, which is favoured in soils of high but fluctuating water table, is likely to be currently very imprtant in reducing the immediate nitrogen loads to the lakes. The surface water streams are often very rich in nitrate.

SECTION 2 REGIONAL LIMNOLOGY OF THE WEST MIDLAND MERES

- 1. The first step in comprehending natural phenomena is the recognition of pattern. Once recognised, pattern needs to be explained and in explanation comes understanding. Following understanding there can be sensible prescriptions for management. An approach to the recognition of pattern is correlation among sets of data and this is applied here to discern common relationships among the meres. Only experiment can reveal the mechanisms that constitute understanding and this must be left to future projects. However prescriptions for management can be made from analogous experience elsewhere and the suggestions given in the first section are of this nature. It is desirable, however that more detailed studies are made on selected sites to confirm the prescriptions. in the meantime some understanding can come from a wide overview of the entire data set.
- 2. By the very collective term of the West Midland Meres there is an implication of a certain commonality and it is not uncommon to find generalisations that imply a uniformity among them as naturally eutrophic kettle hole lakes. Although most are probably ancient natural basins, they may have a variety of origins (Reynolds 1979) and they certainly have a wide variety of water chemistries. Reynolds recognised that the lakes were not uniformly distributed and was able to show, by nearest neighbour analysis that they were for the most part clumped. The reason for the clumping is not obvious but perhaps related to the dropping of morainic material or of particular washout regions from the melting glaciers. Using conductivity data Reynolds showed that the groups of meres had characteristic ranges of values but that there was a great deal of overlap between groups. There was, perhaps surprisingly, a tendency for the groups with the higher conductivities to be associated with sandy and gravelly drift and for the least

Ln Cphyll grow	3.016	4.383	2.625	2.632	2,565	3.391	3.020	4.011	2.219	3.285	3.418	2.573	3.456	3.965	2.398	2.351	3.118	2.588	2.988	3.063	2.313	2.815	3.001	2.128
Grazing Ln	0.090	1.790	1.200	10.000	79.800	48.600	23.400	8.600	20.900	19.300	0.440	72.700	42.400	7.900	65.900	161.000	10.400	107.000	24.200	90.500	12.400	14.000	7.390	11.800
%Lg Daph	0.000	0.000	4.800	0.000	3.700	0.000	0.000	46.200	41.100	0.420	5.050	74.400	0.490	0.000	0.000	23.300	9.000	90.900	70.430	40.400	0.780	0.170	0.340	0.000
Daph lg/sm	0.350	0.038	0.110	0.007	0.040	0.005	0.003	0.860	0.700	0.008	0.210	2.900	0.002	0.00	0.001	0.304	0.104	9.970	2.340	0.680	0.020	0.007	0.003	0.000
Bos/Daph	0.596	0.550	0.710	0,350	0.003	0.005	0.00	0.019	0.003	0.250	86.100	0.070	0.002	0.110	0.003	0.001	0.012	0.010	0.125	0.003	0.028	0.002	0.200	2.490
iphnia (grow)	0.120	2.010	1.470	13.900	100.100	24.800	33.700	4.050	31.700	26.700	0.530	26.000	58.000	12.200	84.000	108.300	8.600	39.500	11.900	61.500	10 100	16,800	9.300	16.800
Daphnia(ann) Da _l	060'0	1.790	1.050	10.000	71.800	48.600	23.400	3.600	22.800	19.060	0.380	22.500	41.800	006.2	65.900	94.700	8.200	28.600	7.780	40.900	12.100	13.900	7.400	11.800
%bga(grow)	31,700	4 200	18 900	21 900	13 300	47.100	15.200	23.000	5.400	16.900	4 170	0 300	24 300	4 400	11 100	006.	34 000	17.500	36.700	1 090	6 500	20,200	16.200	0.000
%grns(grow)	49 600	28.200	23.400	51.400	18 200	26.200	15 200	16.200	17.600	53.400	28.200	22.100	33.100	43.100	25.75	43.300	13 500	11 900	14 300	42 400	29 600	26.000	9 600	82.900
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row)	3.400	3.700	8.400	6.400	39.000	2.500	24.200	39.800	2.100	19.800	14.400	28.600	006.6	2.900	21.400	6.800	19.100	7.300	4.000	0.800	37.700	17.700	21.400	6.100
%diat(grow)		_			,																			_
%bga(ann)	32.000	2.900	13.400	15.600	10.000	34.100	11.100	18.200	4.040	12.500	3.700	2.200	18.500	3.100	8.030	3.740	32.400	12.800	23.900	1.590	2.900	17.600	13.000	0.050
%grns(ann)	41.500	30.800	17.900	50.800	20.400	23.800	20.500	13.500	14.300	47.600	25.100	33.700	38.000	42.800	48.700	41.500	13.600	11.200	20.200	43.700	23.800	23.500	10.500	84.200
%diat(ann)	12.600	41.800	17.000	8.250	33.400	9.800	21.700	52.800	26.100	25.400	28.100	21.400	19.700	41.300	19.500	24.700	14.600	51.600	19.600	34.800	42.900	29.500	24.600	4.300
orophyll(gr)	20.400	80.100	13.800	13.900	13.000	29.700	20.500	55.200	9.200	26.700	30.500	13.100	31.700	52.700	11.000	10.500	22.600	13.300	19.850	21.400	10.100	16.700	20.100	8.400
Chlorophyll(an) Chlorophyll(gr)	16.600	62.900	11.200	12,000	12,000	21.700	14.700	29.600	9.830	19.060	29.500	11.400	35.400	60.500	8.400	14.200	16.300	17.600	18.800	21.400	12.100	15.300	15.500	7.400
SRP (grow) Ch	28.000	360.000	52.000	15.000	1052,000	244.000	188,000	248.000	124.000	413.000	15.000	1541.000	199,000	150.000	364.000	186,000	296,000	224.000	241,000	715,000	139.000	1105.000	3.000	2.000
Fotal N(grow)	0.250	0.710	0.360	0.260	0.586	0.520	0.810	1.650	0.235	0.610	1.760	3.030	0.270	0.440	0.295	1.080	0.740	1.930	2.080	1.287	0.280	0.360	0.850	0.100
Total P (wint) Total P(grow) Total N(grow)	83.000	609.000	88.000	49.000	1278.000	355,000	298.000	382.000	180,000	539.000	90.000	1686.000	321.000	339.000	439,000	260,000	370.000	336.000	332.000	903,000	183.000	1427.000	26.000	26.000
otal P (wint)	183.000	274,000	178.000	112.000	1241.000	513.000	507.000	166,000	298.000	359.000	72.000	980,000	232,000	121.000	319,000	273.000	520,000	291.000	314,000	390,000	323.000	1534.000	46.000	73.000
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SRP (wint)	126.000	197.000	143.000	81.000	957,000	450.000	411.000	102.000	237.000	169.000	7.000	746.000	132.000	20.000	314.000	179.000	431.000	204.000	214.000	292.000	260.000	1264.000	18.000	17.000
Total N (wint)	0.720	1.850	0.640	0.600	0.650	1.270	0.900	2.340	0.600	2.800	1.320	1.910	0.147	1.030	1.540	2.130	0.840	3.740	5.280	3.870	0.750	0.910	1.010	0.330
Total P (ann)	113.000	506.000	113.000	62.000	1267.000	400.000	362.000	315.000	214.000	487.000	85.000	1510.000	296.000	261.000	404.000	264.000	419.000	323.000	326.000	720.000	233.000	1456.000	54.000	61.000
Chloride(ann)	60.900	47.600	43.500	23.700	37.400	25.300	43.200	29.500	36.000	78.400	48.100	73.200	40.300	50.400	41.900	38.600	44.700	104.000	106.000	75.500	58.400	41.100	75.600	23.200
Tot Alk(ann)	1.800	3.930	2.080	0.670	4.680	1.490	3.000	2.950	3.050	4.760	2.360	1.760	3.020	2.350	4.690	5.020	2.650	2.450	2.460	3.210	2.600	1.880	1.510	0.028
Phen Alk(ann)	0.170	0.440	0.150	0.020	0.540	0.200	0.340	0.510	0.290	0.430	0.130	0.008	0.410	0.190	0.360	0.250	0.260	0.400	0.310	0.100	0.300	0.170	0.030	0.000
Conduct(ann)	392.000	659.000	356.000	132.000	721.000	239.000	513.000	457.000	474.000	756.000	484.000	523.000	491.000	465.000	611.000	639.000	523.000	701.000	707.000	632.000	518.000	309.000	523.000	188.000
Max. depth	12.200	1.800	10.900	15.200	2.400	11.500	11.800	2.700	9.300	2.200	3.800	1.700	3.000	3.100	2.400	1.800	27.500	4.400	4.400	1.500	11.000	13.800	8.100	2.600
Area	2.500	9.300	6.400	10.300	6.500	27.600	51.500	16.800	15.200	9.400	4.700	2.500	9.500	11.700	4.000	2.200	48.700	19.400	19.400	2.000	31.700	25.500	15.800	18.300
Mere	Berrington Pl	Betley Mere	Betton Pool	Bomere	Chapel Mere	Colemere	Combermere	Cop Mere	Crosemere	Fenemere	Hatchmere	Little Mere	Oss Mere	Petty Pool	Quoisley Big M	Quoisley Lt M	Rostherne Mr	Tabley Mere	Tabley M(sl)	Tabley Moat	Tatton Mere	White Mere	Mere mere	Oakmere
	-	7	က	4	2	9	7	œ	တ	9		12	13	14		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

conductive to be on boulder clay, but the relationship was very weak. One problem might have been the paucity of data, for many meres in the analysis had only a single measurement to characterise them. Using principal components analysis, Beales(1976) recognised six categories. These were pools of high alkalinity (>4 mequiv/l), pools of moderate alkalinity (2-4 mequiv/l), shallow pools of moderate to high alkalinity, small pools of low alkalinity, bog pools, and deeper meres of low to moderate alkalinity (<4 mequiv/l). With all due respect to the powers of modern multivariate statistical analysis, this is not a very informative classification for understanding how the ecosystems work and what drives their functioning.

- 3. The approach used here has been stepwise. First, synoptic diagrams have been constructed using the fuller data now available. Then secondly, a regression analysis has been carried out to investigate factors determining the algal crop size in the meres examined in detail. Finally this analysis has been extended to sub-groups of the meres determined on good limnological grounds.
- 4. Figure 1 shows the distribution of conductivity. Mean annual data recorded in this survey have been used and supplemented with data from Reynolds(1979) for meres not included in the survey. Comparison of Reynold's data taken in the nineteen seventies, NCC data taken in the nineteen eighties (Wigginton & Palmer 1987) and current 1991/92 data shows a steady increase in most sites, which is probably related to the tendency for summers to be drier in the last decade. Some comparisons are shown in Table 1. For comparability, Reynolds' data have been increased by a factor of 1.2, the average increase among all the meres for which data are available. Tabley Mere has been excluded because its high conductivity may be linked to the leaching of salt from deicing treatment of the motorway that runs close to one of its main inflows.

Table 1. Changes in conductivity of some of the West Midland Meres between the 1970s and the early 1990s

Mere	1976 (Reynolds)	1979 (NCC)	1987 (NCC)	1991/2
Berrington	on 292	290	415	392
Betton	256	243	315	356
Bomere	94	100	145	132
Cole	289	303	310	239
Crose	373	340	390	474

Fene	570	507	690	756
Hatch	406	380	460	484
Oss		310	460	491
Quoisley Big	522	450	600	611
Tatton	496	400	515	518
Tabley	769	540	1020	701
Quoisley Lt	571			639
Petty	337			465
Cop	404			457
Comber	400			513
Chapel	559			721
Betley	609			713

5. Figure 1 confirms that there is no simple pattern to conductivity. Each group of meres has awide range and although the North Cheshire group has some of the highest values, there is little to suggest that this may be linked to the existence of the Triassic salt field. Values, even at their highest are much lower than those of brines and some quite low values are also found. Conductivity in the meres is closely linked to alkalinity. the regression equation is:

Alkalinity = 0.006 Conductivity - 0.297 r= 0.79, P < 0.0001

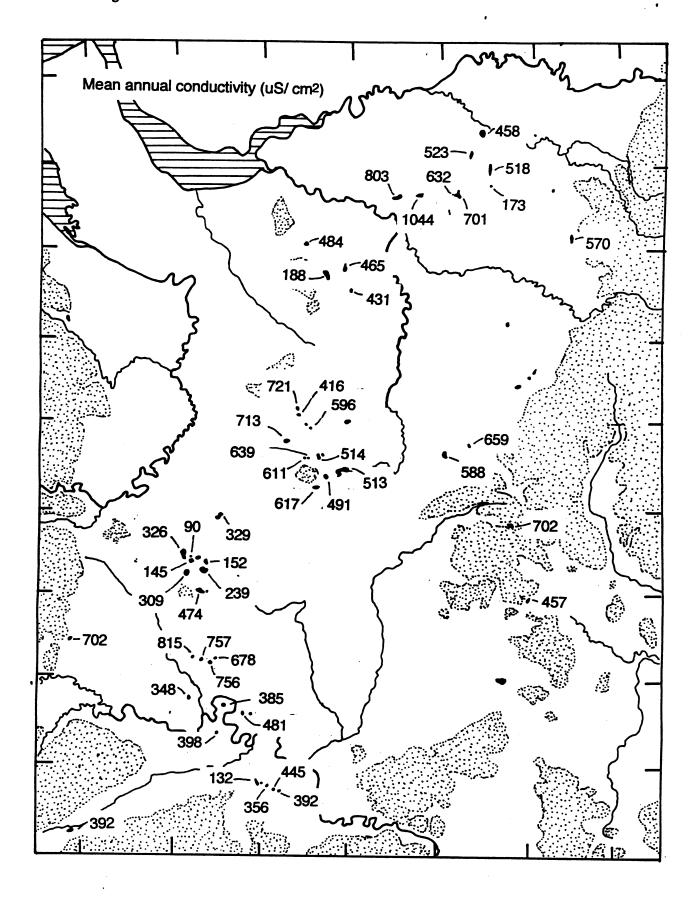
A plot of alkalinity thus gives a similar picture to that of conductivity.

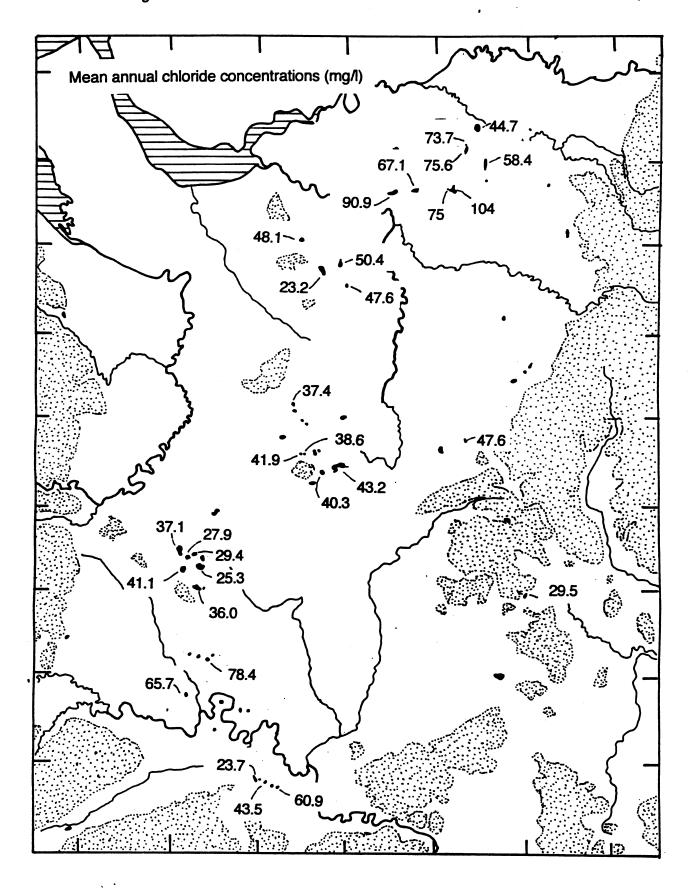
6. Chloride is not so closely linked with alkalinity as chloride is derived from rain whereas most of the ions which dominate the conductivity, including the bicarbonate ions that dominate the alkalinity, are soil derived. The chloride /conductivity regression was:

Chloride = 0.086 Conductivity 8.856 (r = 0.63. P < 0.005)

A synoptic plot of chloride, however also shows great variation over limited areas and no particular trend pattern (Fig 2). This diagram also includes data from Reynolds that have been corrected for the weather-linked increases since the 1970s.

7. The relatively high phosphorus concentrations measured in some of the meres by Reynolds (1979) have been attributed to the existence of phosphorus-rich minerals such as apatite in the surrounding drift. If this is so there might be a relationship between total phosphorus and either alkalinity or conductivity. Examination of the current data revealed no significant relationship between total phosphorus and either of these variables with no correlation coefficient greater than 0.22. Nor was there any geographical pattern (Fig.3) in the distribution of total phosphorus concentrations, although it is confirmed that some very high values exist in a set that is generally high. In Fig.3 lakes that are known to have pollutant sources of phosphorus are distinguished from lakes





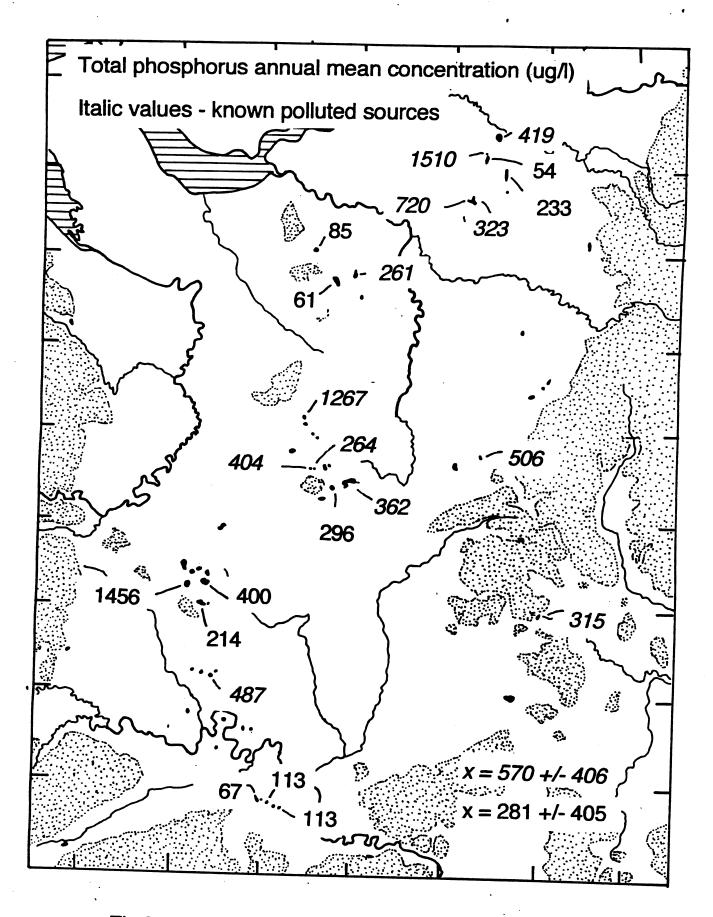
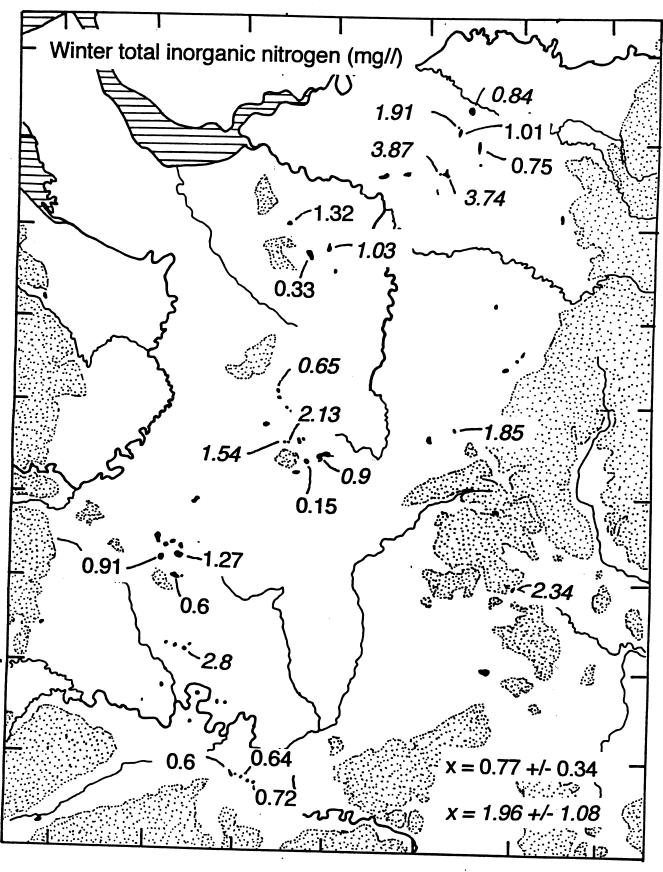


Fig 3



Italic numerals- known polluted sources

Fig 4

where no such source could be discovered. On average the former group has higher total phosphorus concentrations but the largest value of all (White Mere) lies in the latter group.

- 8. A synoptic plot of winter inorganic nitrogen concentrations (Fig. 4) also shows no geographical pattern. Lakes with known pollutant sources have the higher values but overall the values are low for an agricultural area. The streams are not necessarily deficient in nitrogen and the low values in the lakes probably reflect denitrification in the wetlands surrounding many of the lakes. Comparable values in East Anglia would be nearly an order of magnitude larger.
- 9. The synoptic approach to detection of pattern among the meres has thus failed to demonstrate any simple spatial pattern. This may reflect a non-systematic influence of human activities coupled with the marked heterogeneity of glacial drift. An underlying pattern must exist but to reveal it would require very detailed soil sampling.
- 10. The second approach taken was to carry out regressions to see which variables might best predict the algal biomass as measured by mean chlorophyll a concentrations during the growing season. A summary table was compiled of those variables likely to be important. These included key major ion variables such as conductivity, and total alkalinity. Phenolphthalein alkalinity was also included but may often be derivative of high chlorophyll a concentrations following intense photosynthesis. A range of phosphorus and nitrogen variables was included, and also variables related to potential grazing of the algae. Some of these were straightforward, such as **Daphnia** numbers. Others were designed to give a better index of potential grazing and included the percentage of large(>2mm) **Daphnia**, the ratio of large to small **Daphnia** and a grazing index in which large **Daphnia** were weighted at four times the value of small Daphnia. Grazing rate of daphnids is proportional to the second or third power of size. The ratio of **Bosmina** to **Daphnia** increases as fish predation increases and this ratio was also included. Simple regressions between each variable and either chlorophyll a concentration or In chlorophyll a concentration were carried out with the following results (Table 2):

Table 2 Simple regressions between growth season mean chlorophyll a concentrations and environmental variables in 23 meres

	Chlore	ophyll a	Ln chlorophyll a	
Variable	r ²	P	r ²	P

Area	0.002	ns	0.0001	ns
Depth	0.058	ns	0.025	ns
Conductivity	0.058	ns	0.014	ns
Total alkalinity	0.024	ns	0.013	ns
Chloride	0.008	ns	0.00008	ns
Ann Tot P	0.005	ns	0.004	ns
Wint Tot P	0.044	ns	0.041	ns
Wint SRP	0.051	ns	0.019	ns
Wint N	0.008	ns	0.00004	ns
Grow Tot P	0.00007	ns	0.00004	ns
Grow SRP	0.009	ns	0.014	ns
Grow N	0.002	ns	0.014	ns
Ann Daphnia	-0.109	<0.25	-0.124	<0.1
Grow Daphnia	-0.096	<0.25	-0.109	<0.25
Bos/Daph	0.007	ns	0.024	ns
Daph lge/sm	-0.024	ns	-0.026	ns
Daph % lge	-0.02	ns	-0.023	ns
Grazing	-0.134	<0.1	-0.162	<0.05

11. The results of this analysis indicated that major ion and nutrient variables had very little influence on algal crops but that grazing had some significant effect. The amount of variation explained was small however and so multiple regressions using several variables were attempted. The variables having the greatest correlation coefficients in the above table were used with the stipulation that only one major ion related, one phosphorus, one nitrogen and one grazing related variable were used. Depth was also included.

12. The results were as follows:

	Chlorophyl	la	Ln Chlorophy	hiorophyli a	
Variable	Sequential r ²	P	Sequential r ²	P	
Grazing index	x 0.134	<0.1	0.162	<0.05	
Depth	0.311	<0.25	0.281	<0.05	
Conductivity	0.338	<0.05	0.325	<0.05	
Winter N	0.339	<0.1	0.337	<0.1	
Winter SRP	0.341	<0.25	0.338	<0.25	

With these, the most predictive regressions, grazing and depth were most effective at accounting for the variance in the data but at

best accounted for only 31.1% of the variance, Addition of conductivity, winter N and winter SRP added only a further few per cent. A total of at most 34% of the variance could be accounted for suggesting that other factors were much more important.

- 13. Low predictability in regressions, however, can arise from selection of too heterogeneous a data set. In this case the lakes may have been of very different kinds with different variables controlling algal crops in different types. The lake set was therefore divided on the basis of depth. The basis for this decision was that the ecosystems of shallow lakes are potentially dominated by submerged plants whilst in deep lakes, although plants may grow prolifically in a narrow littoral zone at the edge, their influence on the ecosystem overall is subordinate to that of the plankton. Submerged plant dominance can only occur if a substantial part of the bottom is colonisable by plants. This will depend essentialy on the light climate at the sediment surface and hence on turbidity. However the criterion adopted for shallowness here is potential dominance by submerged plants rather than actual dominance and extensive work in Denmark (Jeppesen et al 1991)suggests that 3m is a sensible depth at which to make a separation between deep and shallow lakes.
- 14. Only maximum depths are available for the meres and this can give problems in lakes whose maximum depth is close to the critical depth for separation. A lake may have a maximum depth above the critical but have most of its bottom covered with plants except for a small area at the maximum depth. Another lake with a similar maximum depth may have steep sides and most of its bottom may be at the maximum depth and potentially uncolonisable. In the meres' data set, most separate easily into the deep or shallow category. Two meres, however, pose problems. Tabley Mere has a maximum depth of 4.4m but is manifestly covered with aquatic plants and was included in the shallow category. On logical grounds, Hatchmere at 3.8 m should then also be included in the shallow category. But Hatch Mere has steep sides and despite clear water has only a narrow littoral zone with plants. Hence it was retained in the deep category in which its maximum depth places it.
- 15. A comparison between key variables in the two categories gave the following results (Table 3):

Table 3 Comparison between characteristics of deep and shallow meres. Statistical comparison was made using a t test.

Shallow

Deep

	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	P
Area	9.4	6.4	21.5	16.2	<0.02
Depth	2.6	0.97	11.7	5.9	<0.0001
Conductivity	614	105	388	142	<0.002
Phenolph alk	0.33	0.16	0.17	0.1	1<0.02
Total alk	3.44	1.13	1.93	0.91	<0.002
Chloride	60.2	26.4	43.6	15.9	ns
Ann Tot P	557	413	298	389	ns
Wint Tot P	413	338	363 4	109	ns
Growth Tot P	619	447	270 3	383	ns
Wint SRP	296	273	287 3	348	ns
Growth SRP	474	425	185 3	307	ns
Wint total N	2.27	1.47	0.82	0.28	3<0.01
Growth total N	1.16	0.86	0.54	0.46	6<0.05
Ann chlorophyll	28.4	20.8	15.2	5.9	ns
Growth c'phyll	29.0	22.2	18.0	7.4	ns
Ann % diatoms	32.1	12.4	20.0	11.0	<0.05
Ann % Greens	32.7	13.3	29.1	20.8	ns
Ann % blue grns	s 9.8	7.5	15.2	11.8	ns
Growth % diats	28.7	11.6	14.5	10.3	<0.01
Growth % grns	33.9	14.8	31.2	20.8	ns
Growth % bl gr	13.2	11.0	18.5	13.9	ns
Ann <i>Daphnia</i>	33.9	30.1	13.3	13.5	<0.05
Growth Daphnia	a 44.5	37.4	14.0	11.4	<0.02

Bosm/Daph	0.095	0.162	7.5	24.7 ns
Daph lg/sm	1.43	2.86	0.13	0.21ns
% Ige <i>Daphnia</i>	29.2	34.2	5.1	11.7 < 0.05
Grazing index	56.8	48.4	15.9	17.1 < 0.02

- 16. There were several significant differences between the two categories. The deep lakes were larger, with lower conductivities, lower total alkalinities and lower phenolphthalein alkalinities. The latter is probably not derivative of differences in chlorophyll a concentrations as these were not significantly different between the two categories. Phenolphthalein alkalinity was detectable in many stream waters and in the meres even in winter and appears to be a function of the high total alkalinities. It probably means that the local drift is leaching significant quantities of carbonate as well as bicarbonate, the major component of alkalinity. Chloride did not differ between categories nor did total phosphorus nor soluble reactive phosphorus. There were, however, significant differences in nitrogen availability with the shallow lakes having greater supplies. This probably is because they are more likely to be fed by surface water streams that may pick up nitrate or ammonium from close-by farming operations. The deep meres are more likely to be ground water fed and although ground water in the east of England is very rich in nitrate it is not necessarily so in the west midlands where less permeable drift and waterloggged soils may give greater potentiality for soil denitrification.
- 17. Among the algal community the only significant difference found was in the percentage of diatoms, which was greater in the shallow lakes. This might reflect a greater degree of mixing in these lakes. The stratification of the deeper lakes tends to disfavour diatoms somewhat and to favour flagellates and blue green algae. However, although the deep lakes had greater proportions, on average, of blue green algae in their communities, the difference was not statistically significant. It may be that significant differences might be seen if biomass rather than numerical indicators were used.
- 18. Prominent differences were found in the zooplankton communities. Shallow lakes had significantly more *Daphnia*, of larger size and of greater potential grazing activity than deep ones. Deep lakes also had a greater proportion of *Bosmina* in their communities. Collectively this suggests greater effective fish predation in the deeper lakes. Many of the shallow lakes had substantial beds of aquatic plants to provide refuges against predation which are absent in the deeper lakes. Large *Daphnia*

are more readily eaten than small and **Bosmina** often persists when all the **Daphnia** have been eaten. There is a greater chance also that shallow lakes may have lost their fish communities due to past winter kills under ice or summer kills due to night time respiration by the large aquatic plant biomass. On the other hand the stream connections of most of these lakes might also favour ready recolonisation after such a kill.

- 19. A pattern thus emerges among the meres based on depth. This has no geographical basis because the original depth of a glacially formed basin in drift deposits is presumably often randomly determined. The differences in nitrogen, diatom representation and zooplankton activity are all readily explained but the differences in conductivity and alkalinity are not. This is particularly so as there is no systematic difference in phosphorus concentration. Phosphorus is presumed to be derived from drift deposits rich in appropriate minerals and hence might be expected to be more abundant in the ground water-fed deep meres. Surface pollutant sources are, however commoner in the shallow category and may have increased the concentrations in this group so that they are no longer different from those of the deep meres. What is puzzling therefore is that conductivities and alkalinities in the shallow group are higher than in the deep group. If ground water is the major source for the latter it might be expected that the higher conductivities would be found in the deep group.
- 20. The next step in the analysis was to attempt to determine what controlled algal crops in the two groups separately. The significant differences in nitrogen, conductivity, alkalinity and zooplankton were possible clues to this. Note that overall algal crops were similar on average between the two groups. Regression analyses were thus carried out on the data for the two groups with growth season mean chlorophyll a as the dependent variable.
- 21. Results for the shallow lake group were as follows (Table 4):

Table 4. Simple regression analyses between growth season mean chlorophyll a and in chlorophyll a in a group of shallow meres.

Variable	Chlore	ophyll a	Ln Chlo	Ln Chiorophyli a	
	r²	P	r2	P	
Area	0.08	ns	0.12	ns	
Depth	0.01	ns	0.001	ns	
Conductivity	0.12	ns	0.15	ns	

Total alk	0.02	ns	0.05	ns
Chloride	0.11	ns	0.002	ns
Ann totP	0.09	ns	0.11	ns
Wint totP	0.19	ns	0.23	ns
Growth totP	0.06	ns	0.08	ns
Wint SRP	0.2	ns	0.26	ns
Growth SRP	0.11	ns	0.13	ns
Winter N	0.04	ns	0.23	ns
Growth N	0.07	ns	0.07	ns
Ann <i>Daphnia</i>	-0.44	<0.025	-0.54	<0.01
Growth Daphnia	-0.45	<0.025	-0.53	<0.01
Bosm/Daphnia	0.5	<0.01	0.38	<0.05
Daphnia lg/sm	-0.09	ns	-0.1	ns
% Ige <i>Daphnia</i>	-0.12	ns	-0.11	ns
Grazing index	-0.533	<0.01	-0.65	<0.005

^{22.} No significant correlations were obtained with any chemical variables but very strong inverse relationships were found with zooplankton related variables. Figs 5 &6 demonstrate this graphically. The most important feaure determining the algal crops in the shallow lakes was therefore grazing. Multiple regressions using grazing and conductivity were able to account for a total of up to 56.2% of the total variance in chlorophyll a before the significance fell below 0.05. For In chlorophyll a, 65% of the variance was determined by grazing alone; this was increased to 68.8% by addition of conductivity, and 76.7% by addition of winter SRP. Winter N had no additional effect.

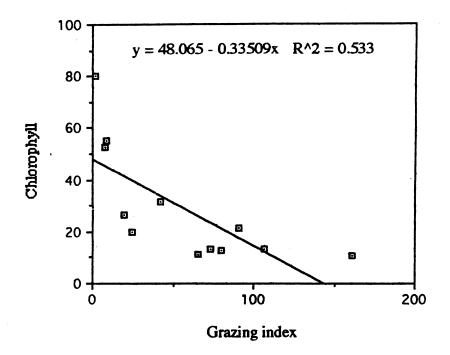
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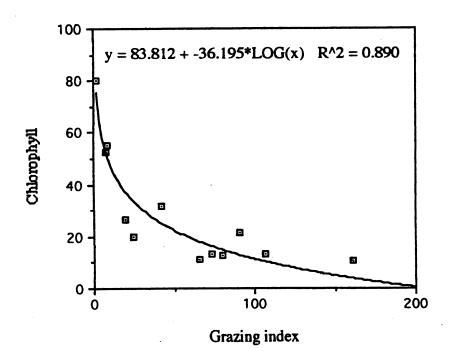
In chlorophyll a

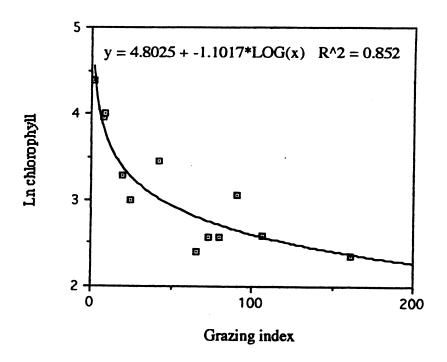
^{23.} The same analysis was applied to the deep lake group with the following results for simple regressions:

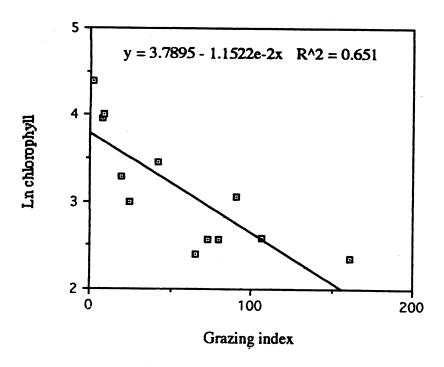
Variable	r ²	P	r ²	P
Area	0.007	ns	0.013	ns
Depth	0.006	ns	0.03	ns
Conductivity	0.034	ns	0.042	ns
Phenoiph alk	0.005	ns	0.006	ns
Total alk	0.03	ns	0.04	ns
Chloride	0.02	ns	0.05	ns
Ann totP	0.004	ns	0.014	ns
Wint totP	0.004	ns	0.014	ns
Growth totP	0.004	ns	0.014	ns
Wint SRP	0.004	ns	0.015	ns
Growth SRP	0.002	ns	0.009	ns
Winter N	0.81	<0.0001	0.759	<0.005
Growth N	0.56	<0.01	0.51	<0.01
Ann <i>Daphnia</i>	-0.038	ns	-0.016	ns
Growth Daphnia	-0.031	ns	-0.043	ns
Bosm/Daphnia	0.273	ns	0.187	ns
<i>Daphnia</i> lg/sm	-0.03	ns	-0.04	ns
% Ige <i>Daphnia</i>	-0.09	ns	-0.12	ns
Grazing index	-0.0003	ns	-0.009	ns

^{24.} The results were thus clear cut (Figs 7 & 8) and very different from those obtained in the shallow lakes. Nitrogen supply determined the algal crops in the deep lakes. The winter N concentration is a good surrogate for the nitrogen loading to a temperate lake. Multiple regressions using chlorophyll a as the independent variable were able to explain only a further 4% to the 80.6% of the variance explained by winter nitrogen, with **Bosmina**









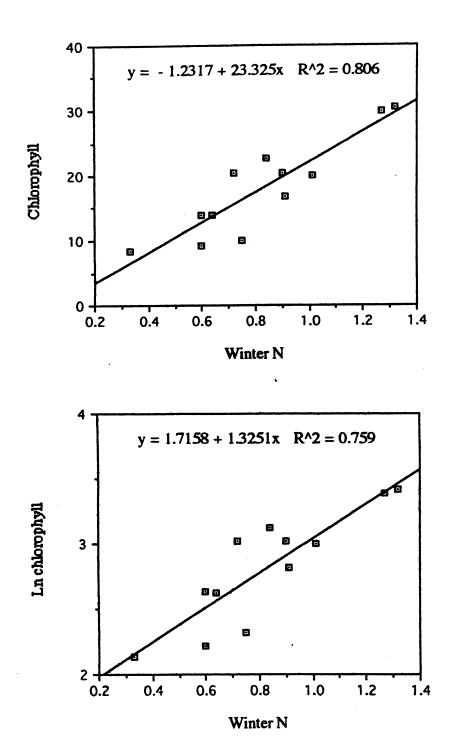


Fig 8

- to **Daphnia** ratio, conductivity, winter SRP and grazing index each contributing a very small increment.
- 25. These data not only give pattern to the data set, they also provide general guides for conservation management if the aim is to maintain minimal algal crops and a good light climate for aquatic plants. For shallow lakes (<3m) attention must be given to maintenance of the zooplankton grazers through control of fish stocking and factors like pesticide use which may destroy grazing potential. And for deep lakes control of the nitrogen input is crucial. In contrast to most other temperate lakes, the phosphorus concentrations are immaterial because of the general abundance of this element in the catchments of the area.

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APPENDIX

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NPo-forskning fra Miljøstyrelsen

Conference Contributions

International Conference on N, P and Organic Matter

Contributions by Invited International Experts

1991.

The role of nutrients in determining the structure of lake ecosystems and implications for the restoration of submerged plant communities to lakes which have lost them

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1. The balance between plants and plankton in shallow lakes

All significant cities house great art. Lisbon is no exception and in the middle of the city is the Musea Caloust Gulbenkian with its sculpture garden, graced and integrated by a network of pools and streams. An inspection of the water supply to the garden showed me that all had a common source, yet some pools had clear water and communities of <u>Chara</u> and other submerged plants, whilst others had dense green algal phytoplankton and only nymphaeids and emergents among the plants. The distinction between the two groups of ponds was that the former lacked fish, whilst the latter had shoals of goldfish (<u>Carassius auratus</u>) so abundant as to be obvious even in the deep-green water. It was a dramatic illustration that the operation of aquatic ecosystems is a function not only of the nutrients, held as of prime importance by much conventional wisdom, but also of the interwoven effects of predation and other biological relationships.

Nearly twenty years ago I began work on a group of about forty lakes in eastern England, the Norfolk Broads. They are not natural lakes, but shallow (1-2m) flooded peat diggings, whose origin has been traced back to the technique of peat excavation introduced by the invading Danes in centuries just prior to the turn of the first millenium A.D. In the fourteenth century, the pits, which range in area from 1 to 120 ha, were flooded during a climatically wet period and connected by channels to the nearby rivers. They lie close to the rivers at the heads of the valleys but at greater distances at the feet of the valleys. The former pits were located close to villages on the upland at valleys' edges. All are riverine lakes, but the consequences of their location at the edges of widening valleys mean that the upstream ones are flushed much more rapidly than the downstream ones (Moss et al. 1989).

The river and Broad system is small in volume yet takes the effluent from a large number of small sewage treatment works, and the run off from one of the most intensive arable catchments in Britain. In consequence it is eutrophic and dominated by

phytoplankton algae, whereas until the 1960s it bore rich communities of submerged plants and formerly had very clear water. Palaeolimnological and anecdotal evidence suggest that the system has passed from an original phase with clear water and low growing plants like Najas marina and charophytes to dominance by tall growing plants (Potamogeton, Myriophyllum, Ceratophyllum before finally losing almost all of the plant communities and becoming turbid with planktonic algae. This sequence correlates with steadily increasing loading of nitrate and phosphate on the system. Consequently, my earliest overall view of restoration of the system was that reduction in nutrient loading would result in a linear reversal from the planktonic phase 3 back to the tall plant phase 2 and perhaps even to the short-plant phase 1. Subsequent investigations were to show that this was too simple.

A pair of small Broads at Brundall on the R. Yare provided a first insight (Leah, Moss & Forrest 1980). They were connected by a channel like the two cups of a brassiere. One cup was freely connected with the river, whilst the connections that the other had had both with the river and the first cup were blocked with earth dams. The R. Yare carries large quantities of sewage effluent and is a very eutrophic river. The hypothesis was that the cup connected to the river would remain hypereutrophic and dominated by planktonic algae whilst the isolated cup would become nutrient poor and plants would re-establish. This latter is what happened, but inconveniently for the hypothesis, the nutrient levels in the isolated Broad were just as high as in the control Broad. Under the strong tidal regime of the river at Brundall, the earthworks had leaked and river water was being injected into both Broads on each tide. Nonetheless, large stands of Nitella flexilis established in the 'isolated' broad whilst the open Broad indeed was plankton dominated.

A second set of observations contravening the simple relationship believed to exist between ecosystem structure and nutrient loading was made at Hoveton Great Broad on the R. Bure (Timms & Moss 1984). Hoveton Great Broad has large algal populations, with a few small patches of nymphaeids (Nuphar lutea and Nymphaea alba). It has a subsidiary basin, Hudsons Bay, which has only a small area of open water adjacent to large stands of nymphaeids. Both basins are freely connected with each other and with the river and, on twicedaily tides, received injections of effluent rich water. The open water in Hudsons Bay, however, remained very clear and virtually free of phytoplankton in summer, whilst the main basin of Hoveton Great Broad was turbid with more than $100~\mu g l^{-1}$ of chlorophyll a.

An attempt to reproduce the changes believed to occur in plant-dominated lakes on eutrophication was the subject of the third set of disturbing observations (Balls et al. 1989; Irvine et al. 1989). We built a set of twenty 10m x 4 m experimental ponds by sub-dividing a long straight channel in one of the Bure valley wetlands with wooden dams. The channel had been isolated sometime previously from the river and had a phase 2 aquatic plant community with <u>Ceratophyllum demersum</u>, <u>Stratiotes aloides</u>,

<u>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</u>, <u>Lemna minor</u> and <u>L. trisulca</u>. We removed the existing fish stock – a sparse population mostly of pike and eels and restocked each pond with a standard mixture of small (<10 cm) roach (<u>Rutilus rutilus</u>), perch (<u>Perca fluviatilis</u>) and bream (<u>Abramis brama</u>) with some small carp (<u>Cyprinus carpio</u>).

Prior to this, some of the ponds were cleared manually of aquatic plants to create open water whilst the remaining ponds were allowed to retain their plants. All the ponds received additions of ammonium nitrate and also one of a series of phosphorus loadings given at two-weekly intervals. The higher phosphorus loadings were greater than those received by the Broads themselves.

Even at very high loadings the plant-dominated ponds retained their plants and neither phytoplankton nor high phosphorus concentrations were established in the water. In the cleared ponds at the higher loadings, however, large phytoplankton populations were established. In this experiment, therefore, eutrophication did not displace the aquatic plants, and phytoplankton was only established when the plants had previously been removed by other means.

in each of these examples the reason why the water became or remained clear was that grazing by large Cladocera was intense. In the Brundall experiment, the fish stock in the 'isolated' broad was depleted, probably by cormorant predation and <u>Daphnia longispina</u> became very abundant. In the observations on Hoveton Great Broad, a very large community of large Cladocera of several genera was harboured in the beds of nyphaeids; many animals moved out at night to graze in the open water and kept the phytoplankton population from increasing. These animals were probably eaten after dawn by the fish, but were replaced the next night from the huge stocks in the plant refuges. And in the ponds experiment the plants again provided refuges for <u>Daphnia</u> and <u>Simocephalus</u>, which kept phytoplankton from developing. In the cleared ponds, such refuges were absent and there was much potential for fish predation on the Cladocera.

The three examples quoted had the common feature that either phytoplankton— or plant—dominance could be established at the same high nutrient loadings or concentrations or both. This suggested that two alternative stable states might exist over a range of high nutrient conditions. In turn this posed three problems. First, because nutrient addition alone did not displace the plants (ponds experiment) what factors might cause this change and secondly what might be necessary to switch the phytoplankton dominated state back to plant dominance? Observations elsewhere in Broadland had shown (Moss & Leah 1982) that simple nutrient reduction did not necessarily result in clearing of the water and reestablishment of plants. The third problem was interlinked—what mechanisms stabilize the plant—dominated system in the face of increased nutrient loading and conversely what stabilizes the plankton dominated state when nutrient loading is reduced?

There are undoubtedly many mechanisms acting as stabilizers or buffers. Grazing by Cladocera finding refuge in the plant beds is clearly important and grazing by chironomids and snails on the periphyton may be equally so in stabilizing the plant community. Oxygen depletion in the plant beds may discourage entry of potentially predatory or even herbivorous fish. Weed-bed snails, by acting as intermediate hosts for trematodes parasitic on fish, may in subtle ways alleviate the potential fish predation on grazers. Plants may produce allelopathic substances which inhibit phytoplankton, though I have been unable to demonstrate this in experiments using plankton populations contained within dialysis bags close to weedbeds.

Mechanisms stabilizing phytoplankton dominance include the absence of cladoceran grazers through lack of refuges and the ability of phytoplankton to develop early in the year and to compete successfully for CO₂ and nutrients because of the shorter diffusion pathways into the organism. Other mechanisms may be a shift in the age-structure of predatory fish from one with much of the biomass in older fish, which need large invertebrates for their food, to one in which most of the biomass is in young zooplanktivorous fish. These may fail to grow large through lack of plant-associated large invertebrate food.

A further feature, of the three examples of alternative plant and phytoplankton-dominated states given above, was that the phytoplankton communities were dominated by diatoms or small flagellates and not by large flagellates like <u>Ceratium</u> or filamentous or colonial cyanophytes. This was perhaps because of the high flushing rates in the Brundall and Hoveton Great Broad examples. In the experimental ponds, the large contact area of organic sediments in relation to the water volume may have established such an abundance of free $\rm CO_2$ that cyanophytes were not favoured (Shapiro 1990). There are, however, Broads which are dominated by cyanophytes for much of the year (Moss & Balls 1989). They are those Broads which lie at some distance (1–2 km) from the main river and which are the least flushed and have theoretical retention times of nearly two months, which are lengthy for this system.

Experiments in one such lake, using netting enclosures to exclude both fish and fish fry but allowing free movement of phytoplankton through the enclosures, showed that large Cladocera did not develop during the summer. In control enclosures in a diatom-dominated lake in the same river system, very large numbers of three species of large Cladocera, including the very large <u>Daphnia magna</u> and <u>Daphnia pulex</u>, were found (Moss, Stansfield & Irvine 1991). This suggests that a planktonic state, which is not an alternative to a plant-dominated state stabilized by Cladocera grazing, may exist at high effective nutrient loadings. The word effective is used to express the importance of relatively low flushing rate in allowing the loading to support the build up of large populations of large algae.

These results collectively changed my concept of the effects that eutrophication had had on the structure of the Broads ecosystem. A linear change from Phase 1 (short plants) to phase 2 (tall plants) to phase 3 (phytoplankton) with increased loading clearly did not describe the situation. Instead, four phases seemed to be needed with the phase 1 community being changed to phase 2 by increased loading but phase 2 and phase 3 being alternatives over similar loadings with each switchable to the other by mechanisms which could not be nutrient-linked. In turn, at very high effective loadings, (determined by low flushing rates), a phase 4 phytoplankton community develops which is not controllable by zooplankton grazers because of the inedibility of the species concerned. The implication of this is that for restoration of clear water and aquatic plants a combination of nutrient reduction (to move the system from phase 4 to phase 2/3) and other biomanipulative measures (to move phase 3 to phase 2) will be necessary. In turn this demands an understanding of what mechanisms switch phase 2 to phase 3 (loss of plants) or the converse, phase 3 to phase 2 (reestablishment of plants).

Clearly the switch from plants to plankton and vice versa cannot inevitably involve changes in nutrient status in the range over which these communities exist as alternative stable states. This does not preclude the possibility that such a switch might not be nutrient-mediated at very high loadings or concentrations and this issue is discussed below.

There may be many non-nutrient mediated switch mechanisms. operating singly or together in different situations. Examples might be mechanical disturbance of plants through severe boat damage or repeated cutting, or over-grazing by mammals such as the coypu (<u>Myocaster coypus</u>) or birds such as swans or geese. This is likely to have occurred where human activities (introduction as an exotic, or artificial feeding in summer by tourists) have unnaturally increased the sizes of local populations. Disturbance of grazing invertebrate populations may also allow competitive build-up of periphyton or phytoplankton. Such disturbance might result from incidental pesticide(Stansfield et al. 1989) or salinity pollution (Moss 1990) or deliberate molluscicide use, for example in control of mollusc-borne trematode diseases. It may also arise from alterations in fish communities through deoxygenation under ice which favour zooplankivorous or benthivorous fish over their own piscivores (C. Bronmark pers. comm.). Finally the plants themselves may be poisoned through herbicide run-off or deliberate application to control their biomass. Once such a switch has been enacted, it does not necessarily follow that reversal of the process will occur through operation of the same switch in the reverse direction. though the causative factor must obviously be removed as part of the treatment. Where the refuges provided for zooplankton grazers by plants have obviously been lost, artificial refugia (Irvine et al. 1990; Moss 1990) may have to be provided to reinstate sufficient grazers even if the original mechanism destroying the plants did not directly act on the grazer community. This is because fish will

have eliminated the large Cladocera in the phytoplankton-dominated state.

A switch from phase 2 or 3 to phase 4 (production of inedible phytoplankton) is a nutrient mediated one but there may be other nutrient mediated mechanisms also. These might include stimulation of blanketing filamentous algae or epiphytes, particularly where nitrogen loadings as well as phosphorus loadings are high (Fitzgerald 1969). Increased epiphyte burdens might alter the balance of photosynthesis and respiration in the host plant by shading, competition for ${\rm CO_2}$ or inhibition of plant photosynthesis by other means. Vigorous plant growth may itself inhibit further plant regeneration if the environment at the sediment surface through decomposition of the plants disfavours seed germination or turion development. This latter appears to be the best explanation for the cyclical growth and demise of aquatic plants in Alderfen Broad (Moss et al., 1990).

2. Community changes in the context of different lakes

Finally these processes of loss of plants through non-nutrient and nutrient-mediated mechanisms must be put in the contexts of different sorts of lakes. Figures 1–3 give hypotheses which seem to fit the information at present available in lakes with negligible (Fig. 1), significant but not dominant (Fig. 2) and dominant littoral development (Fig. 3). The littoral is defined as that part of the lake capable of supporting net photosynthesis at the sediment surface.

The horizontal axes show effective phosphorus loading, which takes into account the fact that flushing rate has a major influence on the extent to which loading can be converted into actual standing crop of plants or algae. The vertical axes show phytoplankton chlorophyll a and plant biomass per m^2 averaged over the entire lake area. Available N to available P ratio in the water is also shown and P 1-4 represent phases 1 to 4 as discussed above.

In relatively deep lakes (Fig. 1) aquatic plants are unlikely to have a major role in the lake system overall. Their biomass may be stimulated a little as nutrient loadings increase but they never acquire an abundance sufficient for them to have major effects on the dominant pelagic area of the lake. Increasing eutrophication is thus likely to lead to a build up in phytoplankton and a restriction or loss of most of the aquatic plants simply through nutrient-mediated shading. At extreme phosphorus loadings, the phytoplankton will become limited by nitrogen or ultimately, if nitrogen fixers can develop, by self-shading.

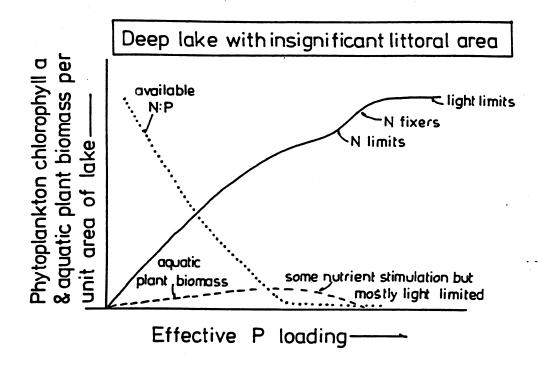
In an intermediately deep lake (Fig. 2) where the littoral zone occupies a significant part of the lake – say up to a third or so – the

effects of increased loading will be reflected initially in growth of both the phytoplankton and of the littoral plant-periphyton communities. The relationship between phytoplankton chlorophyll a and phosphorus will show a lower ratio than in the deep lake as the plant-periphyton complex takes up some of the available nutrient from the water, as well as exploiting the sources in the sediment. However, as loading increases, the phytoplankton, with its advantages in competition for light energy, will eventually start to restrict the plant growth and a nutrient-mediated switch to phytoplankton dominance will occur. A non-nutrient mediated loss of plants may, of course, occur at a lower loading but restoration of the plants should be possible by removal of the cause of destruction alone.

Where the lake is dominated by its littoral zone, perhaps with more than half of its area capable of supporting submerged and rooted plant growth, a much more complicated situation ensues. The plants will increase their biomass (with changes also in species) as loading increases and phase 1 plants will be replaced by phase 2 (tall, rank) plants. Phytoplankton will fail to develop because the mechanisms which stabilize the dominant plant community will prevent it from doing so. The decomposition of the plants in their abundant beds will result in deoxygenated condition at the sediment surface which favour phosphate release and denitrification and the N:P ratio will consequently fall more sharply than in the previous cases. Increased nutrient loading, which may require concomitant increases in nitrogen load may result in a direct shift from phase 2 to phase 4 if large phytoplankters begin to be produced which the zuoplankton grazers cannot control. These events are shown in the upper panel of Fig. 3.

Shallow lakes are likely to be situated in areas where non-nutrient mediated mechanisms, involving mechanical damage, agricultural pesticide pollution or salinification through pumped drainage of low-lying land near the sea are likely to occur. Their morphometry also favours deoxygenation under winter ice or at night in summer with consequent effects on the fish community. If one of these mechanisms begins to operate, the situation shown in the lower panel of Fig. 3 may occur. In this, the plants are lost through a non-nutrient mediated mechanism at relatively low loadings and phytoplankton takes over dominance as phase 2 is replaced by phase 3. At this stage restoration of phase 2 is possible through biomanipulation because the phytoplankton species establishing at these relatively low effective loadings are edible to zooplankters. If loading then increases further, phase 3 may be replaced by phase 4 and restoration of plants will require loading reduction as well as biomanipulation.

In conclusion, the simple relationships between nutrient state and the structure of aquatic ecosystems which were formerly thought to prevail seem as unlikely to exist as any simple relationship between the great art, with which this paper began, and the conception of it in the mind of the artist.



<u>Fig. 1.</u>
Hypothesised model for changes in the balance between submerged plant and phytoplankton communities in a lake with an insignificant proportionate area of littoral zone.

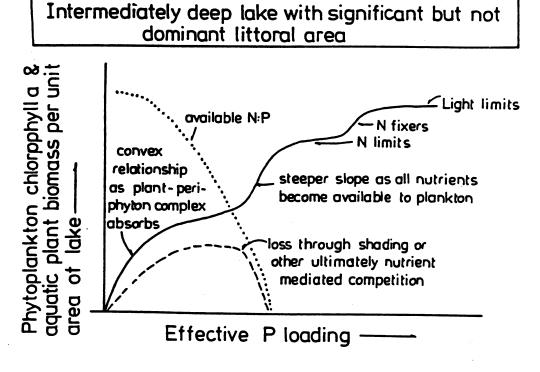


Fig. 2
Hypothesised model for changes in the balance between submerged plant and phytoplankton communities in a lake with a significant but not dominant proportionate area of littoral zone.

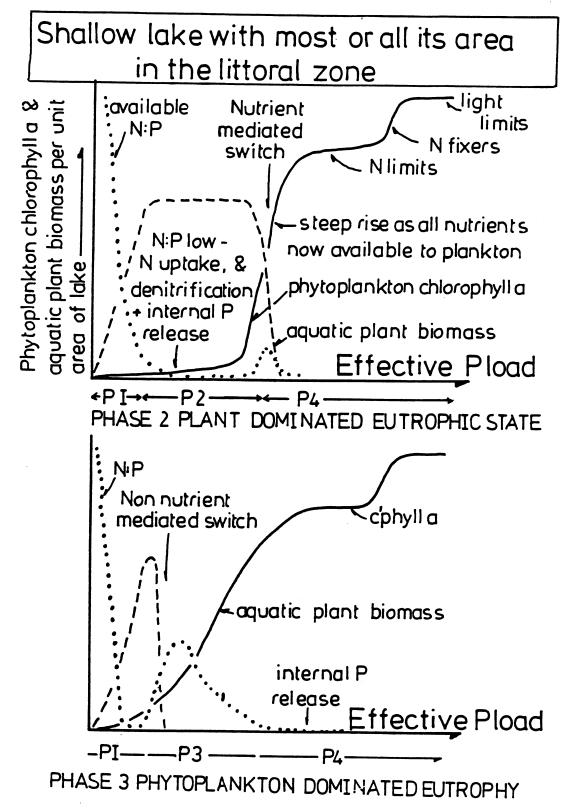


Fig. 3
Hypothetical model for changes in the balance between submerged plant and phytoplankton communities in a lake dominated by its littoral zone. The upper panel shows the situation where plants dominate over natural nutrient loadings. The lower panel shows the situation where the plants are displaced at low nutrient loads by usually human-induced and non-nutrient mediated mechanisms.

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