

## **Differences in Dissolved Cadmium and Zinc Uptake among Stream Insects: Mechanistic Explanations**

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Aquatic insects are used as indicators of the health of a stream. This is due in part to their placement in the food web, and their sensitivity to pollutants. The nine species of insects used in the experiments were from the families: ephemereididae (2), heptageniidae (2), ameleidae, siphonuridae, hydropsychidae (2), and perlidae. Seven were tested for both Zn and Cd concentrations, the other two were tested for Cd concentrations only (due to Cd accumulating significantly faster than Zn). Unfortunately there was no apparent correlation in the insects between the exposure to the metals and uptake. This was mainly due to the large variance of physiological differences among the species.