

Section 2

Environmental Factors in Fishpond Littorals

After setting a macroclimatological framework—with due attention to the radiation climate—for our investigations, this section characterizes the peculiarities of the microclimate in various fishpond habitats and plant communities, with emphasis on the littoral reed-belt communities. Their rather high primary production is assumed to result from an efficient interception and use of the incoming radiant energy. The radiation microclimate of the reedswamp plant communities thus receives special attention. A sufficient supply of mineral nutrients from the water, soil and bottom sediments is also essential for attaining a high level of primary production. By taking the example of the two specimen fishponds, the basic characteristics and dynamics of mineral nutrient content are shown for the water, as well as bottom sediments and soils in various fishpond littoral habitats, particularly within the reed belt (Fig. I).