

Spatial and Temporal Quality of Water in the Itupararanga Reservoir, Alto Sorocaba Basin (SP), Brazil

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ABSTRACT

Considering the great importance of the Itupararanga Reservoir, Upper Alto Sorocaba basin/SP, this study aimed to report the variations of some parameters of water quality in the spatial and temporal gradients in this multipurpose reservoir. The eutrophication of this reservoir was checked using the Carlson Index Modified and the results indicate that the surface water were classified as eutrophic and mesotrophic in wet and dry periods, being characterized the better quality of water in wet period. In the vertical gradient the results showed a stratification in all parameters analyzed, except for the electrical conductivity, with good correlation between total phosphorous and chlorophyll-a, indicating that eutrophication of the reservoir changes the conditions of algal growth, mainly in its initial area. Immediate interventions are needed, which must be directed to planning of land use, domestic effluents treatment, taking to an integrated management of this important watershed located in the São Paulo State.

Keywords: Itupararanga Reservoir; Limnology; Eutrophication; Environmental Management

1. Introduction

Water is available in various forms, one of the most common and important substances found in nature, covering about 70% of the Earth surface. Fresh water represents only 2.5% of total water in nature, and the remaining 97.5% are found in oceans and seas salty. However, only 0.3% is fresh water exploitable for human activities, can be drawn from lakes, rivers and aquifers. The remainder is contained in aquifers, deep aquifers, polar ice caps, glaciers, permanent snow and other reservoirs.

Recent data show that 1.7 billion people presently live without water with adequate quality; a number that may increase to 3.3 billion in 2020 and that may cause conflicts if effective water management is not performed. The classification of water bodies is usually established according to legal standards and it should be expected to be improved over time. In Brazil, this classification was made by Resolution CONAMA (National Council for Environment) No 357, that defines freshwaters (special, 1, 2, 3 and 4 classes), brackish waters (special, 1, 2 and 3 classes) and saline waters (special, 1, 2 and 3 classes) [1].

São Paulo Electric Company, known as “Light” built Itupararanga reservoir (**Figure 1**) in 1912, the aim was

generate electricity to the cities around Votorantim. Later, in 1976, Companhia Brasileira de Alumínio (CBA) bought the rights to operate the hydroelectric power generation for the aluminum industry. This reservoir is located at the Upper Sorocaba basin, which has its economy based mainly on agricultural production, where many affluents compose this basin tributaries that give rise to the Sorocaba River, which flows into the Itupararanga Reservoir. This reservoir has fundamental importance in regulating the hydraulic regime of the Sorocaba River and in the public supply of the region, serving approximately one million people in the municipalities of Ibiúna Sorocaba, Votorantim and Mairinque. However, this reservoir has lack of information about its quality, making it essential to carry out more detailed limnological studies. Thus, the purpose of this study was to evaluate the water quality in spatial and temporal scales in Itupararanga Reservoir, São Paulo State. The results allowed generating an environmental assessment by providing grants for planning and management of pollution control in this important watershed located in the interior of São Paulo State.

2. Overview of the Alto Sorocaba Basin

Alto Sorocaba basin covers an area of 929 km² (**Figure 1**)

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and it is located in the southeastern part of São Paulo State, between coordinates 23°45'37"S and 23°35'02"S and 47°21'00"W and 46°57'29"W. Una, Sorocabuçu, and Sorocamirim rivers are the main formed the Sorocaba River, crossing Ibiúna, Cotia, Vargem Grande Paulista, and São Roque cities. The total population of Alto Sorocaba basin is 110,577 inhabitants, with an urbanized area occupying approximately 71 km², being 55 km² characterized by small villages. The main land use in this basin is characterized for an intense agricultural activity of cabbage, lettuce, potato, and tomatoes crops (393 km²).

The Alto Sorocaba basin is composed for rocks dating since Medium-Upper Proterozoic until Quaternary designated the São Roque Group and Embu Complex. The São Roque Group is formed for metamorphic rocks associated with granitic complexes, such as San Francisco (sienogranites and monzogranites) and São Roque (diories and granodiorites) granites [2]. The Embu Complex presents paragneisses and migmatites also associated with Ibiúna (monzogranites and sienogranites) and Caucaia (monzogranites and sienogranites) granites [2]. Among the major types of soils occurring in the Alto Sorocaba

basin, yellow-red ultisols and oxisols cover about 85% of the area of the basin.

The climate of the region is Cwb type (Köppen classification), *i.e.* tropical rainy weather characterized by wet summer (October through March) and dry winter (April through September). The average temperature in almost all months is higher than 18°C, reaching 22°C in the hottest one (December). The area often has 55 - 65 days of rain per year, with more than 80% of the precipitation falling between October through March. For more than 50% of the year (October-April) the area is dominated by tropical and equatorial air masses, with the winds coming from the S and SE. The mean annual rainfall was 1493 mm between 1960 and 2004 [3]. **Figure 2** shows both the monthly average precipitation and discharge at Itupararanga Reservoir, which indicates that the Sorocaba River regime is directly bounded to rainfall, as expected. Beside, the discharge at Itupararanga Reservoir is approximately 12 m³/s in 50% of the time (**Figure 3**), being this value slightly smaller than the monthly average discharge into Itupararanga Reservoir, *i.e.* 12.7 m³/s [3].

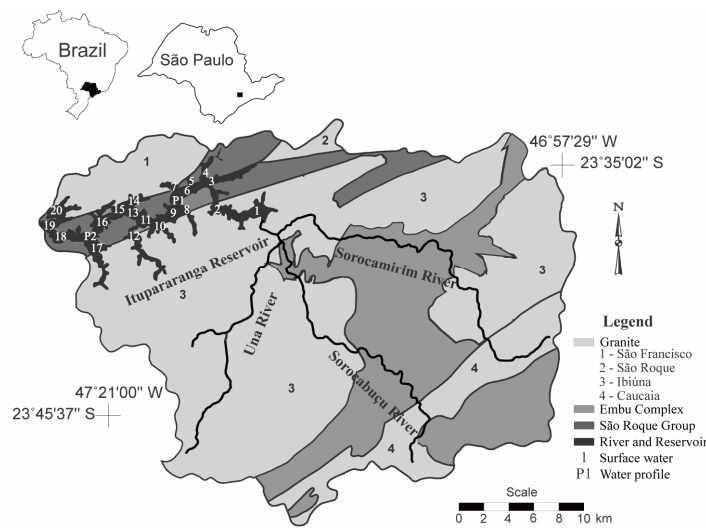


Figure 1. Simplified geological map of the Alto Sorocaba basin and location of sampling points in the Itupararanga Reservoir.

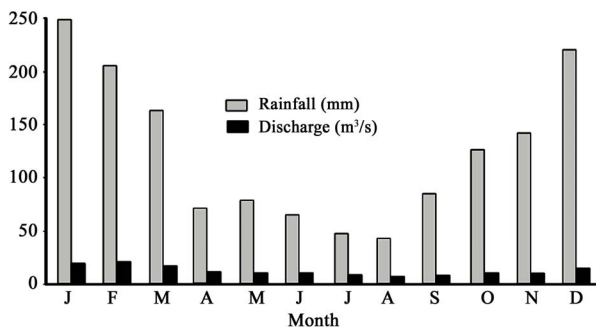


Figure 2. Monthly average rainfall and discharge into Itupararanga Reservoir between 1960 and 2004.

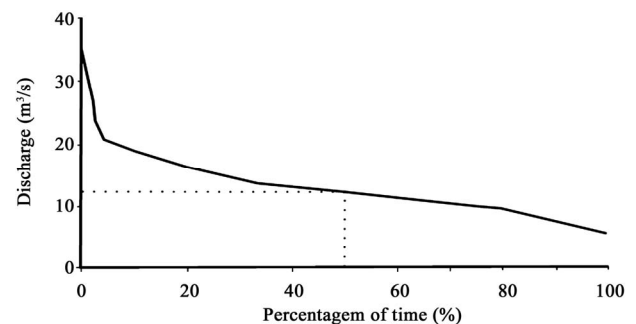


Figure 3. Permanence curve of discharge into Itupararanga Reservoir between 1960 and 2004.

3. Sampling and Analytical Techniques

To define the sampling points in the reservoir, an exploratory field trip to visit was made to check the level of anthropogenic influence. After this stage, to assess the quality of water in the spatial scale, was chosen 20 sampling points for collecting surface water samples evenly distributed throughout the Itupararanga Reservoir and 2 points for a vertical sampling, to assess the profiles of water column (P1 and P2), this points were located one near the beginning and one in the end of the reservoir (**Figure 1**).

To the assessment of the quality of water in the reservoir timescale, there were two collection campaigns in different seasons, one during the wet season (01/24/2007 and 01/25/2007) and another in dry season (08/01/2007 and 08/02/2007). To collect samples of surface water, containers (high density polyethylene) were previously prepared to receipt of samples. For the sampling of vertical profiles, were used a bottle of Van Dorn. Water transparency was measured with Secchi Disc to assess the disappearance depth⁴.

On-site collection, all water samples (surface or vertical profile) were characterized by following variables: water temperature (Temp, °C), pH, electrical conductivity (EC, $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) and dissolved oxygen (DO, mg/L). The equipment used for these measurements were YSI, YSI 556 model. The pH electrode is combined type and patterns of high purity were used for calibration of pH 4.00 (4.005 ± 0.010 at $25^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$) and 7.00 (7.000 ± 0.010 at $25^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$). The conductivity meter was calibrated using a standard solution of KCl (1.0 mmol/L) of known conductivity, *i.e.* 147 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ at 25°C .

All samples were stored properly preserved and brought to the Laboratory of Environmental Geochemistry at UNESP-Sorocaba. In the laboratory each sample was divided into two aliquots for quantification of total phosphorus (TP) and chlorophyll-a (Cl). The first aliquot was measured the total phosphorous concentration, in this laboratory, using the method of acid digestion with potassium persulfate through the spectrophotometer DR-2800 Hach Company. The second aliquot was transported to the Laboratory of Limnology at USP-São Paulo, filtered and Chlorophyll-a was determined according to Wetzel and Likens [4].

Trophic State Index (TSI) characterization of the Itupararanga Reservoir was calculated according to Carlson modified, used as default in São Paulo State [5], which it is composed for Trophic State Index to total phosphorous—TSI(TP) and Trophic State Index to chlorophyll-a—TSI(Cl). With the results, it was possible to evaluate the Trophic State Index of the Itupararanga Reservoir as oligotrophic ($\text{TSI} < 44$), mesotrophic ($44 < \text{TSI} < 54$), eutrophic ($55 < \text{TSI} < 74$) e hypereutrophic ($\text{TSI} > 74$) [5]. The statistical tests among the parameters analyzed

were evaluated using Pearson Correlation Test and the spatial distribution of the Trophic State Index was obtained through the software Surfer for Windows.

4. Results and Discussion

Tables 1 to 4 present the results obtained in this work to spatial and temporal water quality characterization of the Itupararanga Reservoir. The results for the Pearson Correlation Test are presented in **Tables 5 and 6**. **Figures 4 and 5** show the temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen and total phosphorous and chlorophyll-a profiles, respectively.

The depth of the Secchi Disk was 4 and 8 m at points P1 and P2, respectively, in the first sampling, 01/24/2007, indicating that the aphotic zones are below 5 and 9 m. Already during the second stage of sampling (01/08/2007), the depth of the Secchi Disk was 9 m to 10 m, with a photic zone of 10 and 12 m for the points P1 and P2, respectively. With these results it was possible to identify the trophic zone for both sampling sites increased 50% (P1) and 33% (P2) for the driest period. This difference can be attributed to a larger input of suspended sediment entering the Itupararanga Reservoir in the rainy season due to the laminar erosion and, consequently, reducing waters clarity and the photic zone.

Table 1. Quality of surface water in the Itupararanga Reservoir in wet period: 01/24/2007.

Point	EC ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)	Temp ($^\circ\text{C}$)	pH	DO	TP	Cl	TSI
				(mg/L)			
1	60.00	26.70	7.00	5.20	0.18	8.49	62
2	60.00	27.30	7.20	7.00	0.20	27.81	69
3	60.00	27.90	7.50	8.10	0.14	9.23	60
4	60.00	27.10	7.60	8.60	0.19	13.90	65
5	70.00	27.90	7.50	8.30	0.15	6.38	59
6	70.00	28.90	7.50	7.70	0.15	6.22	59
7	60.00	27.20	7.60	8.40	0.14	4.95	57
8	70.00	27.90	7.50	8.10	0.11	4.14	55
9	70.00	27.20	7.70	7.70	0.11	2.11	51
10	70.00	27.20	7.50	7.10	0.10	2.11	51
11	70.00	28.20	7.50	7.30	0.09	1.75	49
12	70.00	26.60	7.60	7.60	0.09	1.62	49
13	70.00	28.00	7.60	7.40	0.10	0.67	45
14	70.00	27.50	7.60	7.70	0.11	2.48	52
15	70.00	28.50	7.50	7.80	0.09	1.19	47
16	70.00	26.30	7.70	7.90	0.09	1.27	47
17	70.00	28.30	7.70	7.80	0.11	0.83	47
18	70.00	27.50	7.70	7.90	0.11	0.51	44
19	70.00	26.80	7.70	7.90	0.08	0.84	44
20	50.00	26.60	7.60	8.00	0.07	0.99	44

Table 2. Quality of surface water in the Itupararanga Reservoir in dry period: 08/02/2007.

Point	EC ($\mu\text{S/cm}$)	Temp ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	pH	DO	TP	C-a ($\mu\text{g/L}$)	TSI
				(mg/L)			
1	60.00	12.40	6.60	5.00	0.20	5.50	60
2	70.00	14.80	6.90	6.80	0.23	18.10	67
3	60.00	15.70	7.50	7.90	0.16	5.66	59
4	70.00	15.90	7.40	8.00	0.19	8.92	62
5	70.00	16.00	7.40	8.10	0.16	8.33	61
6	70.00	16.30	7.40	8.10	0.15	9.59	61
7	70.00	16.80	7.50	7.80	0.14	9.44	61
8	70.00	17.00	7.40	8.00	0.11	8.88	59
9	70.00	16.00	7.60	7.60	0.10	9.39	58
10	70.00	17.10	7.70	7.80	0.10	4.82	55
11	70.00	16.80	7.40	8.10	0.10	4.86	55
12	70.00	17.00	7.40	7.50	0.10	4.95	55
13	70.00	17.00	7.50	7.60	0.11	4.49	55
14	70.00	16.90	7.40	7.50	0.10	5.07	55
15	70.00	16.80	7.60	7.50	0.09	5.10	55
16	70.00	17.10	7.40	7.40	0.11	4.61	55
17	60.00	16.90	7.50	7.70	0.12	4.29	55
18	70.00	16.90	7.40	7.60	0.11	3.93	55
19	60.00	16.80	7.40	7.60	0.08	3.19	51
20	60.00	16.30	7.50	7.60	0.07	3.16	50

Table 3. Results of water profile in the Itupararanga Reservoir in wet period: 01/24/2007.

Depth (m)	EC ($\mu\text{S/cm}$)	Temp ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	pH	DO	TP	C-a ($\mu\text{g/L}$)	TSI
				(mg/L)			
Profile P1							
0.00	70.00	16.30	7.40	8.10	0.15	9.59	61
2.00	70.00	16.00	7.40	7.90	0.18	12.58	64
4.00	70.00	15.30	7.50	6.90	0.20	14.41	65
6.00	70.00	15.20	7.10	6.60	0.17	12.97	64
8.00	70.00	15.00	7.00	6.40	0.11	13.54	61
10.00	70.00	14.50	6.50	4.50	0.08	4.47	53
Profile P2							
0.00	65.00	17.10	7.40	7.40	0.11	6.34	57
2.00	65.00	16.50	7.50	7.20	0.13	7.66	59
4.00	65.00	16.30	7.70	6.80	0.18	11.00	63
6.00	65.00	15.90	7.50	6.40	0.14	8.21	60
8.00	65.00	15.80	6.70	6.00	0.10	6.82	56
12.00	65.00	15.00	6.50	4.10	0.07	4.09	51

Table 4. Results of water profile in the Itupararanga Reservoir in dry period: 08/02/2007.

Depth (m)	EC ($\mu\text{S/cm}$)	Temp ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	pH	DO	TP	C-a ($\mu\text{g/L}$)	TSI
				(mg/L)			
Profile P1							
0.00	70.00	16.30	7.40	8.10	0.15	9.59	61
2.00	70.00	16.00	7.40	7.90	0.18	12.58	64
4.00	70.00	15.30	7.50	6.90	0.20	14.41	65
6.00	70.00	15.20	7.10	6.60	0.17	12.97	64
8.00	70.00	15.00	7.00	6.40	0.11	13.54	61
10.00	70.00	14.50	6.50	4.50	0.08	4.47	53
Profile P2							
0.00	65.00	17.10	7.40	7.40	0.11	6.34	57
2.00	65.00	16.50	7.50	7.20	0.13	7.66	59
4.00	65.00	16.30	7.70	6.80	0.18	11.00	63
6.00	65.00	15.90	7.50	6.40	0.14	8.21	60
8.00	65.00	15.80	6.70	6.00	0.10	6.82	56
12.00	65.00	15.00	6.50	4.10	0.07	4.09	51

Table 5. Relationship among all parameters obtained for surface waters from Itupararanga Reservoir ($P \leq 0.01$).

Wet period						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	CI
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.38	1.00				
pH	0.35	-0.01	1.00			
DO	0.05	0.15	0.56	1.00		
TP	-0.35	0.08	-0.32	-0.21	1.00	
C-a	-0.45	-0.03	-0.31	-0.17	0.85	1.00
Dry period						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	C-a
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.38	1.00				
pH	0.23	0.55	1.00			
DO	0.35	0.41	0.53	1.00		
TP	0.01	-0.73	-0.48	-0.40	1.00	
C-a	0.38	-0.34	-0.35	-0.05	0.81	1.00

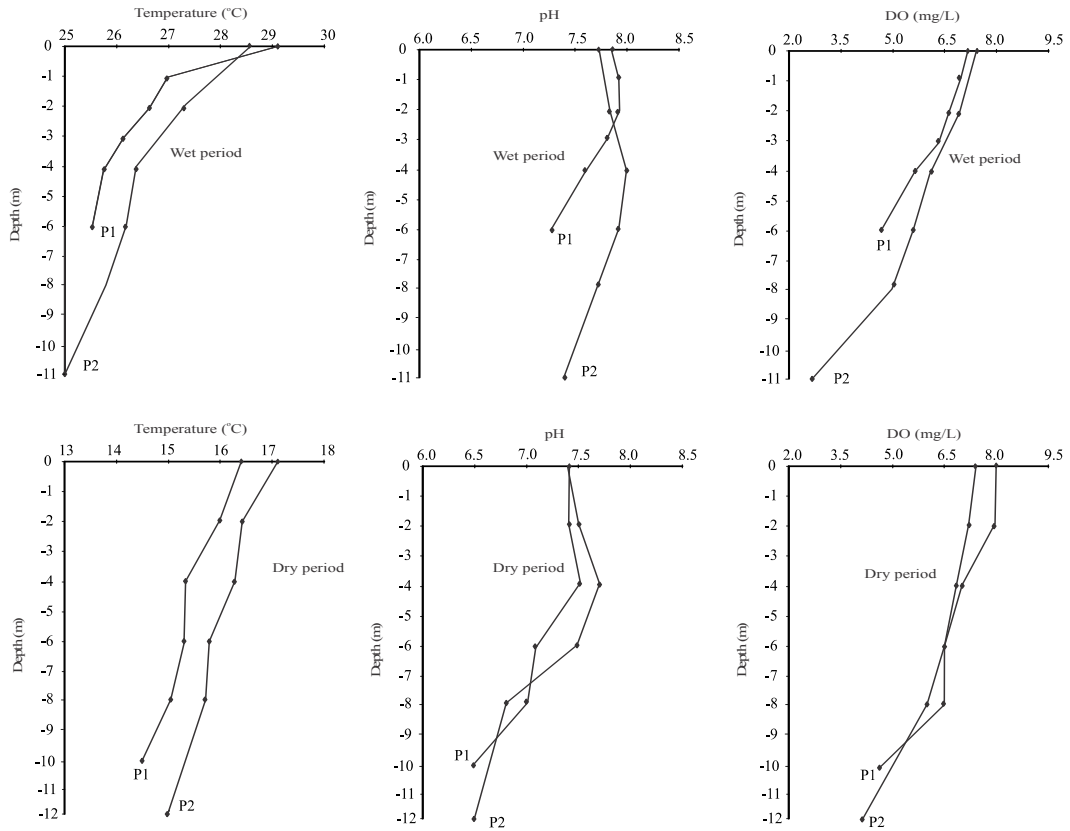


Figure 4. Temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen profiles in the Itupararanga Reservoir.

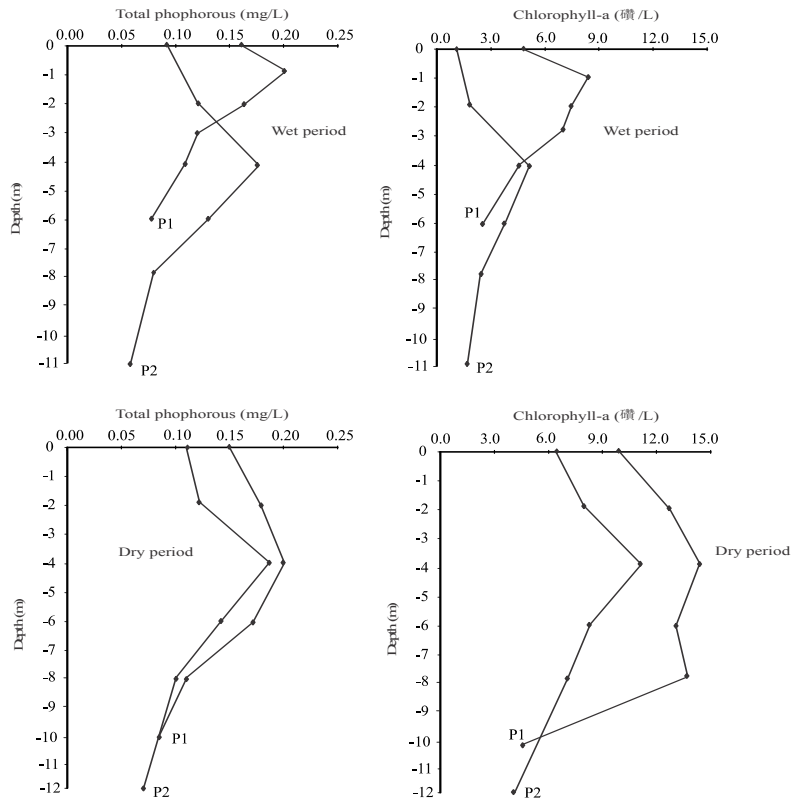


Figure 5. Total phosphorous and chlorophyll-a profiles in the Itupararanga Reservoir.

The electrical conductivity depending on temperature and amount of dissolved ions present. The electrical conductivity parameter does not determine specifically which ions are present in a given sample of water, but can contribute to possible recognition of environmental impacts that occur in the drainage basin. The conductivity values are presented fairly constant throughout the reservoir and in the vertical profiles in both seasons, ranging between 60 and 70 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$.

This same behavior was also found by Mariani [6] for Riacho Grande Reservoir, which is the compound that supplies the Billings, located in the metropolitan area of São Paulo. Studies such as Calijuri *et al.* [7], Bicudo *et al.* [8] and Mariani [6] conducted in eutrophic reservoirs especially for industrial and domestic sewage, showed values above 150 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ for electrical conductivity in these reservoirs. Thus, the results of electrical conductivity can be considered low for surface water, indicating that the Itupararanga Reservoir still has good quality of water.

Temperature is a determining factor in driving the reactions that affect the chemical, physical and biological processes and thus have an enormous influence on biological activity and growth of aquatic organisms. With the temperature change, algae and photosynthetic microorganisms may distance themselves from the water surface by migration or even death. It is observed that in the rainy season, water temperature at the surface is considerably greater than in the dry season, *i.e.* variation between 26.30°C to 28.90°C and 12.40°C to 17.10°C, respectively. In the dry period is noted an increase of about 4°C between point 1 and 20, due to collection start the morning with cooler temperatures, and end in the afternoon, with heating this shell throughout the day due to higher solar radiation.

According to Tundisi [9], the stratification of the water column must be greater in summer, which can be found in both vertical profiles studied, *i.e.*, stratification of about 3.5°C and 2.0°C during wet and dry periods, respectively. Moreover, for both profiles, the higher temperature were characterized in samples collected near the surface, as also found for the Rio das Pedras Reservoir [10]. In other studies performed in Brazilian reservoirs, usually the lowest temperature are characterized on the water surface, due to air temperature and intensity of local wind, as was the case of the Rio Paranapanema Lake/SP [11], Jurumirim Reservoir/SP [12], Lobo Reservoir/SP [13] and Riacho Grande Reservoir/SP [6].

The pH is a measure of balance between of hydroxyl (OH^-) and hydrogen ions (H^+), being used to identify whether a solution is acidic, neutral or basic. With respect to pH, there is close relationship between plant and animal communities and aquatic. On communities, the pH is directly involved in the processes of cell membrane

permeability, thereby interfering in the ionic transport within the cell, and between organisms and the environment. The criteria to protect aquatic life that set the range of pH should be ranging from 6 to 9, as established in Brazil for surface water Class II [1]. All pH values obtained for the Itupararanga Reservoir in horizontal and vertical scaling are proposed within this range.

The higher pH values, both at horizontal or vertical scales, occurred during the rainy season. In horizontal scale, it is observed that the lower pH values in both samples were always obtained between points 1 and 2, being these values close to the Sorocaba River before it enters the Itupararanga Reservoir, where has a charge of domestic effluents.

In the other sampling points there was small variation in pH values remained between 7.50 and 7.70 and 7.40 and 7.60 for wet and dry seasons, respectively. The increase in pH may be due to photosynthetic activity occurring in the Itupararanga Reservoir, which removes CO_2 and HCO_3^- , and tamper with the carbonate buffer system. Vertical scale for both sites and sampling periods, it is possible to observe a slight stratification in pH, which remained practically constant in the first meters of water column, with a gradual decrease until the deeper sites, located in the aphotic zone. The lower pH values in the regions close to the bottom of the reservoir are expected due to chemical oxidation of organic matter by anaerobic bacteria, as already observed in Riacho Grande Reservoir [6].

Among the dissolved gases in water, oxygen is one of the most important parameter to dynamic characterization of aquatic ecosystems. The main sources of oxygen to water are the atmosphere and photosynthesis. On the other hand, the losses are due to consumption by the decomposition of organic matter (oxidation), exchanges in the atmosphere, respiration of aquatic organisms and oxidation of metal ions, such as iron and manganese. Samples collected in both sampling periods indicates the dissolved oxygen concentration in horizontal and vertical scale values were above 5.0 mg/L, minimum value established by CONAMA 357 to Class II waters [1]. The exception was for the sampling points in vertical scale located in the aphotic zone, where the dissolved oxygen values were always below 5.0 mg/L.

The lowest levels of dissolved oxygen in both horizontal and vertical scale occurred in the dry season, in the points 1 and 2 due to decomposition of organic matter from the domestic wastewater of Ibiúna. After this region, the dissolved oxygen values increase along the reservoir, being this fact attributed to photosynthetic activity.

The values of dissolved oxygen concentration in vertical scale decrease with depth. According to Tundisi [9] and Lampert and Sommer [14], in many cases, a decreasing gradient of temperature causes a decreasing gradient of

dissolved oxygen. Statistical tests of correlation between temperature and dissolved oxygen ($r = 0.75$ (P1), and $r = 0.90$ (P2), in wet period and $r = 0.95$ (P1), and $r = 0.94$ (P1), in dry period, **Table 6**) indicate that the temperature must control the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the vertical scale Itupararanga Reservoir, as already described for the Rio das Pedras Reservoir [10]. Moreover, the dissolved oxygen values characterized the sampling points located in the photic zone in both sampling periods indicate no anoxia at the bottom of the reservoir.

Trophic State Index (TSI)

Phosphorus is an essential element for the metabolism of living beings, which acts as the energy storage (ATP) and the structuring of the plasma membrane, composed of phospholipids. The amount of chlorophyll-a is directly related to the phytoplankton biomass, and consequently with the total production of the lakes. In terms of total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a, all samples were higher for phosphorus and lower to chlorophyll-a in relation to allow by CONAMA 357 for Class II waters [1], which indicates the maximum concentration for both parameters

Table 6. Relationship among all parameters obtained for water profiles from Itupararanga Reservoir ($P \leq 0.01$).

Wet period (P1)						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	Cl
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.13	1.00				
pH	0.09	0.40	1.00			
DO	0.46	0.75	0.59	1.00		
TP	0.24	0.51	0.83	0.51	1.00	
C-a	-0.39	-0.25	0.90	0.43	0.79	1.00
Wet period (P2)						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	C-a
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.19	1.00				
pH	0.11	0.53	1.00			
DO	0.50	0.90	0.51	1.00		
TP	-0.29	0.12	0.92	0.43	1.00	
C-a	-0.51	-0.32	0.74	-0.02	0.86	1.00
Dry period (P1)						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	C-a
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.31	1.00				
pH	0.34	0.41	1.00			
DO	0.51	0.95	0.49	1.00		
TP	0.32	0.33	0.89	0.78	1.00	
C-a	-0.22	0.31	0.72	0.58	0.74	1.00
Dry period (P2)						
	EC	Temp	pH	DO	TP	C-a
EC	1.00					
Temp	0.21	1.00				
pH	0.31	0.45	1.00			
DO	0.44	0.94	0.47	1.00		
TP	0.54	0.47	0.88	0.41	1.00	
C-a	-0.36	0.01	0.80	0.12	0.75	1.00

as 0.030 mg/L.

The highest values of total phosphorus in horizontal and vertical scale were quantified in the dry season. In horizontal scale for both sampling periods, the highest values of this parameter are among the sampling points 1 and 9, being the highest values found in sampling point 2. After this region, the values of total phosphorus decreases in downstream direction, indicating that the Itupararanga Reservoir acts as a restraint of substances than those who flock to it, possibly due to sedimentation, absorption and/or complexation of these substances. Regarding the distribution of total phosphorus in vertical scale, could be observed a well-marked stratification for both sampling periods, with higher values being quantified up to four meters deep, with a subsequent gradual decrease to the deep zones of the Itupararanga Reservoir.

In the dry period there was greater chlorophyll-a concentration along the Itupararanga Reservoir in horizontal and vertical scale, indicating greater population of algae in the reservoir. Chlorophyll-a vertical profiles show eutrophic patterns environments, with lower concentrations in regions of greater depth. Statistical tests indicates a strong correlation between total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a for surface waters in the Itupararanga Reservoir in both sampling periods ($r = 0.85$ and 0.81 in wet and dry periods, respectively, **Table 5**), suggesting that the behaviors of these parameters must be correlated. It was also possible to find a correlation between total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a in the both vertical profiles and sampling periods ($r = 0.79$ (P1) and $r = 0.86$ (P2) in wet period and $r = 0.75$ (P1) and $r = 0.74$ (P2) in dry period, **Table 6**).

According to the TSI, the Itupararanga Reservoir was classified as mesotrophic and eutrophic in wet and dry periods, with a better quality of water in the Itupararanga Reservoir found in the wet season. As shown in **Figure 6**,

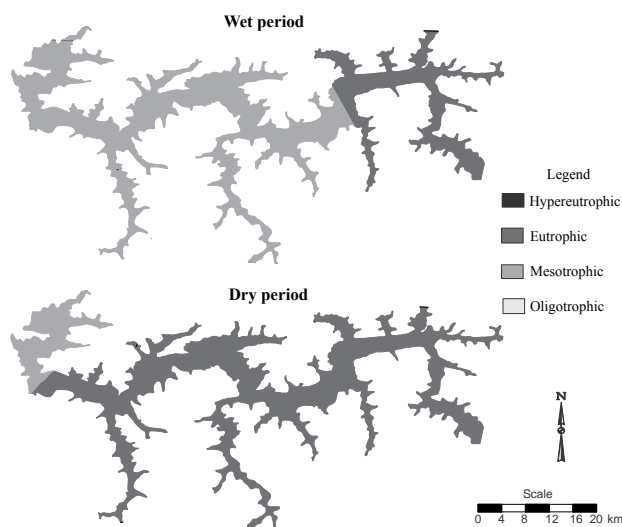


Figure 6. Trophic State Index (TSI) in the Itupararanga Reservoir in wet and dry period.

the points with higher values of TSI in the Itupararanga Reservoir, in both sampling periods, were observed mainly among the sampling points 1 up to 4, causing excessive growth of aquatic autotrophs, making harder the navigation in this section due to green algae blooms.

This fact is directly linked to the Sorocaba River, which before discharging in the Itupararanga Reservoir, suffers severe environmental impacts, affecting their quality. The Ibiúna city does not possess effluents treatment planning, and, disposes almost 100% of domestic and industrial effluents into the Una River. The Sorocabaçu and Sorocamirim rivers do not pass through any urban center. However, these rivers receive diffuse pollutants due to the vegetables crops (cabbage, lettuce, potatoes, and tomatoes, among others) and presence of small villages along its length and livestock [15]. Finally, there is an improvement in quality of water after the sampling point 4, mainly in wet period.

There are two explanations for the increase in the TSI value in dry period, as already evidenced in Ponte Nova-Alto Tietê [16] and Rio Grande-Billings Complex [6]. The first explanation is due to rapid eutrophication of the Itupararanga Reservoir caused by the land use of the Upper Alto Sorocaba basin. The second explanation is the algae persistence in this reservoir, which were proliferated and spread throughout the summer. However, the chlorophyll-a concentration must decrease until the next summer together with the water temperature of the Itupararanga Reservoir. Only a more detailed study with a monthly sampling during one or two complete hydrological cycles can confirm which of the hypotheses should be accepted.

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