

## NEW ZEALAND AQUATIC INSECT WATER QUALITY TOLERANCES

### Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI) values.

This system was developed for our waterways by New Zealand freshwater Biologist John Stark based on the principles of the British National Water Council's Biological Monitoring Working Party's (BMWP) index for British rivers.

**Note:** Designed for and from stony riffle communities, it is not applicable to other communities such as those naturally found in slow-flowing, muddy habitats.

Types of invertebrates	Scientific name	Score
Worms	Mainly <i>Tubifex</i>	1
Ostracods	Ostracoda	1
Midge larvae	Chironomidae	2
Flatworms, leeches	Platyhelminthes, Hirudinea	3
Snails (pointed end)	<i>Physa</i> and others	3
Small bivalves	<i>Pisidium</i> etc.	3
Axehead caddis larvae	<i>Oxyethira albiceps</i>	3
Snails (rounded end)	<i>Potamopyrgus</i>	4
Amphipods and water fleas	Amphipoda and Cladocera	5
Cranefly larvae	Tipulidae	5
Beetle larvae and adults	Coleoptera	6
Caddisfly larvae	Most Trichoptera	6
Limpet-like molluscs	<i>Latia</i> sp.	7
Smooth-cased caddisflies	<i>Olinga feredayi</i>	9
Mayflies	Ephemeroptera	9
Spiral-cased caddisfly	<i>Helicopsyche</i> sp.	10
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	10

<http://www.nzfreshwater.org/mci.html> Source: Boothroyd, I. and J. Stark. 2000.