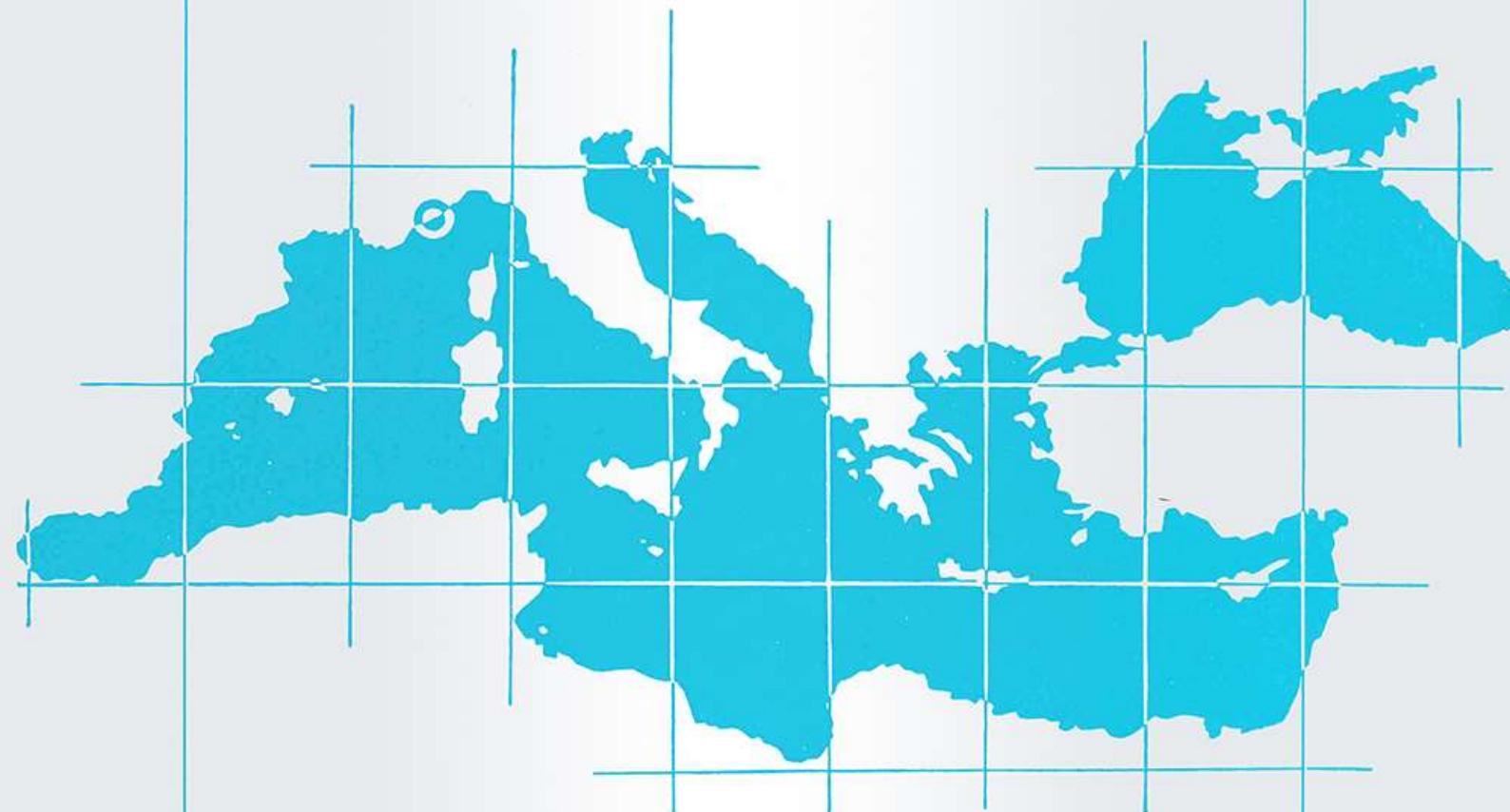


COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE
POUR L'EXPLORATION SCIENTIFIQUE
DE LA MER MEDITERRANEE



**RAPPORT DU 41^e CONGRES
DE LA CIESM**

41st CIESM CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

Kiel (Allemagne)

2016

Volume 41

Ce volume rassemble sous la forme d'articles synthétiques toutes les communications scientifiques présentées lors du 41ème Congrès de la CIESM. Cet ensemble qui regroupe les articles de centaines de chercheurs ainsi que les synthèses des modérateurs des nombreuses sessions tenues à Kiel en septembre 2016, offre un vaste panorama, très représentatif des recherches marines menées actuellement en Méditerranée et en mer Noire.

Les articles présentés dans le cadre des six comités scientifiques sont édités sous la responsabilité du Président de comité concerné. Seules les communications physiquement présentées à Kiel par leur auteur ont été retenues pour cette publication. Pour leur part, les rapports des modérateurs des sessions ont été édités par mes soins.

*Frédéric Briand
Directeur Général, CIESM*

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Réalisation

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Références bibliographiques

Rapp. Comm. int. Mer Médit., 41

Format de citation :

Jimenez C., Petrou A., Andreou V., Hadjioannou L., Wolf W., Koutsoloukas N. and Abu Alhaija R. 2016. Veni, vidi, vici: the successful establishment of the lionfish Pterois miles in Cyprus (Levantine sea). *Rapp. Comm. int. Mer Médit.*, 41 : 417.



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PRELIMINARY DATA ON INVERTEBRATES ASSOCIATED TO CYSTOSEIRA COMMUNITIES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

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Abstract

The present paper aims to provide first information about invertebrates (bryozoans, serpulids, spirorbids, ostracods and foraminifers) associated to selected *Cystoseira* communities, from the Ciclopi Islands Marine Protected Area, also contributing knowledge on distribution patterns.

Keywords: Bryozoa, Polychaeta, Foraminifera, Algae, Ionian Sea

Knowledge on epibiont communities on *Cystoseira* are scarce (Campisi et al., 1973). First information on bryozoans, serpuloideans, ostracods and foraminifers from shallow-water communities sampled in the frame of the CIMPA-BioChange Project (Biodiversity and spatio-temporal variations of *Cystoseira* communities of the Biocoenosis of the Infralittoral Algae from the Ciclopi Islands Marine Protected Area, Ionian Sea) is presented. Samples were collected in June 2015, in two sites (three stations each), few km N of Catania: Punta Aguzza (Acicastello), within the Ciclopi Islands MPA, S. Maria La Scala and S. Tecla (Acireale), outside the CIMPA. Communities in the *Cystoseira brachycarpa*, *C. sauvageana* and *C. spinosa*, were sampled at 5, 9, and 25 m depth, respectively. Bryozoans are present with more than 50 species, consisting mostly of cheilostomes (41 species) and subordinate cyclostomes and ctenostomes. However, several cyclostome species (particularly *Crisia* spp. and *Patinella radiata*) are dominant, with a high number of colonies. Cheilostomes, instead, are represented by single or few colonies, except for *Aetea* spp., *Copidozoum tenuirostre* and some celleporiids. Among serpuloideans, 20 species (14 serpulids and 6 spirorbids) have been detected. Spirorbids are greatly dominant in terms of specimens, mainly belonging to *Pileolaria* spp., *Janua* spp. and *Spirorbis cuneatus*. Serpulids are mostly represented by *Josephella marenzelleri* and *Pomatoceros triquierter*, followed by *Vermiliopsis straticeps* and *Serpula vermicularis*. Ostracods include some 25 species, that are all known from shallow-water vegetate bottoms. Species belonging to the genera *Xestoleberis* (especially *X. dispar*) and *Paradoxostoma* largely prevail. Foraminifers are represented by more than 30 species. Miliolids dominate (mostly with some *Quinqueloculina* species) followed by *Elphidium* representatives. Nearly all species were found on the algal thalli. Overall, invertebrate communities show low cover values. A general trend of increasing species diversity can be traced from the shallowest to the deepest communities. The number of specimens/colonies for each of the taxonomic group analysed appears to be related to the availability of suitable microhabitats and substrata created by the hosting algal species. Differences are also evident between the two sites, with samples collected within the CIMPA, characterised by a lower species diversity and specimen/colony abundance, in relation to those collected outside the MPA. Patterns of distribution were also evident for encrusting bryozoans, with some species restricted to, or preferentially colonising the basal or the top parts of the algal thalli. Adult serpulidean specimens were mostly localised on the axial thicker algal portions that provide a relatively firm substratum. Bryozoan colonies are invariably small but fertile, thus pointing to dominant r-strategy, as a special adaptation to the ephemeral substratum offered by the algae.

spirorbid *Pileolaria pseudomilitaris* on *H. scoparia*. Scale bar: 1mm. Sample CPA.1.Z26. F. The serpulids *Josephella marenzelleri* (left) and *Serpula concharum* (right). Scale bar: 5 mm. Sample SM.1.Z25.

References

1 - Campisi M.R., Di Geronimo I., Furnari G., Scammacca B. (1973) - Premières observations sur les Algus, les Bryozoaires et les Mollusques d'un peuplement de *Cystoseira dubia* Valiante à l'île Lachea (Sicile orientale) . Rapp. CIESMM, 22: 51-52.

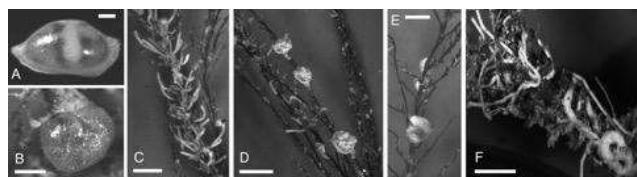


Fig. 1. A. The ostracod *Bairdia longevaginata*. Scale bar: 200 mm. Sample SM.1.S9. B. The foraminifer *Cibicides advenum*. Scale bar: 200 mm. Sample CPA.1.Z26. C. The bryozoan *Aetea anguina* on *Halopteris scoparia*. Scale bar: 1 mm. Sample ST.1.Z9. D. The bryozoan *Patinella radiata* on *H. scoparia*. Scale bar: 2 mm. Sample ST.1.Z9. E. The