

REMARKS ON CIRRIPEDES OF THE LIGURIAN SEA (°)

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SUMMARY. An up-to-date list of Thoracic Cirripedes found in the Ligurian sea is reported. In particular *Octolasmis lowei* (Darw.) and *Xenobalanus globicipitis* Steenstrup are recorded for the first time in the Gulf of Genoa.

RESUME. On donne la liste mise à jour des Cirrhipèdes Thoraciques présents dans la Mer Ligurienne. En particulier on signale pour la première fois *Octolasmis lowei* (Darw.) et *Xenobalanus globicipitis* Steenstrup dans le Golfe de Gênes.

Information on the Thoracic Cirripedes not yet recorded in the Ligurian sea is required and especially an up-to-date list of the species occurring in this sea.

Relini (1969), in a paper on the distribution of Cirripedes in Italian seas, listed the following species from the Ligurian sea: *Chthamalus stellatus* (Poli), *C. depressus* (Poli), *Balanus perforatus* Brug., *B. trigonus* Darw., *B. amphitrite* Darw., *Chelonibia testudinaria* (L.), *Scalpellum scalpellum* (L.), *Lepas anatifera* L., *L. pectinata* Spengler, *L. hillii* Leach, *Conchoderma virgatum* (Spengler), *C. auritum* (L.) and doubtfully *Acasta spongites* (Poli), *Lepas anserifera* L., *Paralepas minuta* (Filippi), while BAZZICALUPO, RELINI and VIALE (1974) reported *Verruca stroemia* and RELINI and MONTANARI (1973) listed *Balanus improvisus* and *Megabalanus tintinnabulum*.

In this report the presence of *Acasta spongites* is confirmed, while *Xenobalanus globicipitis* and *Octolasmis lowei* (Darw.) are recorded for the first time for the Italian sea and Thyrrhenian sea.

Information on selected species is presented. *Verruca Stroemia* has been found on both natural and artificial substrates and specimens on *Posidonia* are always small. *Chthamalus stellatus* and *Ch. depressus* are found along all the rocky shores and form two zones within the "supralittoral" (sensu Pêrès and Picard). The hypobiotic form of *Ch. depressus* is common, while the new species *Ch. montagui* (recently described as a separate species to *Ch. stellatus* by SOUTHWARD, 1976) has not been found in these waters. The genus *Megabalanus* is represented in the Ligurian sea by *M. tintinnabulum* and is found only in the conduits of the electric power station. *M. tulipiformis* (Ellis) found in Southern Italy has not been found in the Ligurian sea. *Acasta spongites* has been found inside Sponges (*Ircinia variabilis*, *Cacospongia scalaris*) collected at 30 m depth off Riva Trigoso. Of the six species of the genus *Balanus* (*amphitrite*, *eburneus*, *perforatus*, *trigonus*, *spongicola*, *improvisus*) recorded in Italy, *B. spongicola* Brown (often found inside Sponges) is the only

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species not found in the Ligurian sea while the occurrence of *B. improvisus* is scanty. The remaining four species, are well recorded and documented by RELINI (1973) but they do not occur at depths greater than 50 m. *B. eburneus* and *B. amphitrite* are very common in harbours. Of the three *Chelonibia* species found in Italy, only *C. testudinaria* has been recorded for the Ligurian sea on Chelonidae. It is possible that such species as *C. patula* (Ranzani), *C. caretta* (Spengler), *Platylepas hexastylus* (Fabricius) and *Stomatolepas elegans* (Costa) can be found in the Ligurian sea, connected with Turtles or with floating objects. *Pyrgoma anglicum* (= *Boscia anglica*) (Sowerby) and *Conopea calceola* (Ellis) species living on Anthozoa, have not yet been found in the Ligurian sea. Clusters of *X. globicipitis* (10-45 mm in length) have been taken from the caudal edge of the tail of dolphins caught by Camogli Fishermen during the summer of 1978. PILLERI (1970) was thought to have reported this species for the first time for the Mediterranean sea. However, authors who have listed Cirripedes from the Mediterranean sea have ignored the notes of GRUVEL (1920) who reported this species off the coast of Monaco, in the Alboran and Marocco seas. PILLERI (1c) in the course of two scientific expeditions on Cetaceans in western Mediterranean noted that only a few of these Mammals had *Xenobalanus* attached. The present Author has observed that this barnacle was found to be attached to 4% of *Delphinus delphis*, 33% of the *Stenella styx* and seldom on *Tursiops truncatus*.

The only new observation on the pedunculate Cirripedes (since the work of RELINI, 1969) is the rediscovery of *Octolasmis lowei* (Darw.). Several specimens have been collected on the crab *Maja squinado* (Herbst) trawled between Rapallo and Moneglia and at a depth of 50-100 m. The specimens were attached to the inside of the crab, on the gills and mouth parts, and were alive when observed, but the peduncle lost its characteristic pink-orange colour when preserved in formaldehyde.

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