

DISTRIBUTION OF *CHTHAMALUS MONTAGUI* (CRUSTACEA CIRRIPIEDIA)
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

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Summary - *Chthamalus montagui* has been collected in several mediterranean sites, but seems absent in eastern and southern zones of this sea.

Résumé - *Chthamalus montagui* a été récolté dans plusieurs localités méditerranéennes, mais il semble être absent des côtes les plus orientales et méridionales du bassin.

Riassunto - *Chthamalus montagui* è stato rinvenuto in molte località mediterranee, ma sembra assente dalle coste più orientali e meridionali del bacino.

Since the initial report of *Chthamalus montagui* Southward in the lagoon of Venice (DANDO, SOUTHWARD & CRISP 1979) I have examined samples from various sites in Italy and the Mediterranean area in general, collected both by myself and by colleagues from other countries.

The family Chthamalidae is represented in the Mediterranean sea by four species: *Pachylasma giganteum* (Philippi), found only between 100 and 200 m depth near Messina, *Euraphia depressa* (Poli) (*Chthamalus depressus*) which occurs in the upper levels of the supralittoral zone (above MHWS), and *Chthamalus montagui* and *Chthamalus stellatus* (Poli) which occur generally in the middle and lower levels of the supralittoral zone and throughout the intertidal zone. Less commonly the latter two species are found sublittorally as, for example, in the intakes and artificial channels of Electric Power Stations; in this environment the shape is quite different, as in the hypobiotic form of *Euraphia depressa* (KENSLEER et al. 1965). *Chthamalus montagui* often occurs mixed with *E. depressa* and *C. stellatus*, in proportions which differ from one locality to another. On the Atlantic coast, when the two *Chthamalus* species are both abundant at one site, *C. montagui* is always dominant between MHWS and MHW, while *C. stellatus* is dominant at MTL and below (SOUTHWARD 1976). I am not able to confirm this vertical distribution pattern in the Mediterranean, having observed that *C. stellatus* may be abundant either in the upper zone or in the lower zone or both; on adjacent rocks *C. montagui* may be abundant or completely absent; I have found no correlation between the distribution of these species and exposure to waveaction or competition.

On the basis of the present records, *C. montagui* appears to be confined to the western and northern parts of the Mediterranean sea and to north Morocco (Tetuan, Cap Negro); it is very common near Barcelona and Marseille but very sparse on the Island of Majorca. Its distribution along the Italian coasts is very interesting because of the geographical position of Italy. The species is very common in the northern part of Italy and in the Ligurian Sea, where unfortunately in the past I overlooked it (RELINI 1979).

In the Tyrrhenian sea *C. montagui* becomes rare and sparse south of Naples; it is absent in Sardinia (except on the north coast) and in Sicily. Along the Adriatic sea it is common from Rijeka and Trieste to Bari, but very rare at S. Maria di Leuca; it seems to be absent from the Jonian sea. I have not found *C. montagui* in samples collected previously from Malta (La Valletta, St. Julian), Greece (Pyreus, Cap Sunion, Mykonos) or Turkey * (Antalya, Side). In addition SOUTHWARD (1976) has recorded only *C. stellatus* in samples from the Aegean Islands, Israel and the Black sea. I have presented my data on the distribution of *C. montagui* because, although they are incomplete, I would like to invite all the Colleagues of C.I.E.S.M. to contribute to a better knowledge of the distribution and ecology of this species in the Mediterranean.

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Samples and records of *C. montagui* will be welcome; please send to:

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* During the Congress held in Cagliari Dr. A. KOKATAS has given me samples of *Chthamalus* from Smirne. All the individuals (about 60) are *C. montagui*.