

MEROPLANKTON OF İZMİR BAY: STOMATOPOD LARVAE

by

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Résumé

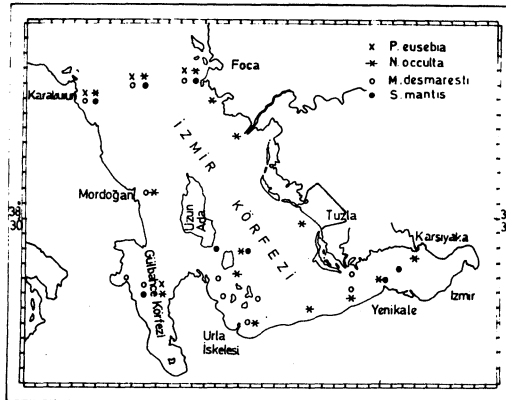
Les échantillons de plancton collectés entre 1975 et 1980 ont été étudiés et quatre espèces de larves de Stomatopodes ont été déterminées en baie d'İzmir. La plupart des larves collectées sont représentées par des stades pélagiques précoces. Pour les stades avancés, le nombre d'individus est plus faible. Il a été observé que les larves de *Nannosquilloides occulta* et de *Meiosquilla desmarebti* sont dispersées tandis que les larves de *Platysquilla eusebia* sont rares.

Summary

The plankton samples collected between 1975-1980 have been studied and 4 species of Stomatopod larvae have been determined in the İzmir Bay. Most of the collected larvae are represented by early pelagic stages. For the advanced stages, the number of individuals diminishes. It has been observed that *Nannosquilloides occulta* and *Meiosquilla desmarésti* larvae are widespread but *Platysquilla eusebia* larvae are infrequently found.

There is not any record on Stomatopod larvae of İzmir Bay and Aegean Sea, although there are some works done on adults (TORTONESE, 1947a, b; HOLTHUIS, 1961; GELDİAY and KOCATAŞ, 1969; KOCATAŞ, 1981). The Stomatopod larvae have been reported from Spain (VIVES, 1966), Egypt (STEUR, 1936, 1938), Israel (WILLIAMSON, 1967), France (JACQUES et THIRIOT, 1967), Italy (GIESBRECHT, 1910) and from Crete (BACESCU and MAYER, 1961) in the Mediterranean Sea.

The plankton samples collected between 1975-1980 have been investigated. Samples have been taken with a 0.565 mm. mesh, 1m. length Standart type plankton net horizontally from the surface for a period of 20 minutes. From time to time vertical and oblique hauls were made. All the collected 466 specimens are in pelagic stages.



Nannosquilloides occulta
(Giesbrecht, 1910)

In summer hauls between May to September, maximum abundance was found to be during July. From 37 hauls a total of 343 individuals were collected and these constituted 73.6 % of all Stomatopod larvae that had been collected.

These belong to the pelagic stages I-IX. Stage I constitutes 74 %, stage II 19 % determined in the Hekim Adası in late September. It is the commonest species in the İzmir Bay and has been found from the semipolluted area in the inner harbour to the clear waters of the outer bay.

Platysquilla eusebia (Risso, 1816)

As far as we know this species is new to the Turkish Fauna. It is a rare species and has been obtained from offshore waters of the outer bay from April to July. 10 individuals have been obtained in the early pelagic stages, 8 belonging to the stage I and only 2 belonging to the stage II, from a total of 7 hauls.

Meiosquilla desmaresti (Risso, 1816)

It is another common species and has been observed from May to November. It has been to be most abundant in the late May. 90 individuals have been obtained in 20 hauls, of this 66 % constitutes Stage I, the remaining 34 % cover the rest of the collected larvae.

Squilla mantis (Linnaeus, 1758)

It has been encountered from June to November. It has been observed mostly in August. 23 individuals have been obtained in 15 hauls. 73 % of it constitutes Stage I and 27 % constitutes the rest of the larvae that have been collected.

References

- GIESBRECHT, W. (1910): Stomatopoden, Erster Theil. Fauna und Flora des Golfes von Neapel, 33:239 pages, fig.1-12, plates 1-11.