THE POLYCHAETE FAUNA OF NORTHERN EVOIKOS GULF

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Résumé: La faune des Polychètes a été étudiée en 12 stations de la partie Nord du golfe d'Evoikos, à une profondeur de 26 à 200 m. 80 espèces de Polychètes ont été identifiées dont 10 sont nouvelles pour la faune grecque. Sur la plupart des stations, le fond était recouvert de vases terrigènes côtières; sur ces fonds ont été trouvées 8 espèces caractéristiques de cette biocénose (VTC). Des espèces caractéristiques des SFBC et VP ont également été recueillies en quelques stations.

ABSTRACT: The polychaete fauna of the North Evoikos Gulf was studied at 12 stations, at depths ranging from 26 to 200 m. 80 species of polychaetes were identified of which 10 species are new for the greek fauna. At most stations the bottom was covered by coastal terrigenous mud where 8 species characteristic of this biocoenosis (VTC) were found. Species characteristic of SFBC and VP also appeared in some stations.

This paper presents the preliminary results of a general survey of the benthos of the North Evoikos Gulf, which took place in August 1983. The data come from three replicate samples, 0.1m^2 each, collected with a van Veen grab at the 12 northern stations. The depth of the stations ranged from 26 to 200 m. Eighty species were identified on the whole which belong to the following families according to Fauchald (1977): Paraonidae 9 species, Spionidae 5, Magelonidae 1, Poecilochaetidae 1, Chaetopteridae 1, Cirratulidae 4, Capitellidae 2, Maldanidae 7, Scalibregmidae 1, Phyllodocidae 3,

Polynoidae 4, Polyodontidae 1, Sigalionidae 2, Hesionidae 1, Pilargidae 2, Syllidae 1, Nereidae 1, Glyceridae 4, Goniadidae 2, Lacydoniidae 2,Nephthyidae 1, Onuphiidae 3, Eunicidae 4, Lumbrinereidae 5, Arabellidae 1, Dorvilleidae 1, Sternaspidae 1, Oweniidae 2, Pectinariidae 2, Ampharetidae 4, Terrebellidae 1, Trichobranchidae 1.

Most of the polychaetes identified have already been found by other authors in greek waters. For example, we found 7 species in common with Bellan (1961), 15 with Bellan (1964), 22 with Harmelin (1969), 15 with Vamvakas (1970), 13 with Fassari (1982). However, 10 of the species are new for the greek fauna. These are: Aedicera belgica, Lacydonia miranda, Lepidasthenia maculata, Magelona filiformis, Marphysa kinbergi, Notocirrus scoticus, Onuphis eremita, Pectinaria capensis, Tauberia reducta(?) and Tharyx heterochaeta. Of the species found 8 were characteristic of the VTC biocoenosis: Ampharete acutifrons, Goniada maculata, Laonice cirrata, Maldane glebifex, Nephthys histricis, Pectinaria belgica, Poecilochaetus serpens, and Sternaspis scutata; 3 were characteristic of SFBC: Clymene oerstedi, Onuphis eremita, Owenia fusiformis ; and one, Panthalis oerstedi, characteristic of VP. At most stations the bottom was covered by terrigenous mud and the characteristic species of VTC dominated reaching to a relative abundance of 67.6% of the total number of polychaetes. Most of the species were deposit feeders, some were carnivorous, while the suspension feeders were completely missing from almost all stations.

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