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### On the occurrence of *Oedalechilus labeo* (Cuv.) in a Mediterranean Euhaline Lagoon (Pisces, Mugilidae)

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*Oedalechilus labeo* (Cuvier, 1829) is a Mediterranean species commonly considered as a marine one (Bini, 1968; Trewavas, 1973; Tortonese, 1975; Ben Tuvia, 1986); as a consequence, it is extremely difficult to find this mullet in lagoon fish samples.

During the course of a research in lake Fusaro, for determining the influence of meteomarine conditions on fish fry displacements in coastal lagoons (Iannibelli *et al.*, 1988, 1989) some specimens of *O. labeo* were captured in one of the channels connecting this lagoon, considered by Carrada (1973) as an euhaline one, with the sea.

Indications about the particular fishing-net used and the meteomarine parameters recording system were previously given (Iannibelli *et al.*, 1988).

Species identification of specimens was carried out following Trewavas and Ingham (1972) and Tortonese (1975). However, morphological peculiarities of *O. labeo* make the diagnosis of this species quite unailing.

The presence of *O. labeo* was noted on four of the six days of sampling, from January 17th to March 3rd, 1986.

It is interesting to note that, in all the cases of capture, the salinity of the water ranged from 37.15‰ to 37.30‰ and the T°C was exceeding the 13° C (from 13.24°C to 14.04°C).

Dissolved oxygen was always in oversaturation, exceeding the 8.1 mg/l and water flow has been observed in entering conditions (from 5 to 9 cm/sec.) in three cases, in stationary condition in the fourth.

It is necessary to consider that undoubtedly no displacements of *O. labeo* fry have been noted, being all specimens longer than 130 mm. (S.L.), while in the same station all the other Mugilidae species fry have been captured (Iannibelli *et al.* 1988, 1989).

This preliminary data supports precise indication of the fact that *O. labeo* is surely a species with strong marine preferences, as environmental parameters (fig. 3) show and literature reports (Bini, 1968; Tortonese, 1975; Trewavas, 1976). It has to be evidenced instead that, in some particular conditions, this mullet can also be found in brackish environments as southern Mediterranean coastal lagoons, lake Fusaro for the Tyrrhenian site or the lake of Lesina for the Adriatic one (Villani, 1988).

Common names of *O. labeo* in some Mediterranean countries (Bini, 1968):

Mulet labéon, mange-sabon, sabounié (Fra.); Kifon siftani (Isr.); Cefalo labrone (Ita.); Cipal supljak (Yug.); Kaplat buri (Mal.); Müsarü labrun (Mon.); Bouri (Mor.); Caluga (Spa.); Dudakli kefal (Tur.).

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