

CIESM Congress Session : Zooplankton I
Moderator : Maria-Luz Fernández de Puelles, IEO, Palma, Spain

Moderator's Synthesis

Zooplankton in general and its main role in transferring organic matter throughout the marine food web were presented in this session. The importance of zooplankton time series, stressing the diversity key role, was also highlighted, as signal of the impact of climate change. The high decrease of taxonomists in past decades should encourage young generations and policy institutions for further research, as complementary to zoo-images, automatic and acoustic technics but never in substitution of them. Finally the role of the Mediterranean Sea in the relation of the global climate system, particularly of the Atlantic Ocean, was indicated.

In addition were presented:

- the case of the zooplankton time series in the Balears area during 13 years as signal of climate change and several studies in relation to different topics on zooplankton at different Mediterranean areas; - pollution in main zooplankton groups of the Black Sea and their metal concentration ranges. - the interest of studies on the microzooplankton community and its distribution in the Adriatic, Black Sea and Egyptian waters. - Seasonal distribution species (copepods, appendicularians, etc.) in the Black Sea, among other areas, were defined. - Several alien species in the Black Sea and neighbouring areas in relation to autochthonous species were also shown. Moreover, the importance of new zooplankton species coming into the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal was noted, particularly in Egyptian waters. - Finally, acoustic krill identification was presented in the Spanish Mediterranean Sea.

