



112 - DIEL AND SPATIAL VARIATION OF THE MACROFAUNAL ASSEMBLAGE INHABITING SARGASSUM FRONDS AT UBATUBA, SÃO PAULO STATE, BRAZIL

Güth, A.Z.^{1*} & Leite, F.P.P.²

¹Centro Universitário da Fundação de Ensino Octávio Bastos; *azguth@feob.br. ²Departamento de Zoologia, IB, UNICAMP, Campinas, SP; fosca@unicamp.br

Diel variations and spatial differences in the species composition of the epifaunal assemblage of the brown algae Sargassum were investigated within and among four shores, respectively – Domingas Dias, Lázaro, Lamberto e Perequê-mirim - of the north coast of São Paulo state, Brazil. In two successive days, ten samples (fronds) of Sargassum sp. were taken at day (between 10.00 and noon) and night periods (between 22.00 and midnight), summing up 40 individual algae per shore. The Sargassum mobile assemblage was very similar in the four shores and the most common and typical taxa were amphipods, isopods, gastropods and polychaetes. The four shores differed mainly in their dominant species and in the proportion among the species populations. The most distinctive community was reported in Lamberto beach, under the influence and interaction of physical factors such as algae morphology, load of fouling hydrozoans, low hydrodynamics, and high sediment load and pollution. Significant differences between the densities of nocturnal and diurnal samples were noted for some species but not for the whole assemblage. For such species, gammaridean amphipods such as Batea catharinensis, Sunampithoe pelagica, Hyle nigra, Photis longicaudata and Shoemakerella nasuta showed a tendency for higher densities at night while the caprellideans amphipods Caprella danilevskii, Caprella scaura and pycnogonids were more abundant at daytime.

CAPES

113 - FISHERY OUTPUT OF UCIDES CORDATUS (LINNAEUS, 1763) (BRACHYURA, OCYPODIDAE), IN BABITONGA BAY (SC), BRAZIL

Hattori, G.Y.^{1,2}; Wunderlich, A.C.¹; Rodrigues, A.M.T.³ & Pinheiro, M.A.A.¹

¹UNESP São Vicente, Research Group in Crustacean Biology (Crusta) – São Vicente (SP) – crusta@csv.unesp.br; ²Programa de Pós-Graduação em Zootecnia, Área de Produção Animal, FCAV, UNESP Jaboticabal – PhD candidate; ³CEPSUL/IBAMA.

The aim of this study was to characterize the population structure and the fishery output of U. cordatus, in two mangrove areas (Iperoba and Palmital), in Babitonga Bay (SC), Brazil. Crabs were captured monthly throughout May/2002 to April/2003, obtaining a total of 2,243 crabs (1,618 males, 68.4±7.6mm; 625 females, 59.1±6.1mm). The individuals with larger size (carapace width > 60mm, according to the fishery laws) corresponded to 87.7 and 43.7%, respectively, for males and females. The male size average did not differ between Iperoba (69.6±5.6mm) and Palmital (70.8±5.0mm), although the average abundance of crabs with CW>60mm (75±11 ind.) in this last mangrove was higher than Iperoba (44±13 ind.). A higher male's abundance in Palmital area can be related to difficult fishery practice of this crab by handling method, due to the higher presence of roots and compact sediment in this mangrove. In other hand, the lower presence of males in Iperoba could be explained by the high harvest rate caused by the reduction presence of roots and soft sediment in this area, which eases the fishery. The high number of females in Iperoba could be explained by the localization of this mangrove near to the sea, the ideal place for a better embryonic development and a larval dispersion.

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