

# AB.H3O2 BALTIC APHOTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY *BRISSOPSIS LYRIFERA* AND *AMPHIUURA CHIAJEI*

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic aphotic zone bottoms with at least 90 % coverage of muddy sediment. The sediment must contain at least 20 % of mud, silt or clay (grain size less than 63 µm). Biomass of infaunal echinoderms dominates and is highest in the group that includes infaunal bivalves/polychaetes/crustaceans/echinoderms/insect larvae. Out of the infaunal echinoderms, *Brissopsis lyrifera* and *Amphiura chiajei* constitute at least 50% of the biomass.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is muddy sediment. Appears in all wave exposure classes.

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Brissopsis lyrifera* and *Amphiura chiajei*

## QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Kattegat

## ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

### HELCOM 1998:

2.7 Muddy bottoms

2.7.1 Aphotic zone

**EUNIS 2012:**

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.3 Sublittoral mud

A5.37 Deep circalittoral mud

A5.378 Baltic muddy bottoms of the aphotic zone

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2588>