

AA.H1Q2 BALTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY STABLE AGGREGATIONS OF UNATTACHED FUCUS SPP. (DWARF FORM)

AUTHOR

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TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone 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). No perennial attached erect group has a coverage \geq 10%. Stable aggregations of unattached perennial vegetation cover at least 10 % of the seabed. Out of the unattached perennial vegetation *Fucus spp.* (dwarf form) constitutes at least 50 % of the biovolume.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Salinity range: >4.5 psu; Exposure range: low to moderately high; Depth range: photic zone from about 2 to 5 meters and deeper in clear waters.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Fucus vesiculosus dwarf form (synonyme *f.pygmaea*)

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

density of unattached *Fucus spp.* (dwarf form)

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Known along the coast of Sweden and Germany

ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

2.7 Muddy bottoms

2.7.2 Sublittoral photic zone

2.7.2.2 Dominated by macrophyte vegetation

EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.5 Sublittoral macrophyte-dominated sediment

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/1733>