

AA.H1Q3 BALTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY STABLE AGGREGATIONS OF UNATTACHED *FURCELLARIA LUMBRICALIS*

AUTHOR

HELCOM RED LIST Biotope Expert Team

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 *Furcellaria lumbricalis* 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

Furcellaria lumbricalis

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Lower limit of *Furcellaria* belt, amount of epiphytic algae, density of *Furcellaria*

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Baltic Sea up to the Quark in the north and central Gulf of Finland in the east

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>