

AA.H3N2–BALTIC PHOTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY MUD SHRIMPS (COROPHIIDAE)

AUTHOR

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TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic photic 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 crustaceans dominates and is highest in the group that includes infaunal bivalves/polychaetes/crustaceans/echinoderms/insect larvae. Out of the infaunal crustaceans *Corophiidae* constitutes at least 50% of the biomass.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is muddy sediment. Depth is typically from 1 to 5 meters. Appears in low wave exposure classes.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Corophium volutator, *Apocorophium lacustre*

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna.

ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

2.7 Muddy bottoms

2.7.2 Sublittoral photic zone

2.7.2.1 With little or no macrophyte vegetation

EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.3 Sublittoral mud

A5.31 Sublittoral mud in low or reduced salinity

A5.311 Baltic brackish water sublittoral muddy biocenoses influenced by varying salinity

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2585>