AA.J3L10 BALTIC PHOTIC SAND DOMINATED BY MULTIPLE INFAUNAL BIVALVE SPECIES: *MACOMA CALCAREA, MYA TRUNCATA, ASTARTE SPP., SPISULA SPP.*

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TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic photic zone bottoms with at least 90 % coverage of sand. Sand has less than 20 % of mud/silt/clay fraction (<63 µm), and the proportion of sand (grain size 0.063–2 mm) exceeds 70% of the combined gravel and sand fraction. Biomass of infaunal bivalves dominates and is highest in the group that includes infaunal bivalves/polychaetes/crustaceans/echinoderms/insect larvae. Out of the infaunal bivalves, multiple infaunal bivalve species (*Macoma calcarea, Mya truncata, Astarte spp., Spisula spp*) constitute at least 50 % of the biomass.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is sand.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Macoma calcarea, Mya truncata, Astarte spp., Spisula spp

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna.

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Kiel bight to Darss sill

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

2.5 Sandy bottoms

2.5.2 Sublittoral photic zone

2.5.2.1 Level bottoms with little or no macrophyte

vegetation

EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.2 Sublittoral sand

A5.21 Sublittoral sand in low or reduced salinity

A5.211 Baltic level sandy bottoms of the infralittoral photic zone with little or no macrophyte vegetation

http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2580