

AB.H3O1 BALTIC APHOTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY *AMPHIUURA FILIFORMIS*

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, Amphiuura filiformis* constitutes at least 50% of the biomass.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is muddy sediment. Appears in all wave exposure classes. Salinity >12 psu.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Amphiura filiformis, *Amphiura chiajei*, *Ophiura* spp, *Echinocardium* sp.

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Kattegat

ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

EUNIS 2012:

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>