

AB.M1H2 BALTIC APHOTIC MIXED SUBSTRATE DOMINATED BY ERECT MOSS ANIMALS (*FLUSTRA FOLIACEAE*)

AUTHOR

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TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic aphotic zone bottoms with at least 10-90 % coverage of hard (rock/boulders/stone) and 10-90 % soft substrata (e.g. muddy/coarse sediment/sand). Epibenthic moss animals cover at least 10 % of the seabed, and more than other perennial attached erect groups. Out of the epibenthic moss animals, erect moss animals constitute at least 50 % of the biomass.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is soft or crystalline rock, boulders or stones mixed with mobile substrates such as sand or coarse substrate. Depth is typically from 20 to 100 meters.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Flustra foliaceae

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Southern Baltic Sea

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

2.8 Mixed sediment bottoms

2.8.1 Aphotic zone

EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.4 : Sublittoral mixed sediments

A5.41 : Sublittoral mixed sediment in low or reduced salinity

A5.412 : Baltic mixed sediment bottoms of the aphotic zone

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2589>