



Marine Litter: studio e monitoraggio delle microplastiche in ambiente marino



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MARINE STRATEGY FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

DESCRIPTOR 10: MARINE LITTER



Direttiva Quadro sulla Strategia per l'ambiente marino Direttiva 2008/ 56/CE



✓ Valutazione dello stato del mare attraverso 11 Descrittori

La Direttiva è stata recepita in Italia nel 2010, sono già 12 anni che viene attuata da noi di ISPRA insieme alle Agenzie Regionali per la protezione dell'ambiente e sotto il coordinamento dell'Autorità competente, oggi MASE

MARINE LITTER:

any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in

the marine and coastal environment

Produzione di plastica



Includes Thermoplastics, Polyurethanes, Thermosets, Elastomers, Adhesives, Coatings and Sealants and PP-Fibers. Not included PET-, PA- and Polyacryl-Fibers 1953

 Ziegler sintetizza il polietilene (PE)

1954

 Natta sintetizza il polipropilene (PP) isotattico

1963

 Ziegler & Natta vincono il Nobel per la chimica

MOntecatini PolipropiLENe isotattico



University of Georgia. "Magnitude of plastic waste going into the ocean calculated: 8 million tons of plastic enter the oceans per year." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 12 February 2015.



Correnti marine



Il Marine Litter può accumularsi nelle aree di convergenza delle correnti marine causando la formazione delle cosiddette "isole di rifiuti" (note anche con il termine inglese di "*Garbage Patch*" oppure di "*Trash Islands*"). In queste zone è possibile rilevare una concentrazione di rifiuti pari a 25.000 – 100.000 oggetti/Km²



Aree oceaniche di maggior accumulo di rifiuti solidi galleggianti (www.MarineDebris.noaa.gov)

COMMISSION DECISION

of 1 September 2010

on criteria and methodological standards on Good Environmental Status of marine waters (2010/477/EU)

Marine Strategy Framework Directive Descriptor 10

- 10.1. Characteristics of litter in the marine and coastal environment
 - Trends in the amount of litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines, including analysis of its composition, spatial distribution and, where possible, source (10.1.1)
 - Trends in the amount of litter in the water column (including floating at the surface) and deposited on the sea- floor, including analysis of its composition, spatial distribution and, where possible, source (10.1.2)
 - Trends in the amount, distribution and, where possible, composition of micro-particles (in particular micro- plastics) (10.1.3)
- 10.2. Impacts of litter on marine life

 Trends in the amount and composition of litter ingested by marine animals (e.g. stomach analysis) (10.2.1).

COMMISSION DECISION (EU) 2017/848 of 17 May 2017

laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU

The amount of litter and micro-litter ingested by marine animals is at a level that does not adversely affect the health of the species concerned.

MSFD TG-ML: basic requirements for target species

"Marine feeding habits: stomach contents should only reflect the marine environment."

"Regular plastic consumption: Frequency of occurrence and amounts of plastic found in stomachs should be high enough to allow detection of trends over time and geographical patterns."

> "Sample availability: Samples of a monitoring species should be available with adequate numbers of individuals over a wider span of time and space."



Microplastics are different



- Thomson et al., 2004: Fragments of plastic around 20 μm in diameter
- Arthur et al., 2009: *Plastic particles smaller than 5 mm*
- GESAMP 2016: plastic particles < 5 mm in diameter, which include particles in the nano-size range (1 nm)
- Galgani et al., 2019: particles that pass through a 5 mm mesh screen but are retained by a lower one, according to the chosen size class
- Matiddi et al., 2021: All sorts of small particles of plastic, less than 5 mm in two of the three dimension or diameter that pass through a 5 mm mesh screen but are retained by a lower one, according to the chosen size class"

Microplastics are different



Figure 4: Common shapes of microplastics. (1: fibers, 2-3: filaments, 4-7: films, 8-11: fragments, 12-14: foams, 15: pellet, 16-17: granule) (Photo: © Ülgen Aytan, Turkey).





Thunnus thynnus: 3 m 750 KG

Engraulis encrasicolus 18-20 cm 8/10 g



Environmental Pollution Volume 247, April 2019, Pages 1071-1077



Determining suitable fish to monitor plastic ingestion trends in the Mediterranean Sea \bigstar

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	Distribution		Gut length		Commercial value		Vagility		Plastic occurrence	
	% of Med.	Scale	cm	Scale	Euros/2015	Scale	Range	Scale	×	Scale
rgyrosomau regius (Asso, 1801)	60	4		2*	1.1E+6	4	OC	2	33	3
oups boogs (Linnaeus, 1758)	71	5	17	4	1.9E+6	4	OC	2	58	-4
orana crysos (Mitchill, 1815)	63	4	25	3	3.3E+3	1	OC	2	100	5
helidonichthys lucerna (Linnaeus, 1758)	60	4	3	5	1.0E+-4	2	RE	4	67	5
itharus linguntulu (Linnaeus, 1758)	68	4	4	5	1.0E+6	4	LR	3	2	1
orypharna hippyryr (Linnaeus, 1758)	94	5	- A.	2*	2.8E+5	3	OC	2	7	1
entex gbbosus (Rafinesque, 1810)	56	3	18	4	9.1E+5	2	OC	2	34	2
Bandure metorox kummer	63	4	225	5*	0	- F	MD	1	192	1
Corro 1829	1000	- 62		1000	1051	- 33	(C)	1.20	0.0	- 33
United or annual artic	69	- 40		5	3.66.5	1	1.12		47	
Innarus 1758)		<u>.</u>	- C.	1.16	2,224.9	- 22				10
Instrumention (Coren 1879)	94	4	-	5.0	0	1	MD	1.61	6	14
propilit encontrolar (Litratus 1758)	68	4			1.35 . 8	3	OC	2	57	4
felicolemu doctulanteras	68	2	10	1	2.26+6	4	00	2	1	1
Deleverbe 1800	200	100	111		accest 0	12		1.5		10
Encentration in the second second second	100	1.1					MD	- 10 C	100	1.
(Solution of the Control of the second second	100	1	- C		6.30.0	- 2	PRLJ PR	121	20	12
anightings mornights (clinicaeus, 1756)	03	- 22			0.20+0		HE .	2	20	15
neion damate (Resso, 18 PV)	-009		111	1.1	4.22+0	÷.	CH.		30	
ferfuccias mertuccias (Linnaeus, 1758)	.9		× .		3.88:+6	2	MD	1.1	56	14
feremore (Rissa, 1810)	73	5	- CC	2*	1.1E+-4	2	MD	1.8	9	1.1
fullus barbatus barbatas (Linnaeus, 1758)	76	5	33	- 4	4.1E+5	4	RE	4.5	32	3
fullus surmuletus: (Linnaeus, 1758)	76	5	11	4	2.9E+7	3	RE	4	31	3
(yctophum putctatum (Rafinesque, 1810)	100	5	-	5*	0	1.	MD	3.	4	1
faucrates ductor (Linitaeus, 1758)	20	2	-	3*	2.1E+5	3	LR	3	18	2
ferulpterus rundalli (Russell, 1986)	1000	15	×	4"	0	- A	LR	3	28	2
fernasioera melanistum (Kafinosque, 1830)	76	5	28	3	0		MD	1	9	- 1
ugeihs acarne (Risso, 1827)	69	4	8	5	2.1E+ 5	3	OC	2	48	- 4
ugeilus bogaraveo (Brinnsich, 1768)	-55	3	8	5	2.7E+5	3	OC	2	2	1
logellus erythrinus (Linnaeus, 1758)	60	4	B	s	1.5E+6	4	LR	3	32	3
agrus pegnus (Linnaeus, 1758)	69	4	9	5	7.7E+-4	2	OC	2	22	2
elotes quadritineutus (Bloch, 1790)		17	11.	4	0	1	RE	4	28	2
sivorist avericanas (Boch & Schneider, 1801)	75	2	96	2	3.7E+5	3	DC	2	55	4
emadarys incluse (Bowdich, 1825)	31	3	17	4	3.2E+-3		OC	2	31	18
ardino pikhanins (Walbaum 1782)	22	4*	19	4	8.9E+6		OC	2	32	3
awido undosonamic (Richardson 1848)		1*		2	0	1	1.8	1	36	
chedonbilos nusile (Conter, 1833)	82	4	_	-2*	5.18.4	2	MIX	1	-90	- G
cinero umbra (Linnaeus, 1258)	35	- A	8	5	5.05+5	3	1.8	1.0	100	18
comber ionopirus (Hourtown 1782)	0	1	11	1	6.46-6	â	00	2	50	1
enido dumenti /Rimo 18101	74		87	7	1.16.2	- Q	OC.	2	5	- R
control data and the second states	100		10		0.05.0		DE.		1.1	- SQ
erruna (uomar (Liniaeus, 1756)	02	- 22	10	24	0.36-4	-	PLC.		35	12
gunas neces (Langers 1750)	76	2	5.00		1.75. 2		1.0		2	1
ocu svecu (Linnacus, 1738) temerourote (Linnacus, 1759)	69	1	206	1	3.76+1	2	1.0	-	37	2
personariae (Linnarin, 1758)	43	2	1 742	100	+.3E+B	2	0.0	-	41	1
numus dianuga (ponituterre, 1788)	63	3	1.28	1.2.1	2,96+6		OC		1.9	12
summers mynous (Linnaeus, 1758)	100	2	1.228	1.2	0.12+6	2	DL	4	12	4
nemnetu evetur (Linnaeux, 1758)	589	3	28	4	J_3E+6		DL	4	24	14
rechurus trechurus (Lannarus, 1758)	100	3	X		0,08+6		DC	2	24	2
tochurus mediterromeus (Steindachner, 1868)	100	5	16	4	8.0E+5	4	DC	2	18	2
techyriscus scabras (Rafinesque, 1810)	21	2	20	4	8,5E+3	1	1.8	3	33	3
(persens moluconssis (Blocker, 1855)	-	37	~	4*	2.3E+5	3	RE	4	33	3
(peneus pori (Ben-Tuvia & Golani, 1989)	18	17	-	4*	2.3E+5	3	RE	4	29	2
indian gluding (Limmanus, 1758)	100		305	1	5.5E.11	5	00	2	23	12



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Determining suitable fish to monitor plastic ingestion trends in the Mediterranean Sea \star

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Food preference determines the best suitable digestion protocol for analysing microplastic ingestion by fish



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ABSTRACT

Microplastic presence in the marine environment has generated considerable concern. Many procedures for microplastics detection in fish gastrointestinal tract have been recently developed. In this study, we compared efficiencies of two common procedures applied for the digestion of organic matter (10% KOH; 15% H_2O_2) with a new proposal (mixture of 5% HNO_3 and 15% H_2O_2). We considered ecological diversity among species and differences in their diet compositions as factors that could affect the efficiency and feasibility of analytical approaches. Our aim was to understand whether either one of the three protocols might be suitable for all species or it might be more advisable to select a method according to the gut content determined by different food preferences. The results showed that the trophic level and feeding habits should be considered for protocol selection. Finally, we applied the best protocols on samples from the Tyrrhenian sea.

Table 1 Optimised protocols for digesting biota or biogenic material to isolate microplastics. Assumptions: 'overnight' given as 12 h; 'room temperature' given as 20 °C

Treatment	Exposure	Organism	Author		
HNO ₃ (22.5 M)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (2 h)	Blue mussels	Claessens et al. (2013) ⁵¹		
HNO ₃ (22.5 M)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (2 h)	Blue mussels oysters	Van Cauwenberghe & Jansen (2014) ⁵⁴		
HNO ₃ (22.5 M)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (2 h)	Blue mussels lugworms	Van Cauwenberghe <i>et al.</i> (2013) ²³		
HNO ₃ (100%)	20 °C (30 min)	Euphausids copepods	Desforges et al. (2015)16		
HNO ₃ (69–71%)	90 °C (4 h)	Manilla clams	Davidson & Dudas (2016) ⁶¹		
HNO ₃ (70%)	2 h	Zebrafish	In et al. (2016) ¹⁰⁵		
HNO ₃ (22.5 M)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (15 min)	Brown mussels	Santana et al. (2016) ⁶³		
HNO ₃ (65%) HClO ₄ (68%) (4 : 1)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (10 min)	Blue mussels	De Witte <i>et al.</i> $(2014)^{52}$		
HNO ₃ (65%) HClO ₄ (68%) (4 : 1)	20 °C (12 h) + 100 °C (10 min)	Brown shrimp	Devriese et al. (2015) ³⁸		
CH ₂ O ₂ (3%)	72 h	Corals	Hall et al. (2015) ³²		
KOH (10%)	2-3 weeks	Fish	Foekema et al. (2013) ⁷⁵		
KOH (10%)	60 °C (12 h)	Fish	Rochman <i>et al.</i> (2015) ⁵⁸		
KOH (10%)	2-3 weeks	Fish	Lusher et al. (2016) ⁸⁹		
H ₂ O ₂ (30%)	60 °C	Blue mussels	Mathalon & Hill (2014)53		
H ₂ O ₂ (30%)	20 °C (7 d)	Biogenic matter	Nuelle et al. (2015) ¹³⁷		
H ₂ O ₂ (15%)	55 °C (3 d)	Fish	Avio et al. (2015) ⁸¹		
H ₂ O ₂ (30%)	65 °C (24 h) + 20 °C (<48 h)	Bivalves	Li et al. (2015) ⁵⁷		
NaClO (3%) NaClO ₂ (10 : 1)	20 °C (12 h) 20 °C (5 min)	Fish	Collard et al. (2015) ⁸²		

Lusher *et al.,* 2017

Open Access Article. Published on 24 October 2016. Downloaded on 14/04/2017 13:45:28.



Food preference determines the best suitable digestion protocol for analysing microplastic ingestion by fish

Different chemicals should be more or less incisive depending on the composition of the gut content.

To exemplify this, we chose three fish species according to samples availability, commercial and ecological importance, habitat use, and feeding habits

Merluccius merluccius, Linnaeus, 1758

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Scomber colias Gmelin, 1789

Trigla lyra Linnaeus, 1758



Demersal species of high commercial importance worldwide



Pelagic species (Eastern Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea)



Benthic species that lives on the continental shelf.



Our study demonstrates that protocols efficiency changes according to the gut contents composition. Ecological diversity among species and differences in their diets are factors that affect the efficiency of different digestive solutions. Trophic levels and food preferences should be considered into protocol selection



Environmental Pollution 263 (2020) 114429



Spatial variability and influence of biological parameters on microplastic ingestion by *Boops boops* (L.) along the Italian coasts (Western Mediterranean Sea)^{\star}



POLLUTION

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ABSTRACT

Recently, many studies focus on the ingestion of microplastics by marine biota. Fish exploit almost every kind of marine environment, occupy many ecological niches and are an important food source for human populations worldwide. For these reasons, they seem to represent very appropriate biological indicators of microplastic ingestion, UNEP/MAP SPA/RAC (2018) identified the bogue, Boops boops (Linnaeus, 1758), as a possible target species for monitoring microplastic ingestion in fish populations. This study provides the first report of microplastic ingestion by B. boops from the Tyrrhenian and the Ligurian Seas (Western Mediterranean Sea). Generalized Linear Mixed Models were used to analyse the relationship among biological parameters and environmental factors. A total of 379 bogues were collected in three Italian regions, subject to different anthropogenic pressures (river input, human population, shipping lanes and distance from the coast). Microplastics were detected in the gastrointestinal tract of most individuals (56%) with a mean of 1.8 (±0.2) microplastics per individual. Our study further confirms that this species is able to highlight differences in the ingestion of microplastics according to local anthropization, resulting Latium region to be the most polluted. Fish with lower physical condition are more likely to ingest microplastics, suggesting a relationship with the level of local environmental contamination. Finally, the ingestion of microplastics might be influenced by behavioural differences between sexes. According to our results, males ingest significantly more microplastics than females (p < 0.05). Our research confirms that an extensive knowledge on the biology of a bioindicator species is a priority for developing a valid monitoring strategy, such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive for European waters.

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The results confirm *that B. boops* seems a suitable target species for the Mediterranean coastal zone.

- differences in the ingestion of microplastics according to local anthropogenic pressures
- individual *condition factor* is significantly related to the frequency of microplastic ingestion
- differences in microplastic ingestion between sexes are a new interesting topic for further research on both this and other fish species



Marine Pollution Bulletin 158 (2020) 111397



Using Boops boops (osteichthyes) to assess microplastic ingestion in the Mediterranean Sea



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C. Tsangaris, et al. Marine Pollution Bulletin 158 (2020) 111397 5°E 10°E 15°E 20°E 25°E N

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25°E



MP Frequency of occurence (%)

• 0.0-20.0 • 20.1-40.0 • 40.1-60.0 • 60.1-80.0 • 80.1-100.0

884 samples

FO= 46,8%





Exploring microplastic ingestion by three deep-water elasmobranch species: A case study from the Tyrrhenian Sea^{*}

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POLLUTION

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Elasmobranchs are **top predator** that play an important role in marine food webs

Few studies have investigated their interactions with marine litter



Etmopterus spinax (Linnaeus, 1758)

Mostly pelagic and feed on cephalopods and pelagic fish

crustaceans and small pelagic fish



Scyliorhinus canicula (Linnaeus, 1758)



Mainly benthic feeders and feed on crusteans and epibenthic fish

Galeus melastomus (Rafinesque, 1810))



Exploring microplastic ingestion by three deep-water elasmobranch species: A case study from the Tyrrhenian Sea *



The results of the study suggest that the three species show a **similar probability to ingest plastic items**, but they have a **different ability in excreting ingested microplastics**.

The discrimination between stomach and intestinal contents highlights a possible origin for the differences recorded in the three species, giving information about the **retention time** of microplastics in the GI



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One is not enough: Monitoring microplastic ingestion by fish needs a multispecies approach

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AASEME POLLETICH BULLETIN

One is not enough: Monitoring microplastic ingestion by fish needs a multispecies approach

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Ancona	A			CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR	(C)(7)	Scomber spp.			
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No. of microplastics									
						0 3 6 9 12 No. of microplastics	0 3 6 9 12 No. of microplastics		



Science of The Total Environment Available online 5 May 2023, 163875 In Press, Journal Pre-proof ⑦ What's this? ㅋ



Short Communication

Tracing the route: Using stable isotope analysis to understand microplastic pathways through the pelagic-neritic food web of the Tyrrhenian Sea (Western Mediterranean)

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GOVERNANCE

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GRAZIE

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