

COMPOSITION OF THE FIXED SEA URCHIN COLONY ON HATAKEZIMA ISLAND, 1975

The regular observation was made on April 26, 1975, around noon from 11:30 to 12:30. It was cloudy and quite calm; the water was lowest, -8 cm, at 12:04. The lower zone of the shore was thickly covered by *Hizikia fusiforme* Okamura which was just being harvested, but the sea urchin colony examined was completely exposed below the belt of this brown alga. The ratio of the number of *Echinostrephus* to that of *Anthocidaris* (E/A) was 1.729. This ratio and actual individual numbers of respective species were nearly the same as in 1974.

April 26, 1975	Section 1 (SW)	Section 2 (NW)	Section 3 (SE)	Section 4 (NE)	Total	Percent
<i>Anthocidaris crassispina</i>	49	65	75	59	248	32.4
<i>Echinostrephus aciculatus</i>	57	186	97	89	429	56.1
<i>Echinometra mathaei</i>	9	26	25	28	88	11.5
					765	100.0

The complete absence of *Mespilia* in April was noted with a fear for possible water-pollution in the area. Thus, further observation was made around noon on June 11 to see if there occurred some *Mespilia* in this advanced season with higher water temperature and to confirm the stability of the population composition. It was fine and a breeze came from the west. The water was lowest, 0 cm, at 12:53. As the colony was not exposed, it was rather difficult to carry out the observation exactly. The boundaries of the colony were somewhat obscure and some smaller specimens might be overlooked. Nevertheless, it was found that the composition was maintained very similarly and *Mespilia* was wholly absent. The ratio E/A was 1.718.

June 11, 1975	Section 1 (SW)	Section 2 (NW)	Section 3 (SE)	Section 4 (NE)	Total	Percent
<i>Anthocidaris crassispina</i>	36	59	65	67	227	33.0
<i>Echinostrephus aciculatus</i>	55	138	89	108	390	56.7
<i>Echinometra mathaei</i>	8	10	19	34	71	10.3
					688	100.0

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