



36th EMBS

European Marine Biology Symposium

*A Marine Science odyssey
into the 21st Century*

MAÓ, 17 to 22 September 2001

ABSTRACTS

LIFE HISTORY STUDIES AND ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS OF *ENDARACHNE BINGHAMIAE* J. AGARDH (SCYTOSIPHONACEAE, PHAEOPHYCOTA) FROM THE AZORES

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Firstly reported to the Azores in 1994, *Endarachne binghamiae* J. Agardh is commonly found in spring and summer in large stones, bedrock and other hard substrata in the up mid-tidal region of the exposed Azorean shores. Reproductive plants, with plurilocular organs, occur all year round. In culture, spores released from plurilocular organs developed into small knot-filaments, which exhibited a 3-dimensional structure of a typical crust, after being squashed. These prostrate filaments gave rise directly to new erect blades. No unilocular sporangia were seen and no evidence of sexuality was observed so far. These results are similar to the ones referred to Californian plants and were obtained in both short-day and long-day conditions at 15-22°C.