



36th EMBS

European Marine Biology Symposium

*A Marine Science odyssey
into the 21st Century*

MAÓ, 17 to 22 September 2001

ABSTRACTS

ON THE OCCURENCE OF THE GENUS *SEBDENIA* (HALYMENIALES, RHODOPHYTA) IN THE AZORES

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The occurrence of the genus *Sebdenia* (Halymeniales, Rhodophyta) in the Azores is reported for the first time, based on collections made in the island of São Miguel. The ecology, anatomy and morphology of the plants are described and meristic comparisons with species from elsewhere are presented. With few exceptions the results indicate stronger similarities with plants from the Atlantic African coasts than with plants from other places of Macaronesia, namely Cape Verde and the Canarian Archipelagos. This is the second contribution to the study of the genus *Sebdenia* in the Macaronesian Region. Further taxonomic and biological studies are now in progress to evaluate if the specimens collected in the Azores will constitute new species for the genus, or simply a variety of the species recently described for the Macaronesia, *S. macaronesia*.