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ABSTRACTS

LIFE HISTORY AND PHENOLOGY OF *HYDROCLATHRUS CLATHRATUS* (SCYTOSIPHONACEAE, PHAEOPHYCOTA) IN THE AZORESToste F. M.,¹ M. I. Parente,¹ A. I. Neto¹ & R. L. Fletcher²¹ *Secção de Biologia Marinha, Departamento de Biologia, Universidade dos Açores, Rua Da Mãe de Deus, 9500 Ponta Delgada, Azores, Portugal.**Tel + 351296650000. Fax +351296650100. E-mail: aneto@notes.uac.pt*² *University of Portsmouth, Institute of Marine Science, Ferry Road, Eastney, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO4 9LY, United Kingdom.*

Hydroclathrus clathratus (C.Agardh) Howe (Scytosiphonaceae, Phaeophycota) is a common species in the rocky intertidal shores of São Miguel, Azores, mainly in spring and summer. Fertile erect thalli appear in spring and disappear from late summer onward. Life-history studies of this species were carried out in culture. The species showed a heteromorphic life-history pattern with an alternation between the erect thalli and a filamentous prostrate thalli. A few reproductive cells from the plurilocular organs of erect thalli developed directly into new erect plants. Other developed into filamentous prostrate thalli bearing unilocular and plurilocular sporangia in both short-day and long-day conditions at 15-22°C. Zoospores released from unilocular sporangia developed into saccate plants and plurispores gave rise to filamentous prostrate thalli.