



Book of Abstracts

Mares Conference

Marine Ecosystems Health and Conservation

Olhão, Portugal

17 – 21 November 2014

An initiative from The MARES Joint Doctoral Programme on Marine Ecosystem Health & Conservation - www.mares-eu.org

Organized by The Mares Conference Coordination Office
Marine Biology Research Group
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#MaresConference2014



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1st Mares Conference on Marine Ecosystems Health and Conservation

Olhão, Portugal

17-21 November 2014

Pre-conference version – November 5, 2014

Organized by:



Ghent University

Marine Biology Research Group



University of Algarve

Department of Sciences and Technology

Organizers

MARES Joint Doctoral Programme

The first international MARES Conference is an initiative from the MARES Joint Doctoral Programme (www.mares-eu.org).

This joint international thematic doctoral programme, funded through Erasmus Mundus and coordinated by Ghent University, was initiated in 2010. Since then, over 30 young scientists are actively conducting research focused on the impacts of human activities on marine ecosystems.

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The Mares Conference Coordination Team

Two organizing committees are responsible for the organization of the first Mares Conference:

General Organizing Committee



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Biodiversity Effects

Cobble beaches in oceanic islands: how they react to hydrodynamics and location in the island?

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Cobble beaches, although present, are not common on the coastal areas of the Azores. The islands are geologically recent and most of their coasts are composed of cliffs and basaltic lava flows, leaving few spots for the accumulation of cobbles and the construction of cobble beaches. It is of common knowledge that the beach structure changes with the hydrodynamics intensity from summer to winter. However it is not known the reflexion of those changes in the biological communities. In this study four cobble beaches of the island of Terceira were studied, two in the northern coast, subjected to heavier hydrodynamics, and two in the eastern coast and more sheltered from the surge intensity. Each beach was surveyed in the summer and in the winter of 2013. At each sample occasion a beach profile was built, the cobbles were measured at three heights in the shore (high, mid and low levels), and abundances of animal and algae were assessed. Oceanographic daily data on wave size, direction and intensity and on sea water temperature for the island was recorded for the whole year by devices displayed in oceanic buoys. Data of each season was compared for the four beaches. Results showed differences among beaches and between seasons at the same beach. This suggests both, the influence of the location of a cobble beach on its biological communities, and the, influence of hydrodynamics in shaping the biological communities.

Keywords: Algae, invertebrates, intertidal zone, seasonality,



Ghent, 26 November 2014

Name: **Nuno Vaz Álvaro**

Mares Conference : Proof of Attendance

The Coordination Office of the Mares Conference confirms that Nuno Vaz Álvaro assists the first Mares Conference on Marine Ecosystems Health and Conservation that took place in Olhão (Portugal) from 17 to 21 November 2014.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Deprez", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Tim Deprez, on behalf of the organizing Committee

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