

JOURNAL OF SEA RESEARCH

C.J.M. Philippart, B. Bak-Gade, J.J. Beukema, G.C. Cadée and H.G. Epping

The Journal of Sea Research is an international and multidisciplinary periodical on marine research, with an emphasis on the functioning of marine ecosystems in coastal and shelf seas, including intertidal, estuarine and brackish environments. As several subdisciplines add to this aim, papers are being published from the fields of marine biology, marine chemistry, marine sedimentology and physical oceanography, provided they add to the understanding of ecosystem processes. In addition to its regular issues, the Journal publishes special issues which bundle articles addressing, and often reviewing, a specific scientific theme.

In 2006, the Journal published volumes 55 and 56, each consisting of four issues and together comprising 51 research papers. The first issue of 2006, viz. 55(1), was a special issue that presented the main results of a workshop organised by the EU BioFlow consortium with regard to exchange processes at the sediment-water interface. The other special issue, viz. 56(2), was dedicated to the application of Dynamic Energy Budget modelling to marine bivalves.

The most downloaded article from the regular issues deals with feeding and condition of larval and juvenile Japanese temperate bass *Lateolabrax japonicus* in relation to spatial distribution in the Japanese Chikugo estuary (Islam et al.

2006). Based on their field observations, the authors hypothesise that by migration to the better foraging grounds of the upper estuary (with higher prey biomass, elevated temperature and reduced salinity), the fish reduce early mortality and attain a better condition. In the second most-downloaded article, a field study on metazoan parasites in intertidal cockles *Cerastoderma edule* from the northern Wadden Sea reported that almost all cockles were infected by parasites and most individuals harboured more than one parasite species (Thieltges & Reise 2006). According to the authors, this would have severe negative effects on the cockle physiology and therefore bear implications on future sampling

designs. The authors of the third most-downloaded article studied the long-term relationship between land-based input of nutrients and primary production in the Baltic entrance region (Rydberg et al. 2006). They found a clear co-variation between primary productivity and land-based nutrient loads on an inter-annual time scale, which was more prominent for nitrogen than for phosphorus.

The first authors of the articles which were published in the regular issues originated from 16 different countries. More than 25% of the first authors were of non-European origin (Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Japan, USA), which underlines the worldwide readership of the Journal.