

# Ardgroom Harbour

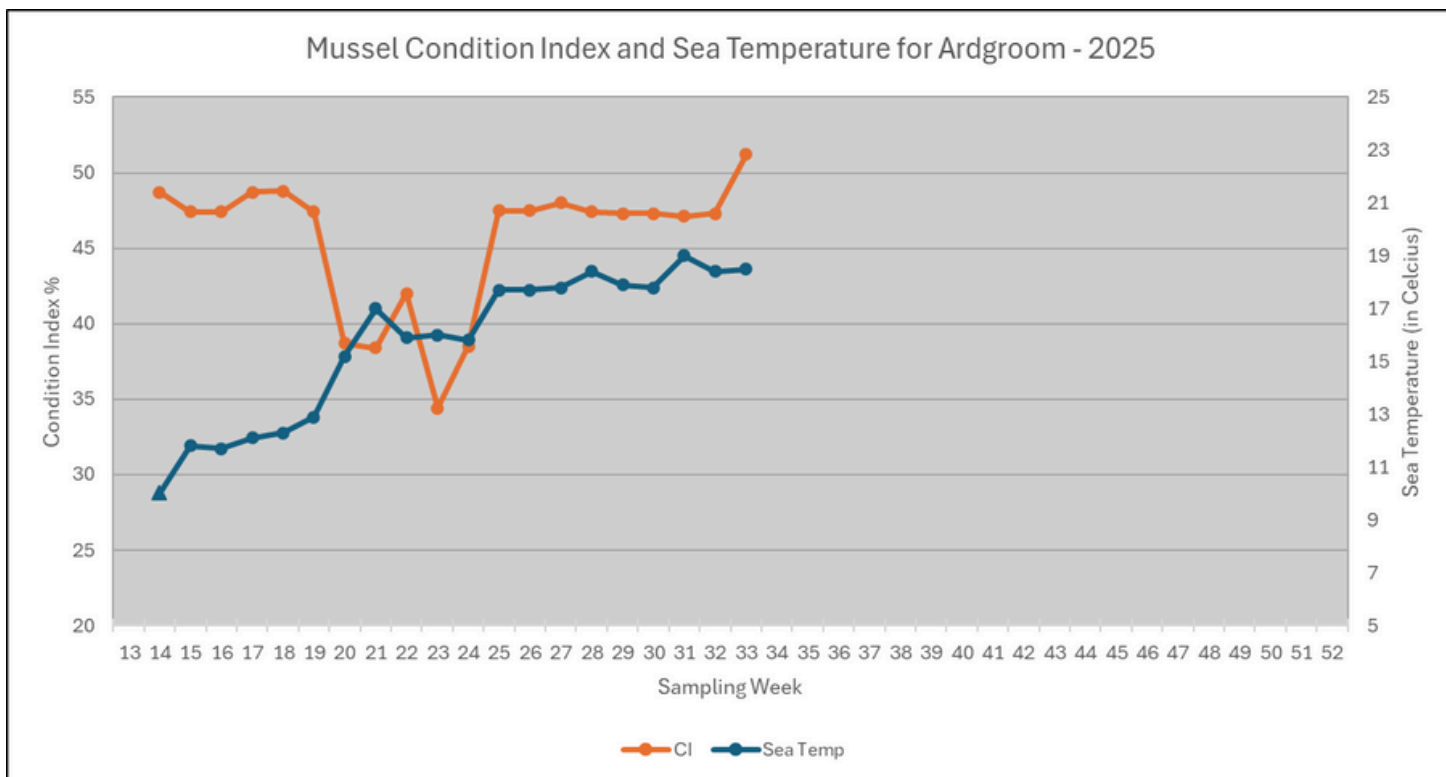
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

18<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17/08/2025)

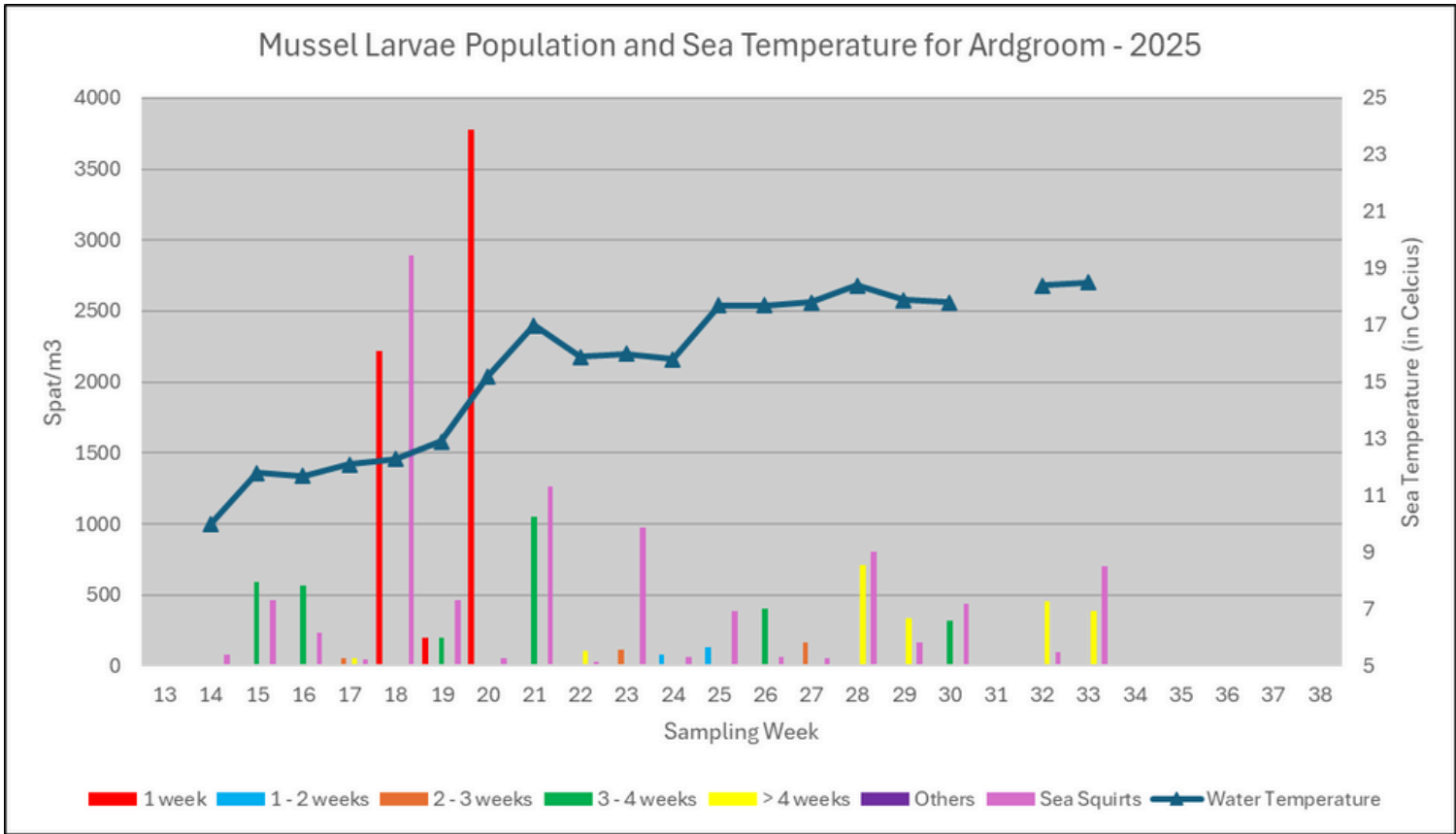


## Condition Index (CI) for Ardgroom Harbour



# Larvae population evolution for Ardgroom Harbour

For each sample, mussel larvae are classed by age: 1 week old, 1 to 2 weeks old, 2 to 3 weeks old, 3 to 4 weeks old, 3 to 4 weeks old, over 4 weeks old and others (younger or older).



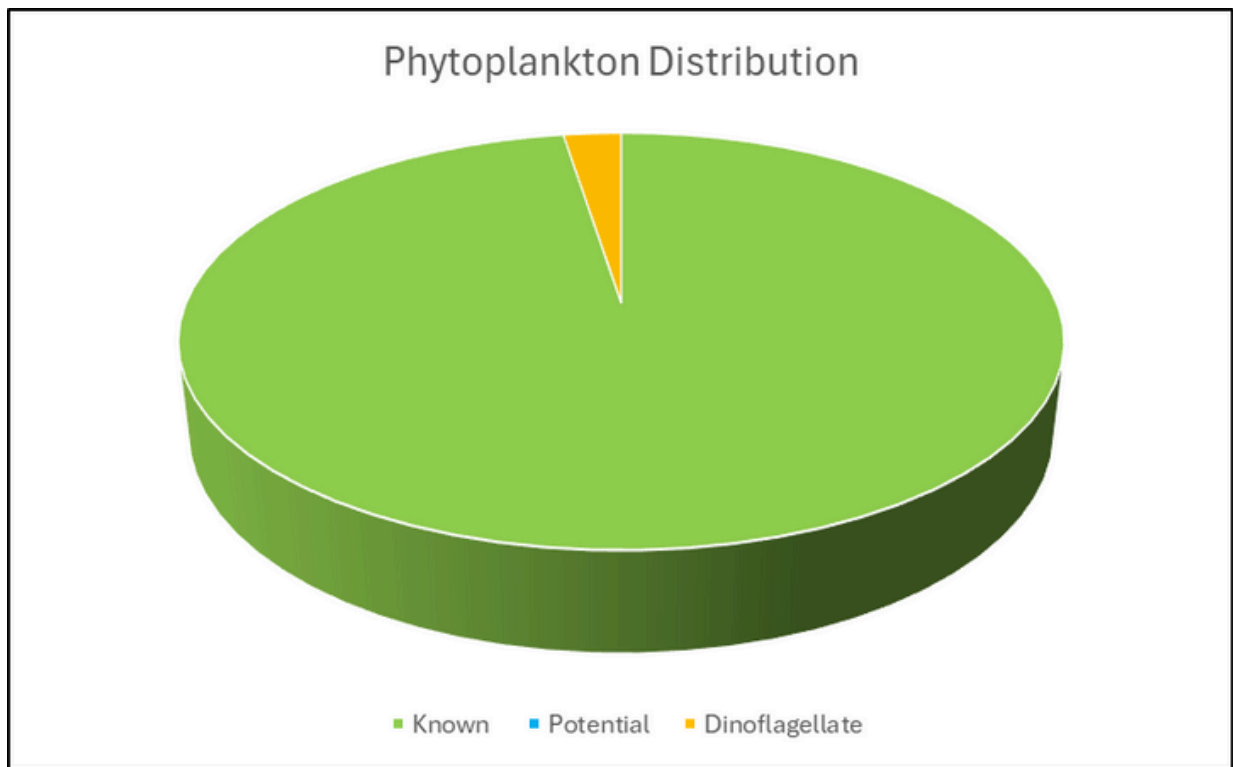
## Commentary

The Condition Index (CI) in Ardgroom increased significantly in Week 33 at 51.2% (+.9% from the previous week). The sea temperature is also stable at 18.5°C (based on Kilmackilloge readings, +0.1°C).

The larvae population decreased slightly to 384 spat/m<sup>3</sup>, composed of 4 to 6 weeks larvae. It is expected that those larvae settle in the next week (Week 34).

The concentration of sea squirts in the sample was significant at 702 ind./m<sup>3</sup>. The sample presented high levels of copepods, crabs, starfish, barnacles and sea matting. The phytoplankton biomass in the sample was high with Noctiluca, Ceratium and Rhizosolenia dominant. The sample also presented 3 other bivalve species at advanced development stage.





The phytoplankton concentration greatly increased in Week 33 to 114,360 cells/litre, dominated by known food species (97%) and few dinoflagellates (3%).

