

Dunmanus Bay

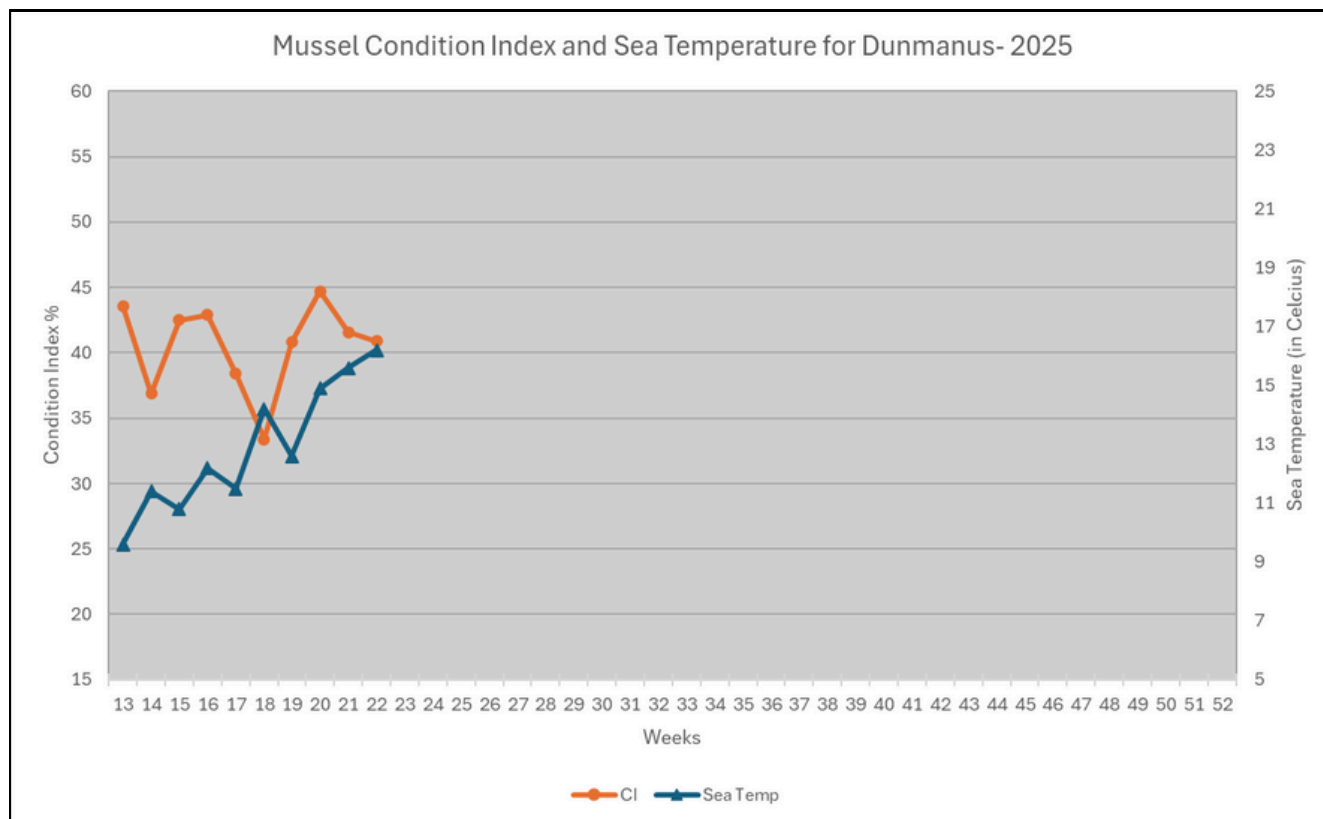
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

3rd June 2025

Week 22 (26/05/2025 to 1/06/2025)

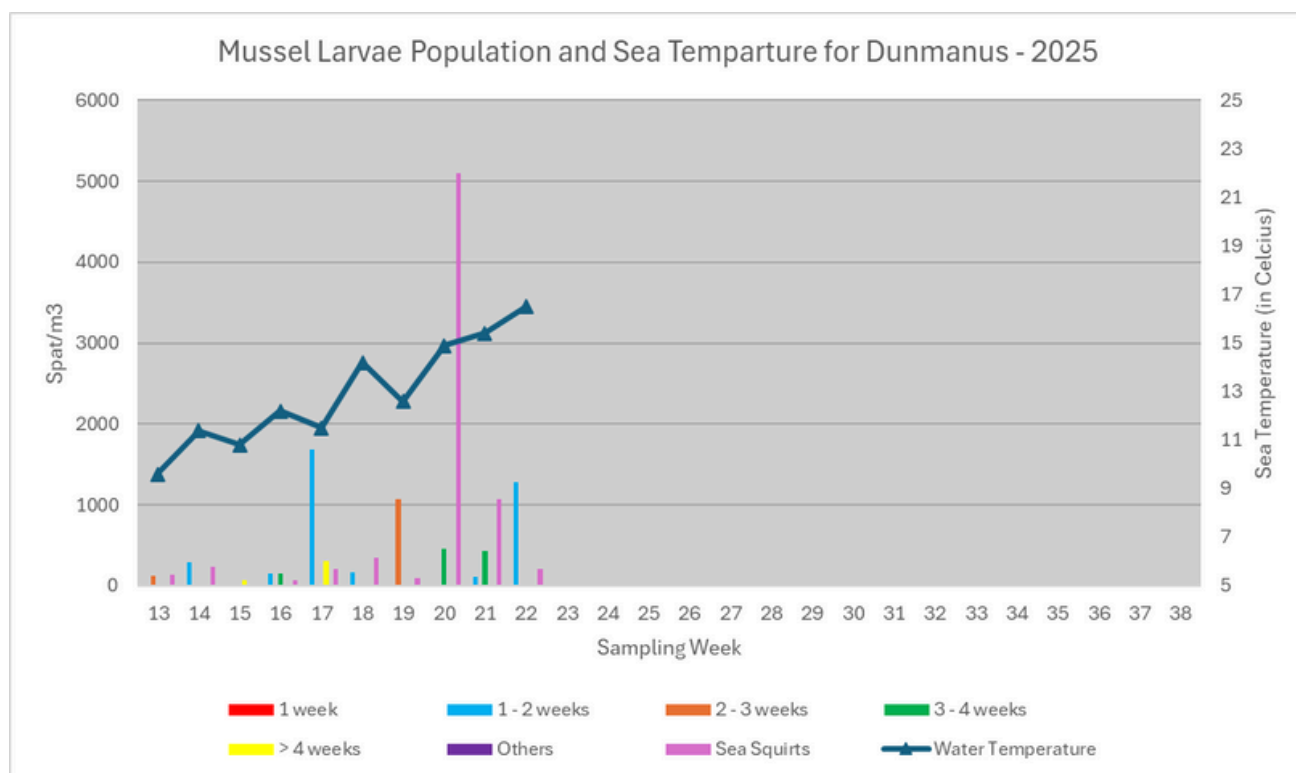


Condition Index (CI) for Dunmanus Bay



Larvae population evolution in Dunmanus Bay

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, over 4 weeks old and others (younger or older).



Commentary

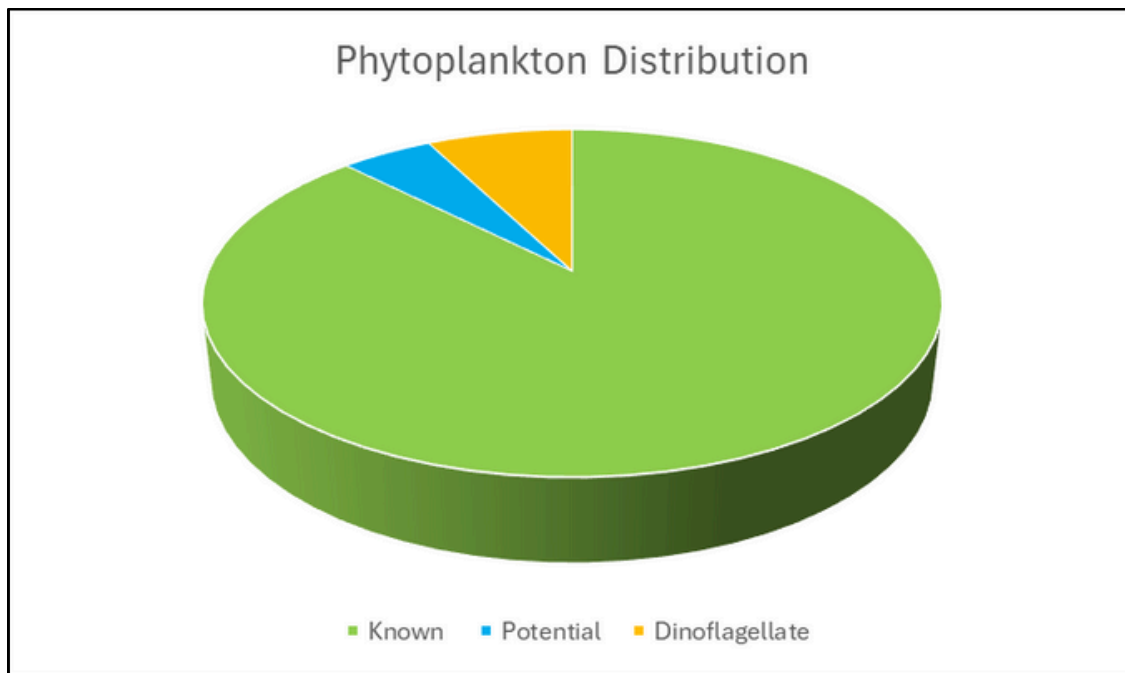
The Condition Index (CI) in Dunmanus is stable at 40.9% (-0.7% from Week 21). The sea temperature increased only by 0.6°C from the previous week (16.2°C).

The sample presented substantial levels of larvae (1277 spat/m³) composed of 1 to 2 weeks old individuals. This population could be related to some possible partial spawning event from Week 20 to Week 21.

The level of sea squirt larvae reduced greatly from previous weeks too (from 5102 ind./m³ for Week 19 to 204 ind./m³ for Week 22). This reduction can be an evidence of sea squirt settlement, which could produce substantial fouling of spat collectors.

The sample presented high concentrations of copepods and a moderate level of a second bivalve species. Some seaweed was also observed. Finally, *Phaeocystis* sp. were present in high levels.





There was an increase in phytoplankton levels from the previous week (up to 15,800 cells/litre from 7,960 cells/litre), dominated by known food species (88%), followed by dinoflagellate (7%) and finally by potential but not preferred species (5%).

