

Ardgroom Harbour

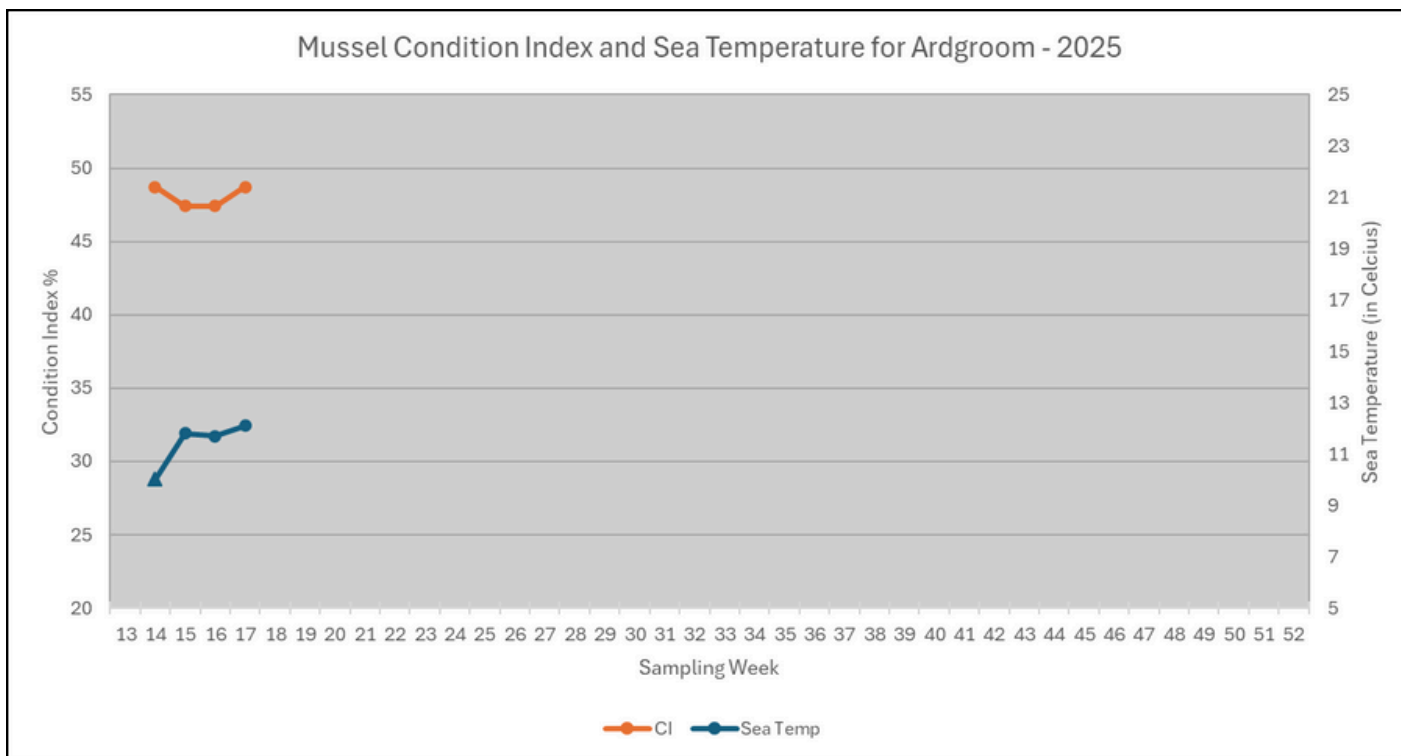
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

28th April 2025

Week 17 (21/04/2025 to
27/04/2025)

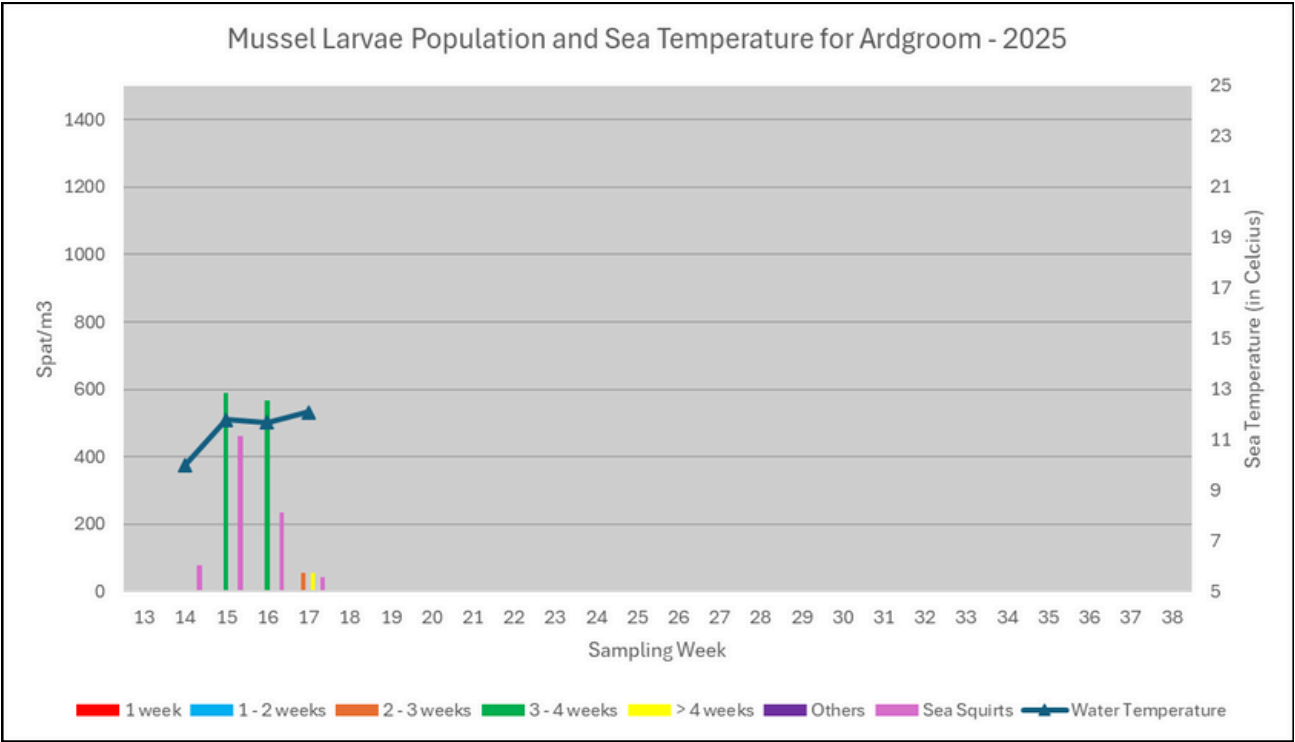


Condition Index (CI) for Ardgroom Harbour



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

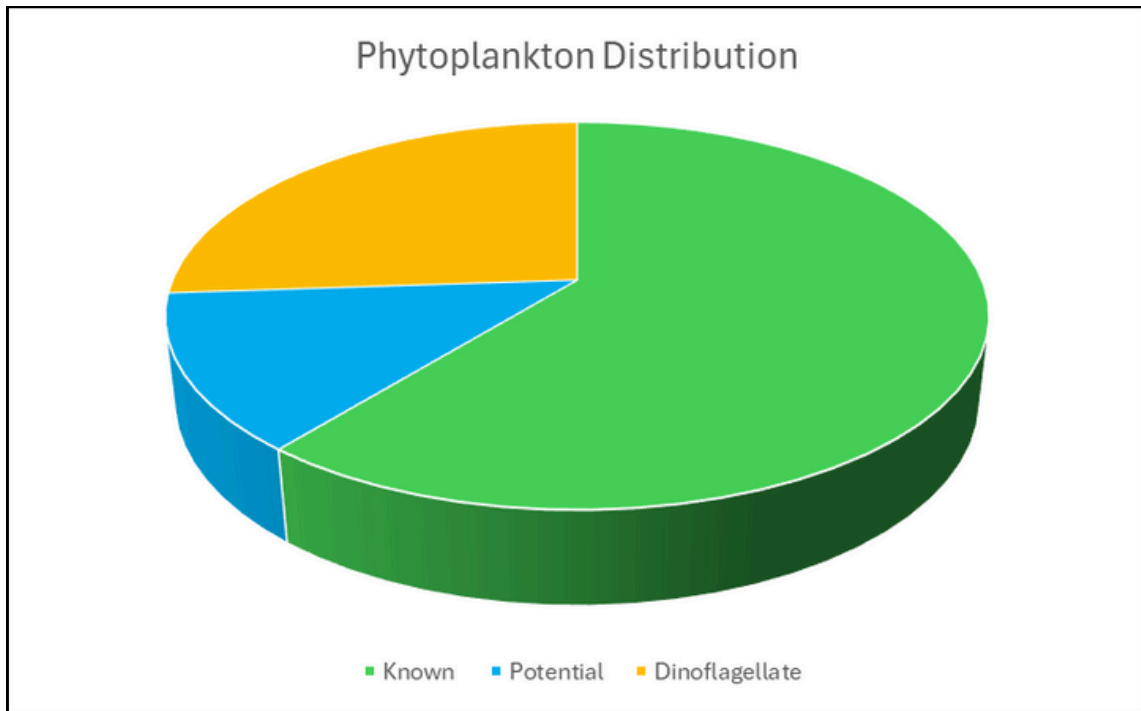
The Condition Index (CI) in Ardgroom increased to 48.7% (+1.4% from the previous week). The sea temperature has also increased to 12.1°C (+0.4°C from the previous week).

There has been a significant decrease of the larvae population from week 16. The sample only presented small quantities of 2 to 3 weeks old (57 spat/m³) and 4 to 5 weeks old (57 spat/m³).

Considering the larvae age and concentration previously observed, those low numbers could potentially indicate that a settlement took place between week 16 and 17. However, only further samples and time could confirm this potential settlement.

The sea squirt concentration has also dropped from Week 16 to 44 individuals/m³. Copepods concentration was low to moderate.





There was a moderate mixed diatom bloom observed in the phytoplankton sample with mainly *L.danicus*, *Guinardia*, *Ceratulina* sp. The phytoplankton concentration was low with only 1,840 cells/litre dominated by species known to be food for larvae.