

# Dunmanus Bay

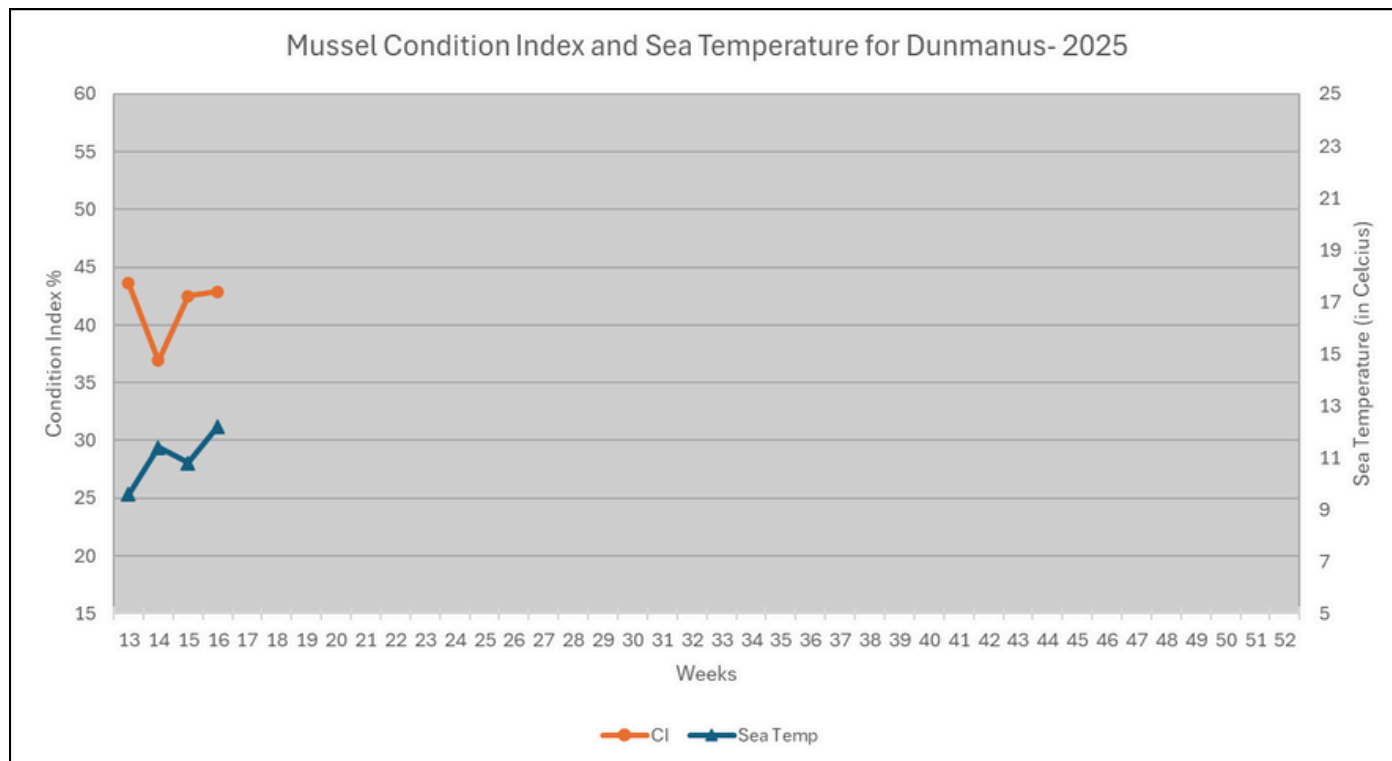
## Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

17<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Week 16 (14/04/2025 to  
20/04/2025)

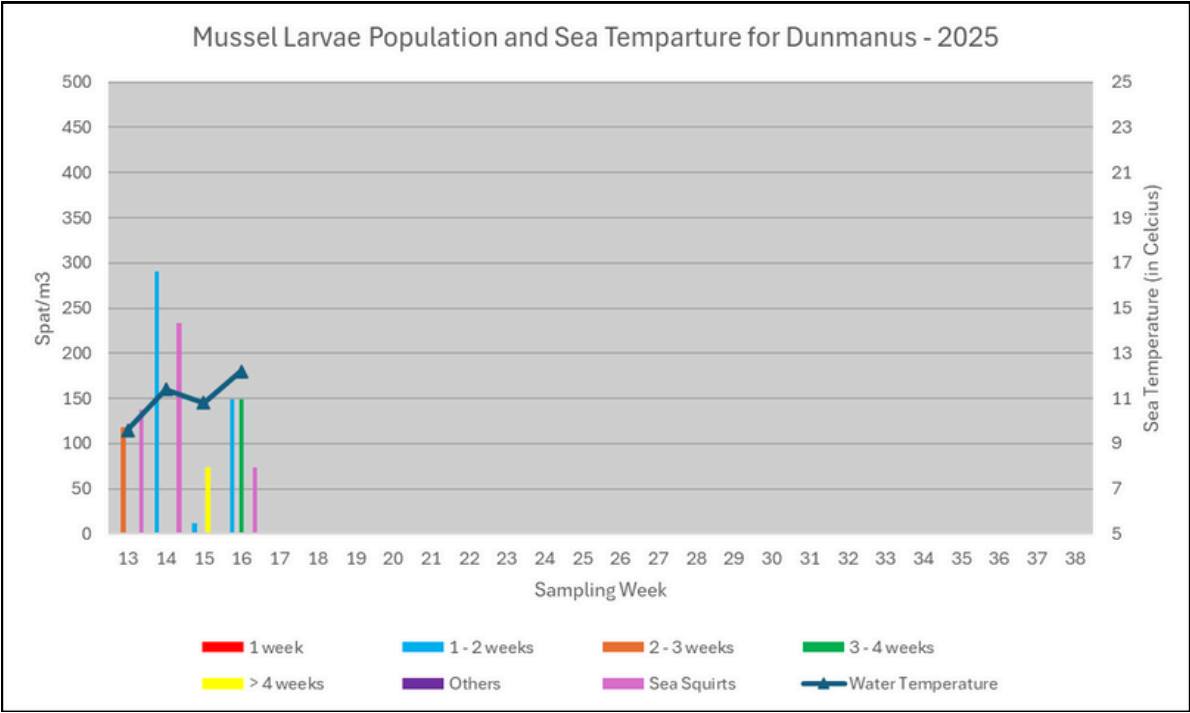


## Condition Index (CI) for Dunmanus Bay



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



## Commentary

The Condition Index (CI) in Dunmanus is still slightly increasing from the previous week (up by 0.4% to 42.9%). Meanwhile, the sea temperature has increased by 1.4°C to 12.2°C.

The sample is presenting a significant increase of larvae from Week 15 (from 85 spat/m<sup>3</sup> to 298 spat/ m<sup>3</sup>), composed of similar concentration of 1 to 2 weeks old and 3 to 4 weeks old (149 spat/m<sup>3</sup> for both class). The older larvae class could be related to the peak of 1 to 2 weeks old larvae observed on week 14. There was a low level of potential eggs in sample also.

A moderate level of sea squirts was observed in the sample (74 individuals/m<sup>3</sup>). It also showed a high concentration of sea matting, a high level of copepods and a low level of crabs. Phaeocystis was present but in moderate concentration. The phytoplankton concentration was significantly higher than the previous week (from 23,040 cells/litre to 1,176,880 cells/ litre), with Pseudo-Nitzschia seriata was in low concentration.

**Considering the level of 3 to 4 weeks old larvae and the amount of food available, a settlement could take place in the next 2 weeks.**

