MUSSEL CONDITION INDEX AND LARVAE MONITORING

Weekly Bulletin

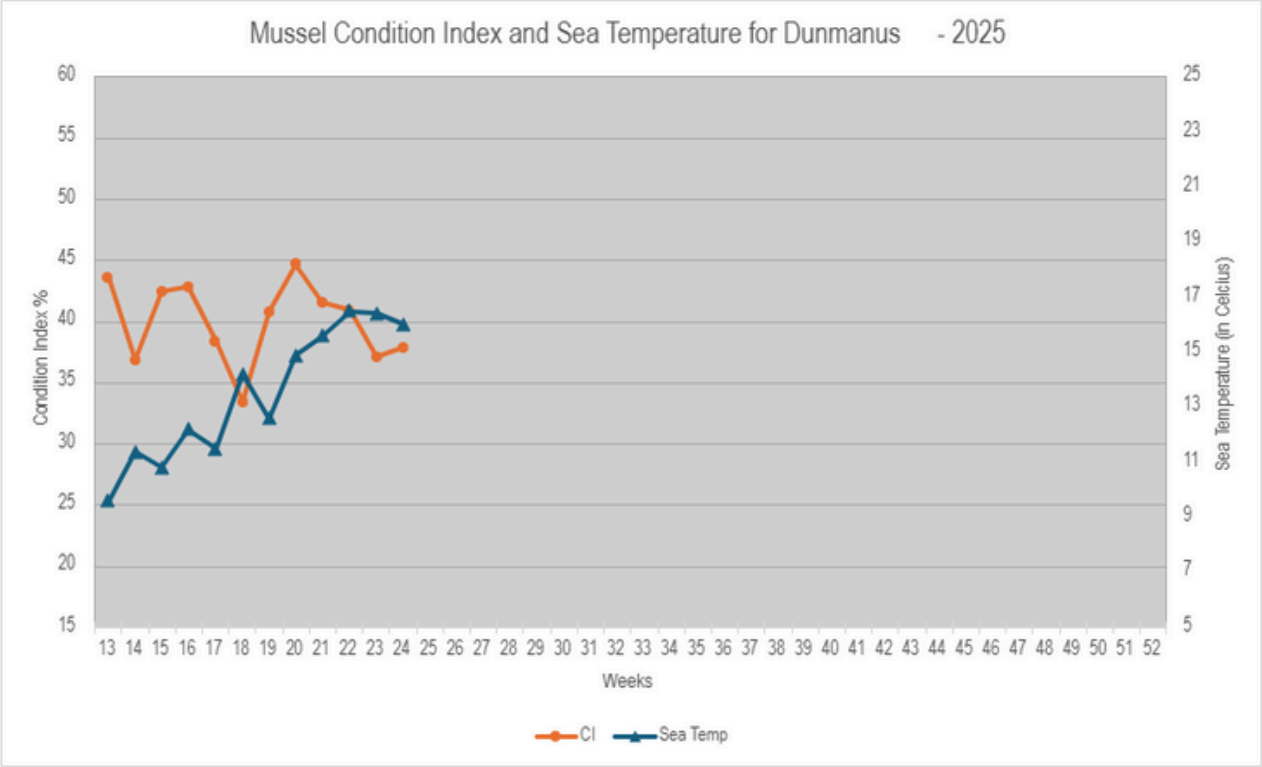
Dunmanus Bay

Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

18th June 2025

Week 24 (8/06/2025 to (15/06/2025)

Condition Index (CI) for Dunmanus Bay



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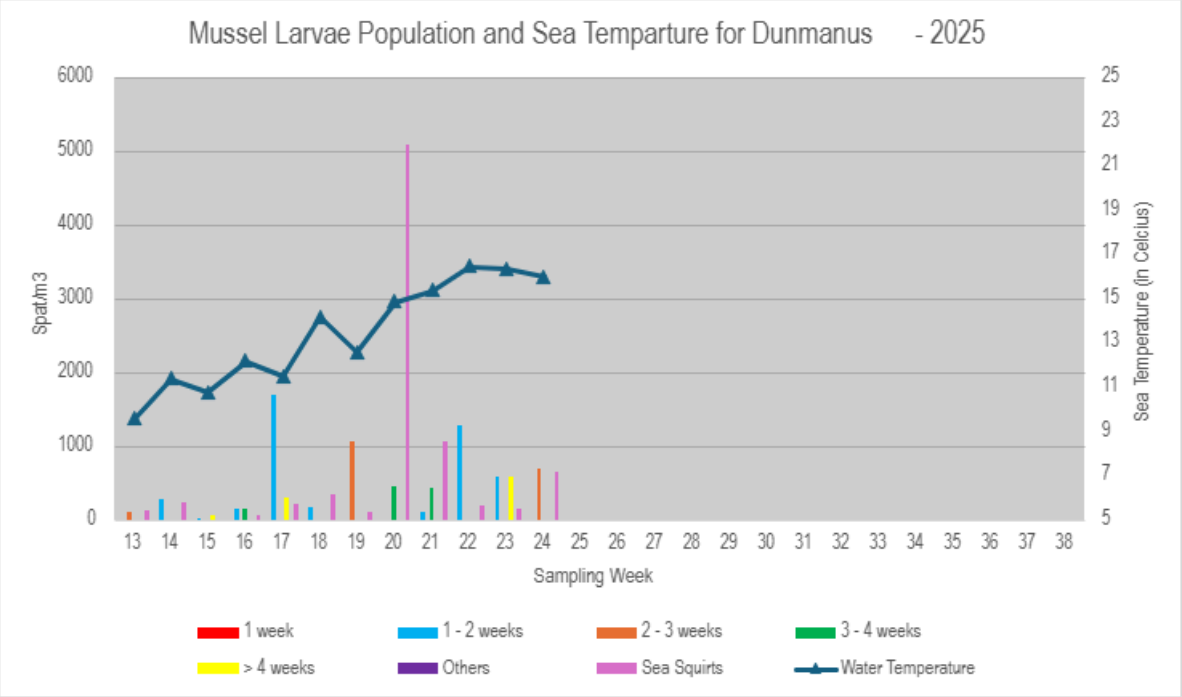
Larvae population evolution in Dunmanus Bay

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 37.9. The sea temperature is also stable at 16.0°c.

The Week 24 sample presented a reduced level of spat/m3 695. Compared to Week 23 1164 (spat/m3) this was all made up of 2-3 week old individuals. and 50% 4-6 weeks old.

The level of sea squirt larvae in the water sample increased in Week 24 to 655 from 144/m^3 for Week 23 Hopefully this reduction can be an evidence of sea squirt spawning, after the previous mussel spawning and settlement.

Copepods are high. Phyto biomass low - Chaetoceros sp. Halochaete dominant. Low to moderate crab.

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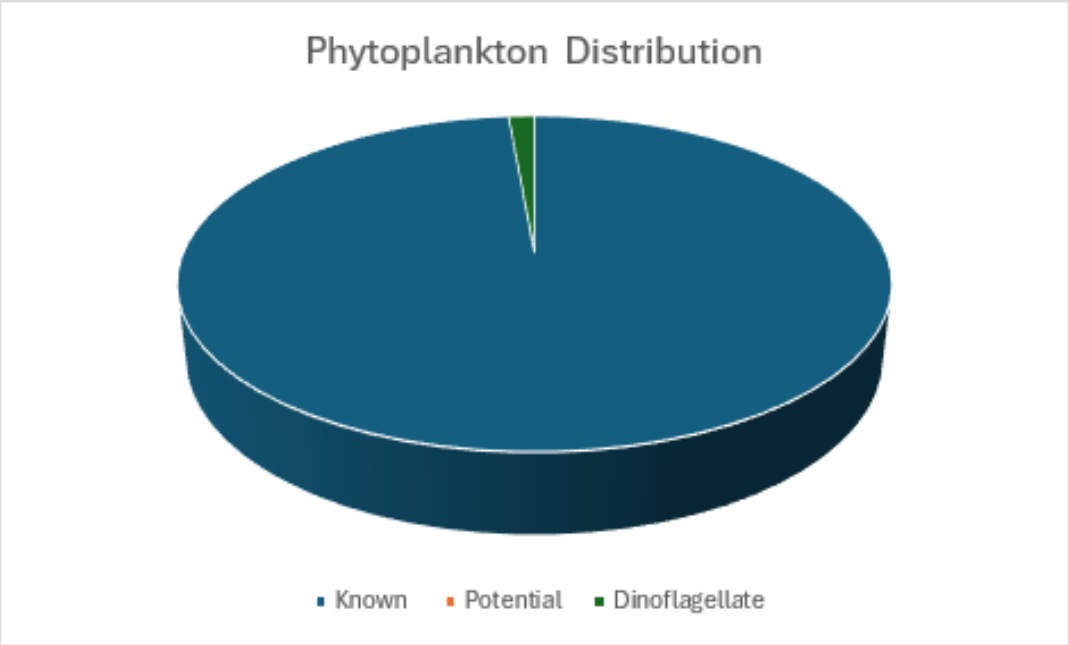

There was an increase in known food for mussels with phytoplankton levels up from the previous week to 189120 from 4760 cells/litre). Dinoflagellate were reduced to 2680 from 5960. Representing only 1.4% of the sample.

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