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Seasonal Variations in the Biomass of Macro-Algal Communities from the Gulf of Antalya
(north-eastern Mediterranean)

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Abstract: In this study, the seasonal variations in the macro-algal biomass in the Gulf of Antalya (north-eastern Mediterranean) were investigated. The seasonal variations of the macro-algal biomass were found to be related to the biology of the abundant species during less favourable seasons. These variations occurred usually as a result of a significant reduction in algal density [*Padina pavonica* (L.) J.V.Lamour., *Dasycladus vermicularis* (Scopoli) Krasser, *Chondrophycus papillosus* (C.Agardh) Garbay & Harper] or loss of major part of their thallus [*Cystoseira* spp., *Liagora distenta* (Mertens ex Roth) J.V.Lamour., *Liagora viscida* (Forssk.) C.Agardh]. The highest values of biomass were found to be in the unpolluted stations, while a progressive decrease in such values was observed as the effects of the anthropogenic pressure became more marked.

Key Words: Macro-algal communities, Biomass, Mediterranean Sea, Gulf of Antalya

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