

{rokbox title=|Auxis rochei :: Image: Salvatore Mele|
thumb=|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-metazoan-pa
rasites-auxis-rochei-mediterranean-mele-et-al-2014-thumb.jpg|}images/stories/ieo/imagenespub
licaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-metazoan-parasites-auxis-rochei-mediterranean-mele
-et-al-2014.jpg{/rokbox}

S. Mele, S. Saber, M.J. Gómez-Vives, G. Garippa, **F. Alemany**, D. Macías and P. Merella,
2014. [Metazoan parasites in
the head region of the bullet tuna *Auxis rochei* \(Osteichthyes: Scombridae\) from the
western Mediterranean Sea](#)
. J Helminthol. 2014. Sep 12:1-6.

Abstract: The head region of 72 bullet tuna *Auxis rochei* from the western Mediterranean Sea
(south-east Spain and the Strait of Gibraltar) was examined for parasites. Seven metazoan
species were found in the fish from south-east Spain: three monogeneans, two trematodes and
two copepods, whereas only three species were isolated in the fish from the Strait of Gibraltar.
A comparison of the levels of infection of the parasites according to fish size in south-east Spain
showed that the prevalence of *Didymozoon auxis*
and the mean abundance of *Allopseudaxine macrova*
were higher in the larger hosts (range of fork length = 38-44 cm) than in the smaller ones (33-37
cm). A comparison of the parasite infections according to geographical region showed that the
mean abundances of *Nematobothriinae*
gen. sp. and *Caligus bonito*
were higher in fish from south-east Spain than in those from the Strait of Gibraltar. A
comparison of the parasite fauna of *A. rochei*
from the Mediterranean Sea with the published data on *Auxis spp*
. from the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans revealed the closest similarity between the
Mediterranean *A. rochei*
and the Atlantic *A. thazard*
.

Keywords: