

{rokbox title=| Interpolation of (A) Mean abundance per collector/3 bags, and (B) Mean recruit height per collector/3 bags in the spat collectors deployed in Mar Menor lagoon from June to October 2020 :: Image:

Authors|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-csic-assessment-ostrea-stentina-vazquez-2023-thumb-et-al.jpg|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-csic-assessment-ostrea-stentina-vazquez-2023-et-al.jpg{/rokbox}

Alessia Lunetta, Marina Albentosa, **Elisabet Nebot-Colomer**, Belén G. Pardo, Paulino Martínez, Antonio Villalba, Gemma Donato, Mekanjuola I. Akinyemi, **Maite Vázquez-Luis**, 2023.

[Assessment of *Ostrea stentina* recruitment and performance in the Mar Menor lagoon \(SE Spain\).](#)

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Abstract:The Mar Menor is a hypersaline coastal lagoon representing one of the most iconic natural areas in Southeastern Spain. However, it has suffered several catastrophic environmental events causing an exceptional eutrophication status. A study was performed to assess the recruitment of oysters in the Mar Menor, determine their taxonomic allocation and evaluate functionality in filtration and growth. A total of 45 spat collectors were installed in June 2020 and posteriorly retrieved in October 2020. In total, 3431 oyster recruits were counted. Two species of oyster *Ostrea edulis* and *O. stentina*, inhabit the Mar Menor, but they are indistinguishable at the morphological level when they are small. Thus, a genetic tool was developed to identify both species. From a total of 90 oyster recruits, 95% of them corresponded to *O. stentina*. Finally, growth rate and clearance measurements were conducted on 661 oysters over 6 months under laboratory conditions to explore their possible use in the bioremediation of the lagoon.

Keywords:Coastal lagoon,Oysters,Genetics,Recruitment,Restocking,Eutrophication.