{rokbox title=|The invasive alien species Caulerpa cylindracea :: Image: Salud Deudero (COB-IEO)|
thumb=|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares--caulerpa-cylindracea-modifica-comunidades-rocosas-infralitoral-alomar-et-al-2016-thumb.jpg|}images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares--caulerpa-cylindracea-modifica-comunidades-rocosas-infralitoral-alomar-et-al-2016.jpg{/rokbox}

Carme Alomar, Salud Deudero, Franco Andaloro, Luca Castriota, Pierpaolo Consoli, Manuela Falautano, Mauro Sinopoli, 2016. ***Caulerpa cylindracea* Sonder invasion modifies trophic niche in infralittoral rocky benthic community**. Marine Environmental Research. Volume 120. September 2016. Pages 86–92.

Abstract: The Mediterranean basin is one of the most invaded seas of the world. Invasive species have affected coastal benthic communities inducing structural changes. Since first reports, in the early 90s, *Caulerpa cylindracea* is considered one of the most important invasive event in the Mediterranean Sea where it has invaded large areas of soft bottoms, seagrass meadows and rocky shores. To assess effects of *C. cylindracea* in rocky ecosystems, benthic food webs have been compared between invaded and non-invaded coastal conditions through stable isotopes analyses. In addition, the convex hull area of the two types of conditions has been calculated as a proxy for the total extent of trophic diversity within each food web. Results have shown that the trophic niche width is at least 1.4 times wider in invaded conditions than in non-invaded conditions. In addition, this study gives further evidence of similar feeding analogies between the invasive herbivore fish, *Siganus luridus* and native herbivore fish *Sparisoma cretense* as both are feeding at the same isotopic level. This investigation provides with new scientific data to assess bionvasions in invaded and non-invaded conditions at assemblage level in coastal systems.

Keywords: Invasive alien species, stable isotopes, Mediterranean, food web, Lessepsian