

Abstracts

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Askeri Müze Kültür Sitesi


Istanbul, TURKEY

bottom at the depth of 4 meters at the place of the constant conglomeration of the belugas, and allowed to watch after the animals without disturbing them and by any means affecting their behaviour. Altogether there were analyzed 31 videocassettes, each of them 60 minutes long. Close contact of the newborn rostrum with the mother nipples we regarded as its nutrition; there were 50 cases registered. During the nutrition the mother turns on her side slightly, the infant is perpendicular or at the angle of 45° to its belly. Only in 4 cases the mother had a position with its belly up, and the infant had its nutrition in the position above its mother with a slight bend. Duration of one nursing is 8.4 seconds, and between 3 and 24 seconds, practically the same as the duration of the nursing of the bottlenose dolphins (Cockroft, Ross, 1990; Mann, Smuts, 1999). The duration of the nutrition of the infants in the first 2 months of their life does not depend on their age ($P > 0.01$). We could not define the frequency of the nutrition of the one-year old infants because of the unappropriated conditions for such observations.

B19 FOLLOW UP OF A SOLITARY DOLPHIN IN THREE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: THE CASE OF JEAN FLOC'H/GASPAR

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Bottlenose dolphin coastal communities in the European coast are usually the source of some individuals that, for some reason, are solitary and/or live near humans. Since the 70's, there have been several records of solitary dolphins in Galicia, along with travelling dolphins. In particular, the case of JeanFloc'h/Gaspar deserves special attention. In December 2007, a solitary dolphin (named Gaspar in Galicia) was repeatedly detected in southern Galicia harbours (NW Spain), where it dangerously approached boats and boat engines. CEMMA researchers immediately started a follow up on this animal while trying to obtain data from other European research teams on solitary dolphins displaying similar flipper and beak wounds. These distinctive features had never been detected in any dolphin in Galicia during the last 15 years. The dolphin was finally identified by Réseau-Cétacés (France) as "Jean Floc'h", an adult bottlenose dolphin who roamed the coast of Brittany (Finistère/Morbihan, France) from September 2002 until August 2007, sometimes in company of other solitary dolphin (Donny/Randy). Within the first 5 months of 2008, Jean Floc'h/Gaspar moved among several Galician harbours. However, on the 11th of June 2008, this animal was detected in Figueira da Foz (Central Portugal). During 43 days it travelled up north moving between several Portuguese harbours, as recorded by SPVS researchers. Finally, this bottlenose dolphin moved back to Galicia, remaining in Ria de Vigo for 2 months. It was estimated that this animal travelled 3000-4000km. "Jean Floc'h/Gaspar" behaviour was studied regarding its

relation towards resident dolphins and humans. This work presents detailed information on long distance movements, movement speed, health status, behaviour towards boats, contact with divers and sailors in harbours.

B20 SOCIAL ECOLOGY OF COMMON BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (*TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS*) IN THE ISRAELI COASTAL MEDITERRANEAN SEA

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The study aimed to fill a knowledge void in coastal habitat use of cetaceans in the easternmost Mediterranean. Between 1998 and 2007 a total of 232 half-day dedicated surveys were performed, covering over 3000 km, in a 65 km long by 11 km wide strip along the central Israeli coastline. Common bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* (CBD) was the only species sighted. The overall encounter rate increased significantly when searching around bottom trawlers (1.91 and 5.65 groups/100 km effort, respectively). Sighting frequency was independent on season, suggesting a year-round stability of population size in the study area. The population prefers depths >40m and gives birth during the warm months. Mean group size was 5.7 ± 6.9 , significantly larger in spring (7.5) than in summer (3.4) and significantly smaller when foraging (4) than when traveling, resting or socializing (8). On 100 sightings, 154 individuals were photo identified, most seen once or twice. The cumulative discovery curve is still steadily increasing, suggesting an "open" population, possibly with a small resident nucleus but with mostly transient animals. Dolphins are mainly observed performing long dives, either while following bottom trawlers or without much horizontal movement. Of 23 dolphins sighted four times or more, all were observed at least once foraging behind a bottom trawler, suggesting that engagement in this activity, a major cause of death for the local population, is of force rather than by choice.

B21 PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF ADOPTION BEHAVIOUR DETECTED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MONK SEAL (*MONACHUS MONACHUS*) AT THE COLONY OF THE CABO BLANCO PENINSULA (MAURITANIA-MOROCCO)

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Mediterranean monk seals are in critical danger of extinction. The largest aggregation known that still keeps a colonial structure is located at the Cabo Blanco