



Ancient Animals, New Challenges [Developments in Sponge Research /

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Environment Animal ecology Evolutionary biology Microbial genetics
 Microbial genomics Invertebrates Marine sciences Freshwater
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Monografía

This book summarizes the latest advances in sponge science through a concise selection of studies presented at the VIII World Sponge Conference. The collection of articles reflects hot, ongoing debates in molecular research, such as the monophyletic versus paraphyletic nature of the sponge group, or the new awareness on pros and cons of standard barcodes and other markers in sponge taxonomy and phylogeny. It also features articles showing how the new sequencing technologies reveal the functional and phylogenetic complexity of the "microbial universe" associated to sponge tissues. The ecological interactions of sponges, the effects of nutrients and pollutants, the variability in reproductive patterns, and the processes generating genotypic and phenotypic variability in sponge populations are covered in several contributions. Zoogeography, population structure and dynamics are also approached with both traditional and molecular tools. The effect of anthropogenic disturbance on the natural environment finds its place in this volume with papers dealing with metal accumulation and the potential role of sponges as biomonitors. Biodiversity data from unexplored tropical and deep sea areas are presented. We hope readers will enjoy the selection of papers, which we believe represent collectively a significant contribution to our current understanding of sponges. Previously published in *Hydrobiologia*, vol. 687, 2012

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Contenido: 1. No longer Demospongiae -- 2. Molecular phylogeny of glass sponges -- 3. Phylogenetic reconstruction of Polymastiidae based on morphology -- 4. First evidence of miniature transposable elements in sponges -- 5. The mitochondrial genome of stygobitic sponge *Eunapius subterraneus* -- 6. The complete mitochondrial genome of the verongid sponge *Aplysina cauliformis* -- 7. Genetic structure and differentiation at a short-time scale of the introduced calcarean sponge -- 8. *Paraleucilla magna* to the western Mediterranean -- 9. Relationship between genetic, chemical, and bacterial diversity in the Atlanto-Mediterranean bath sponge *Spongia lamella* -- 10. First evaluation of mitochondrial DNA as a marker for phylogeographic studies of *Calcarea* -- 11. Diversity patterns and zoogeography of the Northeast Atlantic and Mediterranean shallow-water sponge fauna -- 12. Living on the edge -- 13. Sponge gardens of Ningaloo Reef are biodiversity hotspots -- 14. Role of deep sponge grounds in the Mediterranean Sea -- 15. Mangrove and coral reef sponge faunas -- 16. Qualitative variation in colour morphotypes of *Ianthella basta* -- 17. Phenotypic variability in the Caribbean Orange Icing sponge *Mycale laevis* (Demospongiae: Poecilosclerida) -- 18. Growth and regeneration of the elephant ear sponge *Ianthella basta* -- 19. The marine sponge *Ianthella basta* can recover from stress-induced tissue regression -- 20. Nutrient utilisation by shallow water temperate sponges in New Zealand -- 21. Experimental silicon demand by the sponge *Hymeniacidon perlevis* reveals chronic limitation in field populations -- 22. Biosilica deposition in the marine sponge *Petrosia ficiformis* -- 23. Trace metal concentrations in the tropical sponge *Spherospongia vagabunda* at a sewage outfall -- 24. Does concentrating chemical defenses within specific regions of marine sponges result in enhanced protection from predators? -- 25. Temporal variations in growth and reproduction of *Tedania anhelans* and *Chondrosia reniformis* in the North Adriatic Sea -- 26. Reproductive traits explain contrasting ecological features in sponges -- 27. Epibiont-basibiont interactions -- 28. Deep sequencing reveals diversity and community structure of complex microbiota in five Mediterranean sponges

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