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Growth production of the euphausiid *Nyctiphanes simplex* at the coastal shelf off Magdalena, Bay, Baja California Sur, Mexico

Jaime Gómez Gutiérrez, Roxana De Silva-Dávila & Bertha Lavaniego Espejo

Growth production of the euphausiid *Nyctiphanes simplex* Hansen was examined off the southwest coast of the peninsula of Baja California, Mexico (Bahía Magdalena, 24 to 25° N), as a function of seasonal changes of temperature, zooplankton biomass, upwelling index, and regional ocean circulation. The data were collected during 4 oceanographic surveys from June to November 1986. High densities of *N. simplex* were found in the shallow coastal waters (<300 m). High production is maintained during late spring and summer, decreasing during autumn when stratification of the water column develops. We estimate the production attributable to growth of *N. simplex* on the coastal shelf was 273.42 mg m⁻² yr⁻¹ and showed a strong seasonal variation. This value was about 1/4 the value previously reported at Bahía Vizcaino in northern Baja California (28 to 29° N). Our data supports the hypothesis that there are strong latitudinal changes in regional production of this species along the west coast of Baja California. The production:biomass (P:B) ratio obtained for the period June to November 1986 was 6.99 yr⁻¹. The maximum reproductive activity of *N. simplex* during spring and early summer at Bahía Magdalena appeared to be related to enhancement of the coastal upwelling.

Palabras clave: valoración económica, growth, Production *Nyctiphanes simplex*

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