

Age estimation of the striped red mullet from eastern English Channel and southern North Sea

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Striped red mullet
Mullus surmuletus

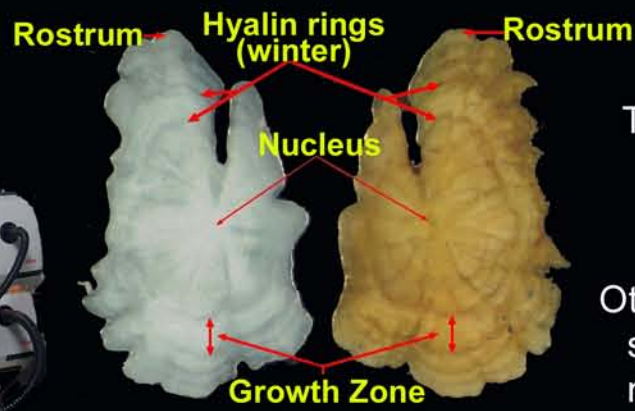
Striped red mullet is found in East Atlantic, from Norway to Senegal, and also in the Mediterranean Sea.

This benthic fish lives on rocky, gravelly or sandy substrata, from 10 to 300 metres in depth.

Striped red mullet lives essentially in waters which temperature runs from 8 to 24°C.

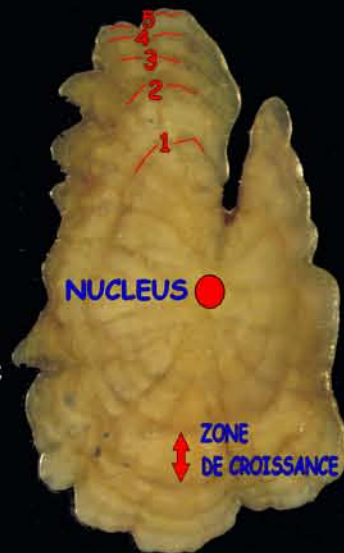


Concave and convex sides of the otolith

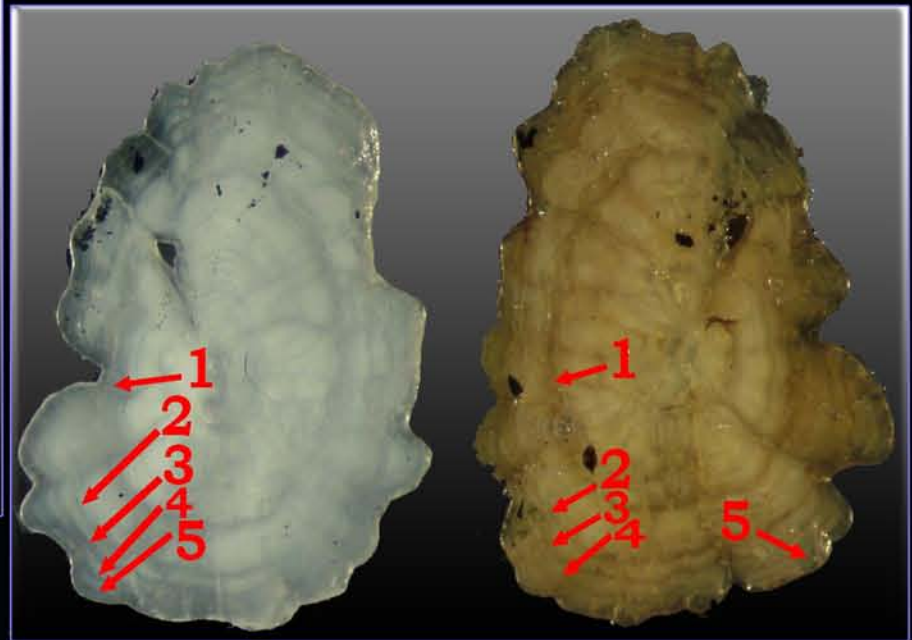
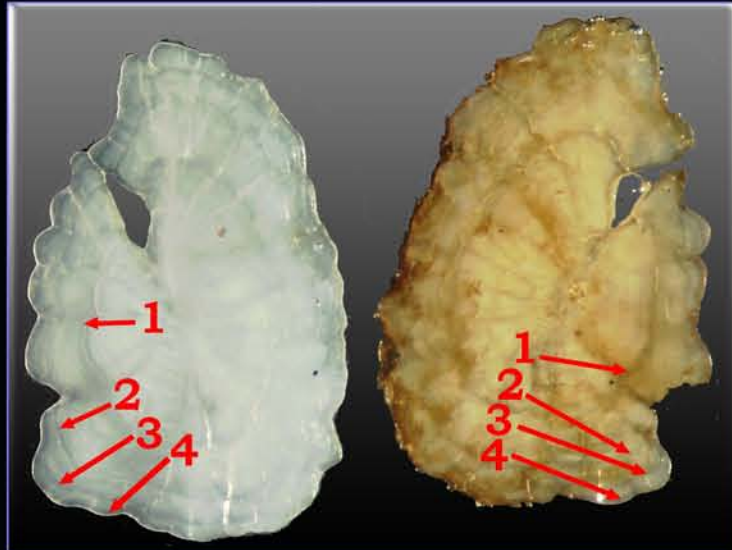
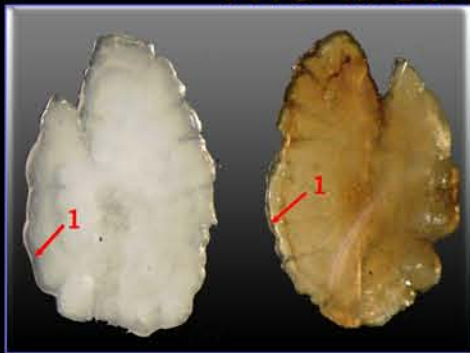


Preparation :
The entire otolith is read with or without burning.

Observation technique:
Otolith is immersed in an alcoholic solution and examined under a microscope with reflected light.

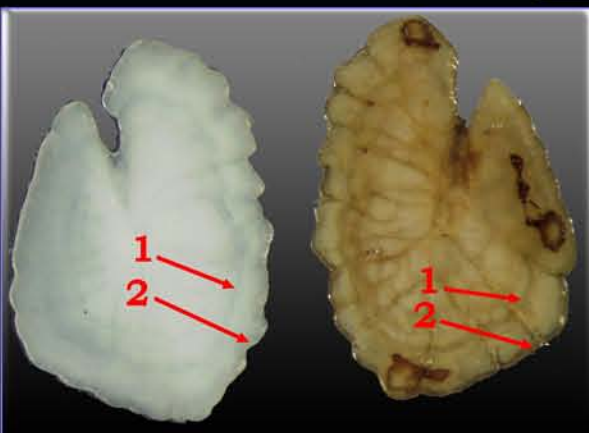


The first 6 age class observed during the first half of the year



During the first half of the year (1/01 au 31/06), increment at the margin is counted.

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Conversely, the increment at the margin is not counted during the second half of the year.

