

A Study on the Fishes of Bozcaada Island (North Aegean Sea)

Bozcaada (Kuzey Ege Denizi) Balıkları Üzerine Bir Araştırma

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Abstract

This research was carried out in the shore and offshore of Bozcaada Island to new contributions to the recognition of the fish fauna of to the Aegean Sea. Fish specimens examined in this study were obtained from 17 stations between the years 2000 and 2001, from depths of 5 to 140 m, by using trawl, drift net and dredge. A total of 92 species belonging to 44 families were identified. From these species, 15 belong to Chondrichthyes and 77 to Osteichthyes. These species are new records for Bozcaada neritic waters of North Aegean Sea.

Key Words: Fish species, Bozcaada Island, Aegean Sea.

Introduction

The Island Bozcaada locates between longitudes 25°57'48" E - 26°05'00" E and latitudes 39°47'18" N - 39°50'54" N in the northeast Aegean Sea with an area of 42 km².

In the Aegean Sea there are three different masses of water, namely surface water, an intermediate layer and deep water. The northern surface waters in the Aegean Sea, where Bozcaada is located, are

under the effect of the Black Sea waters which display the characteristics of brackish water (Yüce, 1995).

Taxonomic investigations for the determination of fish fauna of the Turkish seas were initiated by foreign researchers at the beginning of the 20th century, and entered an intensive stage with the participation of Turkish researchers in the 1940s. Some of the publications dealing with the fishes in the Aegean Sea are those by Kosswig (1954), Akşiray (1954), Tortonese (1956), Demir (1958), Bini (1967), Tortonese (1970), Akşiray (1987), Fischer et al., (1987), Papaconstantinou (1988), Whitehead et al., (1986, 1989), Kaya (1993), Meriç (1994), Mater and Meriç (1996), Meriç et al., (1997), Meriç and Altun (1999), Torcu and Aka (2000), Torcu and Mater (2000), Mater et al., (2002) and Bilecenoglu et. al., (2002). In addition to these, the presence of some fish species in the Aegean Sea has been confirmed by research on fish eggs and larvae Demir (1959).

The aim of this first detailed research carried out on the fishes of the neritic waters of Bozcaada except in our two studies (Eryilmaz, 2002-b; Eryilmaz et al., 2003) to report fish fauna in this area.

Material and Methods

Fish species examined in this study were obtained at 17 stations (Figure 1, Table 1) in various seasons between 2000 and 2001, from depths of 5 to 140 m in neritic waters of Bozcaada Island using bottom trawl, drift net and dredge.

These specimens were preserved in 5 % formaline in sea water. During the analysis of the fish, the taxonomic order suggested by Nelson (1994), species names suggested by Fischer et al., (1987), Whitehead et al., (1986, 1989), Wheeler (1992), Golani (1996), Eschmeyer (1998) and the English common names suggested by Whitehead et al., (1986, 1989) and Wheeler (1992) were used. From the metric characters only total length was measured. All of the analysed specimens are conserved in the Hydrobiological Museum at the Istanbul University, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology.

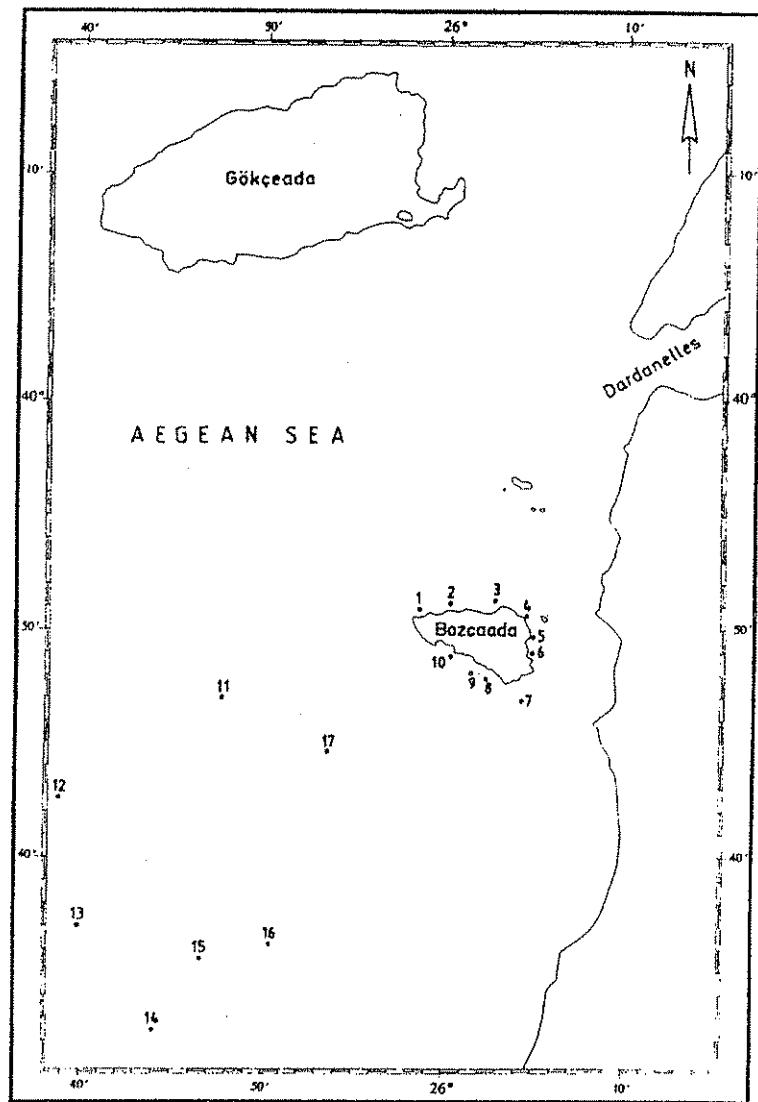


Figure 1: Map of Bozcaada Island (North Aegean Sea) with the sampling stations indicated.

Table 1: Data about sampling stations

Station	Date	Co ordinates N/E	Depth	Tool
Number			m	
1	June-2001	25°58'30"-39°50'42"	5	Drift Net
2	November-2000	26°00'28"-39°51'13"	10	Dredge
3	November-2000	26°02'55"-39°51'18"	5	Dredge
4	February-2001	26°04'35"-39°50'33"	5	Drift Net
5	May-2000	26°04'58"-39°49'40"	9	Dredge
6	February-2001	26°05'00"-39°48'52"	8	Dredge
7	August-2000	26°04'14"-39°46'38"	30	Drift Net
8	February-2001	26°02'15"-39°47'35"	25	Drift Net
9	January-2001	26°01'20"-39°48'09"	30	Drift Net
10	February-2001	26°00'25"-39°48'41"	5	Dredge
11	May-2001	25°47'48"-39°47'00"	68	Trawl
12	August-2000	25°38'30"-39°42'24"	140	Trawl
13	August-2000	25°40'00"-39°37'00"	136	Trawl
14	August-2000	25°44'18"-39°32'38"	136	Trawl
15	August-2000	25°46'36"-39°35'42"	130	Trawl
16	May-2001	25°50'30"-39°36'11"	125	Trawl
17	September-2000	25°53'48"-39°44'32"	60	Trawl

Results

A total of 92 fish species belonging to 44 families were identified and are listed below. Data on minimum and maximum total length, the station number and the depth where they were caught are given.

Systematic categories are given according to Nelson (1994).

SCYLIORHINIDAE

Scyliorhinus canicula (Linnaeus, 1758) - Lesser spotted dogfish

Material examined: Sts:1 (1 specimen), 7 (2 specimens), 15 (2 specimens). TL: 213-470 mm n = 5

Scyliorhinus stellaris (Linnaeus, 1758) - Nursehound

Material examined: Sts:1 (1 specimen), 7 (1 specimen).

TL: 310-545 mm n = 2

TRIAKIDAE

Mustelus asterias Cloquet, 1821 - Starry smooth hound

Material examined: St:15 (1 specimen). TL: 520 mm

Mustelus mustelus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Smooth hound

Material examined: St:15 (1 specimen). TL: 680 mm

DALATIIDAE

Oxynotus centrina (Linnaeus, 1758) - Angular rough shark

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 225 mm

SQUALIDAE

Squalus acanthias Linnaeus, 1758 - Spurdog

Material examined: Sts:7 (1 specimen), 15 (4 specimens).

TL: 260-427 mm n = 5

TORPEDINIDAE

Torpedo marmorata Risso, 1810 - Marbled electric ray

Material examined: St:1 (1 specimen). TL: 335 mm

Torpedo torpedo (Linnaeus, 1758) - Common torpedo

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 520 mm

RAJIDAE

Raja alba Lacepéde, 1803 - White skate

Material examined: St:16 (1 specimen). TL: 246 mm

Raja clavata Linnaeus, 1758 - Thornback ray

Material examined: St:15 (4 specimens). TL: 381-635 mm

Raja miraletus Linnaeus, 1758 - Brown ray

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 267 mm

Raja montagui Fowler, 1910 - Spotted ray

Material examined: St:15 (1 specimen). TL: 272 mm

Raja naevus Müller&Henle, 1841 - Cuckoo ray

Material examined: St:8 (1 specimen). TL: 410 mm

Raja radula Delaroche, 1809 - Rough ray

Material examined: St:7 (1 specimen). TL: 293 mm

MYLIOBATIDAE

Myliobatis aquila (Linnaeus, 1758) - Eagle ray

Material examined: St:14 (1 specimen). TL: 485 mm

ACIPENSERIDAE

Huso huso (Linnaeus, 1758) - Beluga

Material examined: St:7 (1 specimen). TL: 459 mm

MURAENIDAE

Muraena helena Linnaeus, 1758 - Moray eel

Material examined: Sts:1 (1 specimen), 11 (1 specimen).

TL: 710-855 mm n = 2

CONGRIDAE

Conger conger (Linnaeus, 1758) - Conger eel

Material examined: Sts:7 (1 specimen), 9 (1 specimen).

TL: 556-595 mm n = 2

ENGRAULIDAE

Engraulis encrasicolus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Anchovy

Material examined: St:15 (5 specimens). TL: 112-117 mm

CLUPEIDAE

Sardinella aurita Valenciennes, 1847 - Round sardinella

Material examined: St:9 (2 specimens). TL: 185-220 mm

CARAPIDAE

Carapus acus (Brünnich, 1768) - Pearl fish

Material examined: St:11 (4 specimens). TL: 149-161 mm

PHYCIDAE

Gaidropsarus mediterraneus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Shore rockling

Material examined: St:10 (1 specimen). TL: 119 mm

Gaidropsarus biscayensis (Collett, 1890) - Mediterranean
bigeye rockling

Material examined: St:14 (2 specimens). TL: 157-163 mm

Phycis blennoides (Brünnich, 1768) - Greater fork-beard

Material examined: Sts:13 (2 specimens), 15 (3 specimens).

TL: 140-197 mm n = 5

Phycis phycis (Linnaeus, 1766)

Material examined: Sts:7 (1 specimen), 8 (1 specimen).

TL: 220-243 mm n = 2

MERLUCCIIDAE

Merluccius merluccius (Linnaeus, 1758) - Hake

Material examined: Sts:12 (1 specimen), 15 (1 specimen).

TL: 73-101 mm n = 2

GADIDAE

Merlangius merlangus euxinus (Nordmann, 1840) - Whiting

Material examined: St:15 (5 specimens). TL: 137-166 mm

Trisopterus minutus capelanus (Lacep  de, 1800) - Poor-cod

Material examined: St:15 (5 specimens). TL: 103-117 mm

LOPHIIDAE

Lophius budegassa Spinola, 1807 - Black-bellied angler

Material examined: Sts:13 (2 specimens), 15 (9 specimens).

TL: 96-149 mm n = 11

ZEIDAE

Zeus faber Linnaeus, 1758 - Dory

Material examined: St:15 (8 specimens). TL: 50-472 mm

CAPROIDAE

Capros aper (Linnaeus, 1758) - Boar-fish

Material examined: Sts:12 (6 specimens), 13 (2 specimens), 15 (10 specimens). TL: 33-62 mm n = 18

SYNGNATHIDAE

Syngnathus acus Linnaeus, 1758 - Greater pipefish

Material examined: Sts:9 (1 specimen), 11 (1 specimen).

TL: 226-240 mm n = 2

Hippocampus guttulatus Cuvier, 1829 - Seahorse

Material examined: Sts:7 (2 specimens), 9 (1 specimen), 11 (1 specimen).

TL: 106-114 mm n = 4

MACRORAMPHOSIDAE

Macroramphosus scolopax (Linnaeus, 1758) - Snipe-fish

Material examined: St:12 (1 specimen). TL: 83 mm

SCORPAENIDAE

Scorpaena notata Rafinesque, 1810

Material examined: Sts:7 (4 specimens), 9 (1 specimen), 12 (2 specimens), 15 (2 specimens). TL: 90-312 mm n = 9

Scorpaena scrofa Linnaeus, 1758 - Red scorpion-fish

Material examined: Sts:7 (5 specimens), 14 (1 specimen).

TL: 181-347 mm n = 6

Scorpaena porcus Linnaeus, 1758 - Black scorpion-fish

Material examined: Sts:4 (2 specimens), 5 (1 specimen), 7 (5 specimens), 9 (2 specimens). TL: 120-198 mm n = 10

TRIGLIDAE

Chelidonichthys cuculus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Red gurnard

Material examined: St:15 (6 specimens). TL: 102-163 mm

Chelidonichthys gurnardus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Grey gurnard

Material examined: St:12 (1 specimen). TL: 189 mm

Chelidonichthys lastoviza (Bonnaterre, 1788) - Streaked gurnard

Material examined: Sts:8 (1 specimen), 12 (1specimen).

TL: 174-195 mm n = 2

Chelidonichthys lucernus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Tub gurnard

Material examined: Sts:12 (3 specimens), 14 (2 specimens).

TL: 82-178 mm n = 5

Lepidotrigla cavillone (Lacepédé, 1801) - Large-scaled gurnard

Material examined: Sts:12 (10 specimens), 13 (1specimen), 15 (5 specimens). TL: 96-121 mm n = 16

Lepidotrigla dieuzeidei Audoin in Blanc&Hureau, 1973 - Spiny gurnard

Material examined: St:15 (14 specimens). TL: 75-109 mm

Trigla lyra Linnaeus, 1758 - Piper

Material examined: Sts:13 (2 specimens), 15 (10 specimens).

TL: 100-147 mm n = 12

Peristedion cataphractum (Linnaeus, 1758) - Armed gurnard

Material examined: St:12 (2 specimens). TL: 157-187 mm

SERRANIDAE

Serranus hepatus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Brown comber

Material examined: St:15 (1 specimen). TL: 84 mm

Serranus cabrilla (Linnaeus, 1758) - Comber

Material examined: Sts:7 (1 specimen), 11 (2 specimens), 15 (1 specimen), 17 (1 specimen). TL: 122-181 mm n = 5

Serranus scriba (Linnaeus, 1758) - Painted comber

Material examined: Sts:4 (1 specimen), 7 (4 specimens), 14 (1 specimen).

TL: 161-232 mm n = 6

Anthias anthias (Linnaeus, 1758) - Swallowtail sea perch

Material examined: Sts:8 (1 specimen), 17 (2 specimens).

TL: 91-109 mm n = 3

ALLANTHIIDAE

Callanthias ruber (Rafinesque, 1810) - Parrot sea perch

Material examined: Sts:17 (2 specimens). TL: 76-145 mm

POMATOMIDAE

Pomatomus saltatrix (Linnaeus, 1766) - Blue fish

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 188 mm

CARANGIDAE

Trachurus trachurus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Horse mackerel

Material examined: Sts:9 (1 specimen), 14 (1 specimen), 15 (1 specimen).

TL: 93-211 mm n = 3

SPARIDAE

Boops boops (Linnaeus, 1758) - Bogue

Material examined: St:9 (10 specimens). TL: 193-226 mm

Dentex macrophthalmus (Bloch, 1791) - Large-eye dentex

Material examined: St:15 (1 specimen). TL: 105 mm

Diplodus annularis (Linnaeus, 1758) - Annular sea bream

Material examined: St:4 (1 specimen). TL: 105 mm

Diplodus vulgaris (E. Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire, 1817) - Common two-banded sea bream

Material examined: St:4 (4 specimens), 7 (1 specimen).

TL: 108-132 mm n = 5

Pagellus acarne (Risso, 1826) - Axillary sea-bream

Material examined: St:9 (1 specimen). TL: 167 mm

Pagellus bogaraveo (Brünnich, 1768) - Red sea-bream

Material examined: St:12 (1 specimen). TL: 255 mm

Pagellus erythrinus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Pandora

Material examined: St:7 (1 specimen). TL: 173 mm

Pagrus pagrus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Couch's sea-bream

Material examined: St:7 (2 specimens). TL: 127-168 mm

Sarpa salpa (Linnaeus, 1758) - Salema

Material examined: Sts:7 (2 specimens), 9 (1 specimen).

TL: 153-181 mm n = 3

Spondyliosoma cantharus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Black sea bream

Material examined: St:7 (3 specimens). TL: 117-133 mm

CENTRACANTHIDAE

Spicara flexuosa Rafinesque, 1810

Material examined: Sts:7 (2 specimens), 9 (1 specimen), 15 (1 specimen).

TL: 118-162 mm n = 4

Spicara smaris (Linnaeus, 1758)

Material examined: St:9 (1 specimen). TL: 117 mm

MULLIDAE

Mullus barbatus Linnaeus, 1758 - Red mullet

Material examined: St:15 (5 specimens). TL: 143-168 mm

Mullus surmuletus Linnaeus, 1758 - Red mullet

Material examined: St:9 (1 specimen), 15 (5 specimens).

TL: 147-191 mm n = 6

CEPOLIDAE

Cepola rubescens Linnaeus, 1766 - Red band-fish

Material examined: Sts:12 (2 specimens), 13 (1 specimen), 15 (5 specimens). TL: 120-291 mm n = 8

POMACENTRIDAE

Chromis chromis (Linnaeus, 1758) - Damsel fish

Material examined: St:7 (1 specimen). TL: 109 mm

LABRIDAE

Labrus bimaculatus Linnaeus, 1758 - Cuckoo wrasse

Material examined: Sts:7 (2 specimens), 11 (1 specimen).

TL:162-310 mm n = 3

Labrus viridis Linnaeus, 1758 - Green wrasse

Material examined: St:7 (1 specimen). TL: 215 mm

Syphodus mediterraneus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Axillary wrasse

Material examined: Sts:7 (1 specimen), 8 (1 specimen).

TL: 137-153 mm n = 2

Syphodus roissali (Risso, 1810)

Material examined: St:8 (1 specimen). TL: 131 mm

Syphodus cinereus (Bonnaterre, 1788)

Material examined: Sts:3 (1 specimen), 6 (1 specimen).

TL: 53-80 mm n = 2

SCARIDAE

Sparisoma cretense (Linnaeus, 1758) - Parrotfish

Material examined: St:9 (1 specimen). TL: 194 mm

AMMODYTIDAE

Gymnammodytes cicerelus (Rafinesque, 1810) - Mediterranean sand-eel

Material examined: St:3 (1 specimen). TL: 75 mm

TRACHINIDAE

Trachinus draco Linnaeus, 1758 - Greater weever

Material examined: Sts:5 (1 specimen), 11 (1 specimen), 15 (1 specimen).

TL: 225-243 mm n = 3

URANOSCOPIDAE

Uranoscopus scaber Linnaeus, 1758 - Stargazar

Material examined: Sts:8 (2 specimens), 12 (1 specimen), 15 (1 specimen).

TL: 140-245 mm n = 4

BLENNIIDAE

Parablennius gattorugine (Linnaeus, 1758) - Tompot blenny

Material examined: St:7 (2 specimens). TL: 155-164 mm

Blennius ocellaris Linnaeus, 1758 - Butter fly blenny

Material examined: Sts:1 (1 specimen), 16 (1 specimen).

TL: 93-136 mm n = 2

CALLIONYMIDAE

Callionymus lyra Linnaeus, 1758 - Dragonet

Material examined: St:11 (1 specimen). TL: 114 mm

Callionymus maculatus Rafinesque, 1810 - Spotted dragonet

Material examined: Sts:13 (10 specimens), 14 (1 specimen), 16 (2 specimen). TL: 53-85 mm n = 13

GOBIIDAE

Deltentosteus quadrimaculatus (Valenciennes, 1837) - Four-spotted goby

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 75 mm

Gobius niger Linnaeus, 1758 - Black goby

Material examined: St:17 (1 specimen). TL: 133 mm

Gobius paganellus Linnaeus, 1758 - Rock goby

Material examined: St:5 (2 specimens). TL: 123-139 mm

Lesueurigobius friesii (Malm, 1874) - Fries' goby

Material examined: St:14 (4 specimens). TL: 43-62 mm

Zosterisessor ophiocephalus (Pallas, 1814) - Grass goby

Material examined: St:5 (1 specimen). TL: 195 mm

SCOMBRIDAE

Scomber japonicus Houttuyn, 1782 - Spanish mackerel

Material examined: St:9 (1 specimen). TL: 255 mm

Scomber scombrus Linnaeus, 1758 - Mackerel

Material examined: St:11 (1 specimen). TL: 186 mm

Sarda sarda (Bloch, 1793) - Atlantic Bonito

Material examined: St:17 (5 specimens). TL: 214-298 mm

CITHARIDAE

Citharus linguatula (Linnaeus, 1758) - Spotted flounder

Material examined: St:16 (2 specimens). TL: 91-115 mm

BOTHIDAE

Arnoglossus laterna (Walbaum, 1792) - Scaldfish

Material examined: St:2 (1 specimen). TL: 58 mm

SOLEIDAE

Microchirus variegatus (Donovan, 1808)

Material examined: St:11 (1 specimen). TL: 115 mm

Discussion

Akşiray (1987) reported 443 fish species along the coasts of Turkey without indicating the seas which they live in. Mater and Meriç (1996) mentioned 337 fish species in the Aegean Sea. Bilencioğlu and Taşkavak (1999) reported that with new contributions, there were 346 fish species belonging to 110 families in the Aegean Sea. Moreover Papaconstantinou (1988) reported 447 fish species belonging to 129 families in the Greek Seas. Torcu and Aka (2000) reported 68 fish species belonging to 38 families from Edremit Gulf in the Aegean Sea. Mater et al., (2002) recorded 361 fish species in the Aegean Sea.

On the other hand, in this study 92 species belonging to 44 families in total were identified mentioning the places and the depths at which they were observed. So, a total of 94 fish species are known from the neritic waters of Bozcaada including *Neogobius melanostomus* (Palas, 1814), *Sphoeroides pachygaster* (Müller and Troschel, 1848) given by Eryilmaz (2002-b) and Eryilmaz et al., (2003) respectively.

Also, during the study the fish species of economic importance which are caught by the island fishermen and used as source of income have been determined. These are *Boops boops*, *Mullus barbatus*, *Mullus surmuletus*, *Merlangius merlangus euxinus*, *Scorpaena scrofa*, *Scorpaena notata*, *Sarda sarda*, *Pagrus pagrus*,

Pagellus erythrinus, *Sarpa salpa*, *Diplodus vulgaris*, *Scomber japonicus* and *Zeus faber*.

Özet

Bu araştırma Ege Denizi'nin balık faunasına yeni katkılarda bulunmak amacıyla, Bozcaada kıyıları ve açıklarında yapılmıştır. Bu çalışmada incelenen balık türleri 2000-2001 yılları arasında, 17 istasyonda 5-140 m derinliklerde trol, fanyalı ağ ve direç kullanılarak elde edilmiştir. 44 familyaya ait toplam 92 tür saptanmıştır. Bu türlerden 15'i kıkırdaklı ve 77'si de kemikli balıklara aittir. Türler Kuzey Ege Denizi'nin Bozcaada neritik suları için yeni kayittır.

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