

BOOK REVIEW

Advances in Squid Biology, Ecology and Fisheries. Part II – Oegopsid Squids

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The aims of this volume are basically the same as with the previous one, Part II dealing with oegopsid squids, which – in contrast to the myopsids – belong to the pelagic, oceanic environment. Large populations, namely from the Ommastrephidae, are characteristic of the productive shelf-break oceanic boundary currents and upwelling systems, where they normally live at epi- and mesopelagic depths. They spawn in the open sea, producing large gelatinous egg masses that are neutrally buoyant. Oegopsid squids play an important role in the energy flow of oceanic ecosystems, especially as part of the 'biological pump' from the sea surface to deeper waters. Some species show a daily vertical migration from surface waters (nighttime) to mesopelagic depths (daytime). Several species are the target of some of the world's largest invertebrate fisheries. The nine monographic chapters are written by one or several from among the 32 authors of the book and are dedicated to the following species:

The Schoolmaster Gonate Squid *Berryteuthis magister* (North Pacific Ocean from 65°N to 35° N), the Broadtail Shortfin Squid *Illex coindetii* (Atlantic Ocean from 60°N to 3°N and Mediterranean Sea), the Northern Short-Finned Squid *Illex illecebrosus* (Northwest Atlantic Ocean from 50°N to 25°N), the Argentine Shortfin Squid *Illex argentinus* (Southwest Atlantic from 21°S to 52°S), the Lesser Flying Squid *Todaropsis eblanae* (Eastern Atlantic Ocean from 61°N to 36°S, Mediterranean Sea, western Indian Ocean and western Pacific Ocean from 20°N to 50°S), the Humboldt Squid *Dosidicus gigas* (eastern Pacific Ocean from 60°N to 50°S), the Purpleback Flying Squid *Sthenoteuthis oualaniensis* (Red Sea, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean from 30°N to 35°S), the European Flying Squid *Todarodes sagittatus* (Eastern Atlantic Ocean southward to 10°45 N and Mediterranean Sea), the Japanese Common Squid *Todarodes pacificus* (northwest Pacific from 50°N to 30°N).

The two volumes together offer a timely review of world-wide squid fisheries and related biological and ecological information on the 19 species considered, and they also provide complementary material on many other cephalopod species which are covered in the literature used. Except for a few blurred half-tones the numerous illustrations are of good to excellent quality. Both volumes can be recommended to a broad readership interested in recent cephalopod research and to institutional libraries in the fields of marine biology, ecology and fisheries sciences.

Review provided by Sigurd v. Boletzky, Associate Editor *VIE ET MILIEU – Life and Environment*