Predators regulate the taxonomic structure of mixed *Mytilus edulis* and *M.trossulus* settlements in the shallow waters of the White Sea

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Abstract.

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## Introduction

Mussels of several cryptic species, known as “*Mytilus edulis*” complex (++, Riginos and Cunningham, 2005), are widely distributed around North hemisphere. Species of this complex frequently coexist sympatricaly as do, for instance, *M. edulis* (Me) and *M. trossulus* (Mt) along both coasts of the North Atlantic (Riginos and Cunningham, 2005; Väinölä and Strelkov, 2011 and references therein). The proportion of both species in mixed populations vary in broad limits (Katolikova et al. +++) but factors regulating species composition in locality is poorly understood.

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