

Abstract

Studies on the seasonality of 5 *Gracilaria* species (*G. corticata*, *G. crassa*, *G. millardetii*, *G. salicornia*, *G. verrucosa*) were carried out. The seasonal abundance of the various species varied with time and geographical location. Nevertheless, a general single peak was evident between the months of September and December. *G. verrucosa* on the other hand had its peak biomass in July/August. *G. millardetii* is the only species which apparently preferred lower salinities; the rest of the species had no special trends as far as salinity is concerned. The occurrence of *G. verrucosa* for a very short period during the cool part of the year is attributed to the high temperature that prevails in the coastal waters.