DIC DYNAMICS IN THE BAY OF PALMA (NW MEDITERRANEAN)

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The Bay of Palma was sampled for Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC) variables during 11 surveys in March 2002 (EUBAL I) and June 2002 (EUBAL II) in the framework of the EU project EUROTROPH. In June 2002, DIC values were systematically lower over the Posidonia oceanica meadow. The difference of DIC between the Posidonia meadow and the rest of the Bay of Palma, allowed the computation of the Net Ecosystem Production (NEP). The short-term variability of NEP was related to light availability. This allowed to integrate NEP for the sampling period based on continuous light measurements and the integrated value is in fair agreement with the estimates based on concomitant pelagic and benthic O2 incubations.