

What crabs hide under brown algae?

By

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Observation:

Some species of crabs seem to want to hide in the brown algae

Explanation:

Crabs that don't have several ways to escape will hide under brown algae





Hypothesis

- If we introduce brown algae to the tray in which we keep the crabs, the crabs without several ways to escape will come to it.

Null Hypothesis

- If we introduce brown algae, the crabs will remain in open space.

Variables

- Independent: species of crabs
- Dependent: shelter
- Control: temperature, light in room, fresh water, shelter in same place

Shore crab- *Carcinus maenas*

- can escape by walking



Location found: middle, lower shores and below low tide level

Rocky locations

Under algae and rocks

All went in immediately

http://www.ksscience.co.uk/as/module5/seashore_web_site/organisms/carcinus.htm

Spider crab – *Macropodia rostrata*

- can escape by walking



Lives on 50 meters deep as deepest
They are verry small but the Japanese spidercrab kan be 4 meter! And exict in Norway!
2 out of 3 went in

Hermit crab – Eupagurus bernhardus

- can escape by walking and hiding in shell



This friendly crustacean is found all over the world, mainly found in tide pools and never more than 3-4m down. As it grows it abandons its shell for a bigger one. 2 out of 3 went inside

Swim crab – *Portunus trituberculatus*

- can escape by walking and swimming



Japanese blue crab

Eats seaweed, shrimp and worms it lives 50m deep,

15cm wide; 7cm from front to back

2 out of 3 went inside

Results

Number of crabs hiding under the brown algae:

Shore crabs: 3 out of 3

Spider crabs: 2 out of 3

Hermit crab: 2 out of 3

Swimmer crab: 2 out of 3

We did not get support for the hypothesis since 2 out of 3 of the crabs with several ways to escape also hid under the brown algae.