

Table 1 List of macrophytes and their cover in the two plots (a, b) of the back-reef area of the *Posidonia oceanica* barrier reefs off Santa Liberata (Orbetello, Tuscany, Italy), in July 2005-2006 and August 2011

		2005	2006	2011
CYANOBACTERIA	1 <i>Lyngbya aestuarii</i> Liebman ex Gomont	1	1	1
	2 <i>Lyngbya</i> sp.	1	1	1
RHODOPHYTA	3 <i>Antithamnion</i> sp.	1		
	4 <i>Ceramium</i> sp.	1		1
	5 <i>Ceramium codii</i> (H. Richards) Feldmann- Mazoyer	1	1	1
	6 <i>Chondria pygmaea</i> Garbary-Vandermeulen			1
	7 <i>Dasya rigidula</i> (Kütz.) Ardissonne	1		1
	8 <i>Erythrocladia</i> sp.			1
	9 <i>Erythrotrichia carnea</i> (Dillwyn) J. Agardh	1	1	
	10 <i>Flabellia petiolata</i> (Turra) Nizamuddin	1	1	1
	11 <i>Erythrotrichia carnea</i> (Dillwyn) J. Agardh	1	1	
	12 <i>Fosliella</i> sp.	1	1	1
	13 <i>Gracilaria</i> sp.	1		1
	14 <i>Heterosiphonia crispella</i> (c. Agardh) Wynne			1
	15 <i>Herposiphonia secunda</i> (C. Agardh) Ambronn			1
	16 <i>Jania rubens</i> v. <i>rubens</i> (L.) Lamour.	4	4	3
	17 <i>Laurencia obtusa</i> (Huds.) Lamour.		1	1
	18 <i>Lithophyllum cystoseirae</i> (Hauck) Heydrich			1
	19 <i>Lophosiphonia</i> sp.	1		
	20 <i>Peyssonnelia</i> sp.			1
	21 <i>Peyssonnelia rubra</i>			1
22 <i>Polysiphonia scopulorum</i> Harvey			1	
23 <i>Polysiphonia sertularioides</i> (Grateloup) J. Agardh		1		
24 <i>Polysiphonia</i> sp.	1	1	1	
25 <i>Spyridia filamentosa</i> (Wulfen) Harvey	1	1		
OCHROPHYTA	26 <i>Cladostephus spongiosum</i> (Huds.) C. Ag. f. <i>verticillatus</i> (Lightf.) Prud'Homme v. Reine	1	1	1
	27 <i>Dictyota dichotoma</i> (Huds.) Lamour.	1	1	2
	28 <i>Halopteris filicina</i> (Grateloup) Kütz.	1	1	1
	29 <i>Lomentaria ercegovicii</i> Verlaque-Budouresque- Meinesz-Giraud-Marcot-Coqueugnot	1	1	
	30 <i>Padina pavonia</i> (L.) Lamour.	3	3	2
	31 <i>Sphacelaria fusca</i> (Huds.) Gray	1	1	1
	32 <i>Sphacelaria rigidula</i> Kütz.	1	1	1
	33 <i>Stypocaulon scoparium</i> (L.) Kütz.	1	1	1
CHLOROPHYTA	34 <i>Acetabularia acetabulum</i> (L.) Silva	1	1	
	35 <i>Caulerpa racemosa</i> var. <i>cylindracea</i> (Sonder) Verlaque-Huisman Boudouresque	2	4	2
	36 <i>Chaetomorpha linum</i> (Müll.) Kütz.	1	1	1
	37 <i>Cladophora albida</i> (Huds.) Kütz.	1	1	1
	38 <i>Cladophora prolifera</i> (Roth) Kütz.	2	2	2
	39 <i>Cladophora</i> sp.		1	4
	40 <i>Codium vermilara</i>			1
	41 <i>Penicillus capitatus</i> Lamarck	2	2	2
	42 <i>Rhizoclonium tortuosum</i> (Dillwyn) Kütz.	1	1	1
	43 <i>Ulva</i> sp.			1
	44 <i>Ulva laetevirens</i> Areschoug			1
	45 <i>Valonia aegagropila</i> C. Agardh	1	1	1
	46 <i>Valonia macrophysa</i> Kütz.			1
MAGNOLIOPHYTA	47 <i>Nanozostera noltii</i> (Hornem.) Tomlinson-Posluzny	2	2	3

Note: Cover scores 1, 2, 3 and 4 for <5%, 5-25%, 25-50% and >50% cover