

Population dynamics, dispersal and reproductive cycle of the *Nereis diversicolor*, in the Noor Coast-The south of the Caspian Sea

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Abstract

Population dynamics and reproduction cycle of the *Nereis diversicolor* in 5,15 and 30 meter depths of the Noor Coast was studied seasonally during a year. Results revealed the density and biomass of *Nereis diversicolor* during various seasons increased with increasing depths and total organic mater and decreasing sand percentage of the substrate. The annual average density and biomass of this worm were observed 128.70 ± 23.58 ind/m² and 476.66 ± 88.21 mg/m². Reproductive season was in spring and the maximal egg diameter was obtained 139.4 micrometer.

Keywords: *Population dynamics, Dispersal, Reproduction cycle, Nereis diversicolor, Noor Coast, Caspian Sea, Iran*
