

Table S3. Characteristic metrics of cave and overall Demospongiae and Homoscleromorpha fauna for each Mediterranean area.

	SC	FC	LS	TS	TC	AN	AS	IS	NA	SA	LB	TOTAL	
Cave sponge fauna	Total species richness	85	174	42	163	21	97	96	70	71	33	28	290
	Endemic	17 (20)	47 (27)	6 (14.3)	52 (31.9)	3 (14.3)	23 (23.7)	25 (26)	16 (22.9)	17 (23.9)	9 (27.3)	14 (50)	120 (41.4)
	East Atl-Med	51 (60)	100 (57.5)	27 (64.3)	81 (49.7)	14 (66.7)	58 (59.8)	53 (55.2)	40 (57.1)	42 (59.2)	20 (60.6)	11 (39.3)	126 (43.4)
	Amphi Atl-Med	6 (7.1)	10 (5.7)	2 (4.8)	11 (6.7)	0 (0)	5 (5.2)	8 (8.3)	5 (7.1)	4 (5.6)	1 (3)	1 (3.6)	18 (6.2)
	Indo-Med	1 (1.2)	1 (0.6)	1 (2.4)	2 (1.2)	1 (4.8)	2 (2.1)	1 (1)	1 (1.4)	1 (1.4)	1 (3)	1 (3.6)	2 (0.7)
	Cosmopolitan	10 (11.8)	16 (9.2)	6 (14.3)	17 (10.4)	3 (14.3)	9 (9.3)	9 (9.4)	8 (11.4)	7 (9.9)	2 (6.1)	1 (3.6)	24 (8.3)
	AvTD (Δ+) 	96.25	95.46	95.18	95.47	94.17	95.98	95.73	96.04	95.88	96.35	97.02	-
	VarTD (Δ+) 	138.45	151.88	175.66	150.56	213.00	138.06	148.20	146.03	163.07	163.08	105.23	-
	Number of studies	14	37	9	33	4	10	9	13	8	5	8	128
	Number of caves	11	25	14	39	8	20	20	19	9	8	12	185
	Cave Entrance zone richness	33	28	30	59	7	23	39	3	28	-	-	116
	Semi Dark zone richness	43	98	14	101	1	39	40	14	63	1	-	187
	Dark zone richness	52	85	-	72	-	44	34	2	32	-	3	170
Mediterranean sponge fauna	Total species richness	250	285	272	308	121	257	185	182	180	133	73	610
	Endemic	71 (28.4)	89 (31.2)	77 (28.3)	115 (37.3)	22 (18.2)	78 (30.4)	58 (31.4)	37 (20.3)	45 (25)	33 (24.8)	28 (38.4)	300 (49.2)
	East Atl-Med	136 (54.4)	149 (52.3)	147 (54)	145 (47.1)	75 (62)	129 (50.2)	89 (48.1)	104 (57.1)	99 (55)	70 (52.6)	35 (47.9)	242 (39.7)
	Amphi Atl-Med	17 (6.8)	20 (7)	23 (8.5)	20 (6.5)	10 (8.3)	25 (9.7)	17 (9.2)	15 (8.2)	16 (8.9)	12 (9)	5 (6.8)	31 (5.1)
	Indo-Med	2 (0.8)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.4)	2 (0.6)	2 (1.7)	2 (0.8)	2 (1.1)	2 (1.1)	3 (1.7)	3 (2.3)	1 (1.4)	5 (0.8)
	Cosmopolitan	24 (9.6)	25 (8.8)	24 (8.8)	26 (8.4)	12 (9.9)	23 (8.9)	19 (10.3)	24 (13.2)	17 (9.4)	15 (11.3)	4 (5.5)	32 (5.2)
	AvTD (Δ+) 	95.02	94.67	94.63	94.60	94.54	95.05	95.44	95.32	95.74	95.87	96.42	-
	VarTD (Δ+) 	169.10	165.62	168.09	173.42	183.38	169.99	158.90	157.07	146.03	143.48	122.29	-

Percentages are given in parentheses.

For Mediterranean subareas abbreviations and zoogeographic characterizations see Methods.