

transference of scientific knowledge and fishing technology and methods among the Macaronesian regions involved in this project. This research was co-funded by the EU FEDER, INTERREG III-B projects, ref. MAC/4.2/M12, 03/MAC/4.2/M8 and 05/MAC4.2/M11.

Surveying the deep marine resources of Macaronesia – Sharks, rays and rabbit fishes

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In the framework of the PESCPROF projects, field work in the waters of Azores, Madeira and Canary islands was done in order to search for new species of potential commercial interest between 250 and 2500 m, using bottom fish traps and longlines (both bottom and mid-water). Preliminary results of this research are given including a list of the sharks, rays and rabbit fishes collected by depth strata (mean depths at 250, 500, 750, 1000, 1500, 2000 and 2500 m). At least 25 species belonging to 11 families were identified in the three archipelagoes. The families Centrophoridae and Somniosidae (Squaliformes) were the most diverse, with 50% of the species caught. Among them, *Deania hystricosa* (Garman, 1906) (Centrophoridae) around 1000 m depth and *Centroscymnus coelolepis* Bocage & Capello, 1864 (Sommiosidae) around 1500 m depth were the most abundant and could be potential resources in the near future. *Centroscyllium fabricii* (Reinhardt, 1825) (Etmopteridae) was recorded for the first time from the Azores. This research was co-funded by the EU FEDER, INTERREG III-B projects, ref. MAC/4.2/M12, 03/MAC/4.2/M8 and 05/MAC4.2/M11.