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**Patterns of distribution, dynamics and genetic variation in the peppery furrow shell  
Scrobicularia plana**  
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Statements belonging to the doctoral thesis

**Patterns of distribution, dynamics and genetic variation  
in the peppery furrow shell *Scrobicularia plana***

by Silvia Santos

1. At more southern latitudes, spawning in *Scrobicularia plana* starts earlier and lasts for longer periods, while reproductive output is higher.

(this thesis, chapter 3)

2. Temperature and food availability shape large-scale distribution and population dynamical patterns while at smaller scales sediment type is a main factor determining spatial patterns of *Scrobicularia plana*.

(this thesis, chapters 3&6)

3. Age estimations of *Scrobicularia plana* using the traditional method of counting growth lines on the shell surface are unreliable.

(this thesis, chapter 4)

4. Populations of *Scrobicularia plana* are self-recruiting, resulting in low interpopulation connectivity.

(this thesis, chapter 5)

5. Spatial distribution patterns of *Scrobicularia plana* are site-specific rather than species-specific.

(this thesis, chapter 6)

6. The common name of *Scrobicularia plana* - peppery furrow shell - comes from the bivalve's peppery taste.

7. The mean annual consumption of seafood by the Portuguese population is estimated at about 58.5 kg/ person corresponding to the highest fish consumption rate per capita in Europe and making Portugal one of the four countries in the world with a diet based on this type of products.

(in Pessoa, M.F., Mendes, B., Oliveira, J.S. *Culturas Marinhas em Portugal. Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade Nova de Lisboa*)

8. A 2002 tax agreement between the Netherlands and Portugal has led 18 of the 20 largest Portuguese corporations to move their headquarters to the Netherlands.

(in <http://www.24oranges.nl/2012/02/03/dutch-tax-haven-angers-portuguese/>)

9. It seems like, against all natural laws, regardless of which direction you cycle on Texel, you always end up cycling against the wind.

10. An extended stay in the Netherlands leads to a higher appreciation of the wonderful weather and food of Portugal.