1st Advanced Zooplankton Course – AZC1
Morphological and Molecular Taxonomy of Marine Copepods

Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples,

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BIOSKETCH

Olja Vidjak is a research scientist at the Institute of oceanography and fisheries in Split, Croatia, she works in the Laboratory of plankton and shellfish toxicity since 1994. I am also a teacher at the University Department of Marine Studies (University of Split), teaching courses such as Biology and ecology of plankton and Estuarine ecology.
My research is primarily directed to marine zooplankton ecology, in both, natural systems and in anthropogenically modified environments. However, taxonomy has "wormed its way in" through my interest in diverse, though often neglected copepod family Corycaeidae Dana, 1852. Due to the lack of taxonomic knowledge, corycaeid species are often listed under *Corycaeus* spp., thus losing valuable information that can be inferred from the pronounced differences in species' distribution and abundance on a global scale. They became the subject of my PhD thesis in 2004, and later on, a useful ecological tool, since corycaeid species tend to be associated with different water masses. As they are habitually present in zooplankton samples collected from temperate to tropical zones, I believe that it is important to share the knowledge on identification of corycaeid species, so that more good-quality data are produced.