Accepted Manuscript

Short Communication

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PII: S0022-2011(17)30369-5
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jip.2018.02.017
Reference: YJIPA 7061

To appear in: *Journal of Invertebrate Pathology*

Received Date: 1 September 2017
Revised Date: 15 February 2018
Accepted Date: 23 February 2018

Please cite this article as: Zuykov, M., Anderson, J., Archambault, P., Dufresne, F., Pelletier, E., *Mytilus trossulus* and hybrid (*M. edulis-M. trossulus*) - new hosts organisms for pathogenic microalgae *Coccomyxa* sp. from the Estuary and the northwestern Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada, *Journal of Invertebrate Pathology* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jip.2018.02.017

Mytilus trossulus and hybrid (*M. edulis*-*M. trossulus*) - new hosts organisms for pathogenic microalgae *Coccomyxa* sp. from the Estuary and the northwestern Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada

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Abstract

During summer 2014-2017, wild mytilid mussels, highly infested with the pathogenic *Coccomyxa*-like microalgae, were collected along the Estuary and northwestern part of Gulf of St. Lawrence (Québec, Canada). Molecular identification showed that algae can be assigned to a single taxon, *Coccomyxa* sp. (KJ372210), whereas hosts are represented by *Mytilus edulis*, *M. trossulus* and hybrid between these two species. This is the first record of *M. trossulus* and hybrid among hosts of this pathogenic alga. Our results are indicative of a possible widespread distribution of *Coccomyxa* sp. in the Lower St. Lawrence Estuary and along coastal waters of Canadian Maritime provinces.