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Records of Breeding Activity of Marine Invertebrates  
at Kaikoura

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*Abstract*

THIS paper summarises records of breeding activity of marine invertebrates at Kaikoura from May, 1962, until May, 1966. Although many records are derived from personal notes the majority are based on specimens preserved in the catalogued "K" Collection started by the author and stored at the Edward Percival Marine Laboratory.

THE author established a catalogued collection of marine specimens as soon as possible after the establishment of the Edward Percival Marine Laboratory at Kaikoura. The cataloguing system has been described elsewhere (Morgans, 1965). The purpose of this collection was not only to provide stored specimens for handy reference but to include interesting specimens that could be referred to by their catalogue codes when, as was so often the case, proper identification could not be obtained.

It was the author's intention, from the start, to accumulate as many records of breeding activity as possible and the method of cataloguing rendered this a simple matter. The first larva was catalogued in May, 1962, when the "K" collection was started and, although the larva is still unidentified to species, it is identified by catalogue code and the specimen is stored for further examination.

The value of a summary of records of breeding activity is undoubted but accumulation of records is a lengthy process. Those summarised here are chiefly based on the months of May and late August-early September from 1962 to 1966 when zoology student field courses were run at Kaikoura during the short vacations. One of the projects set for the students in August-September was to seek out breeding activity and this emphasis must be expected to have biased the records. Other records were obtained during my visits in other months and I am indebted to helpful colleagues, Mrs F. R. Allison, Mr P. M. Johns and Mr I. Mannering, for their thoughtfulness in cataloguing valuable material in this cause. Although most records are referable to catalogued specimens (and this paper summarises entries from K.001 to K.923) there are many that were noted personally on the basis of specimens that unfortunately went astray in the turmoil of the student courses.

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