


Certificate of biodiversity

for Sopot beach (54°27'N, 18°33'E, Baltic Sea) valid for 2004-2005

this sand sample (10 cm³) contained in average:



180 ind.	Nematoda (60 species)
6 ind.	Turbellaria (20 species)
440 ind.	Gastrotricha (10 species)
23 ind.	Oligochaeta (20 species)
2 ind.	Rotifera (3 species)
1 ind.	Polychaeta (8 species)
1 ind.	Tardigrada (6 species)
2 ind.	Harpacticoida (25 species)
1 ind.	Ostracoda (15 species)
1 ind.	Acari (10 species)
2 ind.	Bivalvia (5 species)
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(possible number of local species in brackets)

for more info contact: <http://www.iopan.gda.pl/projects/LITUS>
<http://www.marbef.org>



Sopot beach specials are

Gastrotricha

a 0.01 mm long worms that feeds on the decaying algae and bacteria. These worms are common, but infrequent in other European beaches. Sopot is the only site with its domination.



Biodiversity is still being discovered. Even on desert-looking sandy beach, scientists are describing new species every year. Besides animals listed overleaf there is a variety of protists (algae, blue-green algae, ciliates, fungi and foraminiferans) living in sand, their species number may reach 1000.