

## SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

## *Saduria entomon*

English name: –	Scientific name: <i>Saduria entomon</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Malacostraca Order: Isopoda Family: Chaetiliidae	Species authority: Linnaeus, 1758	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Chiridothea entomon auctorum</i> <i>Mesidotea entomon auctorum</i> Oniscus entomon Linnaeus, 1758 <i>Saduria entomon entomon</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (subspecies not recognised)	Generation length: –	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): –	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): –	
IUCN Criteria: –	<b>HELCOM Red List Category:</b>	<b>LC Least Concern</b>
Global / European IUCN Red List Category: NE/NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/G (endangered by unknown extent), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/–		

### Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

*Saduria entomon* is distributed over the Baltic Sea, but not in the Belt Sea. In the western Baltic Sea (Arkona Basin, Bornholm Basin) its distribution is restricted to areas deeper than 10 m (needs cold water), whereas in the eastern and northern sea areas it is found also in the surface waters. In the northern part it is found from the shallow coastal areas to the deepest parts (depending on the oxygen conditions). In the southern parts it is found mostly in the deeper parts depending on the temperature regime. The loss of oxygen in the Baltic Sea bottoms has caused some declines in the population.



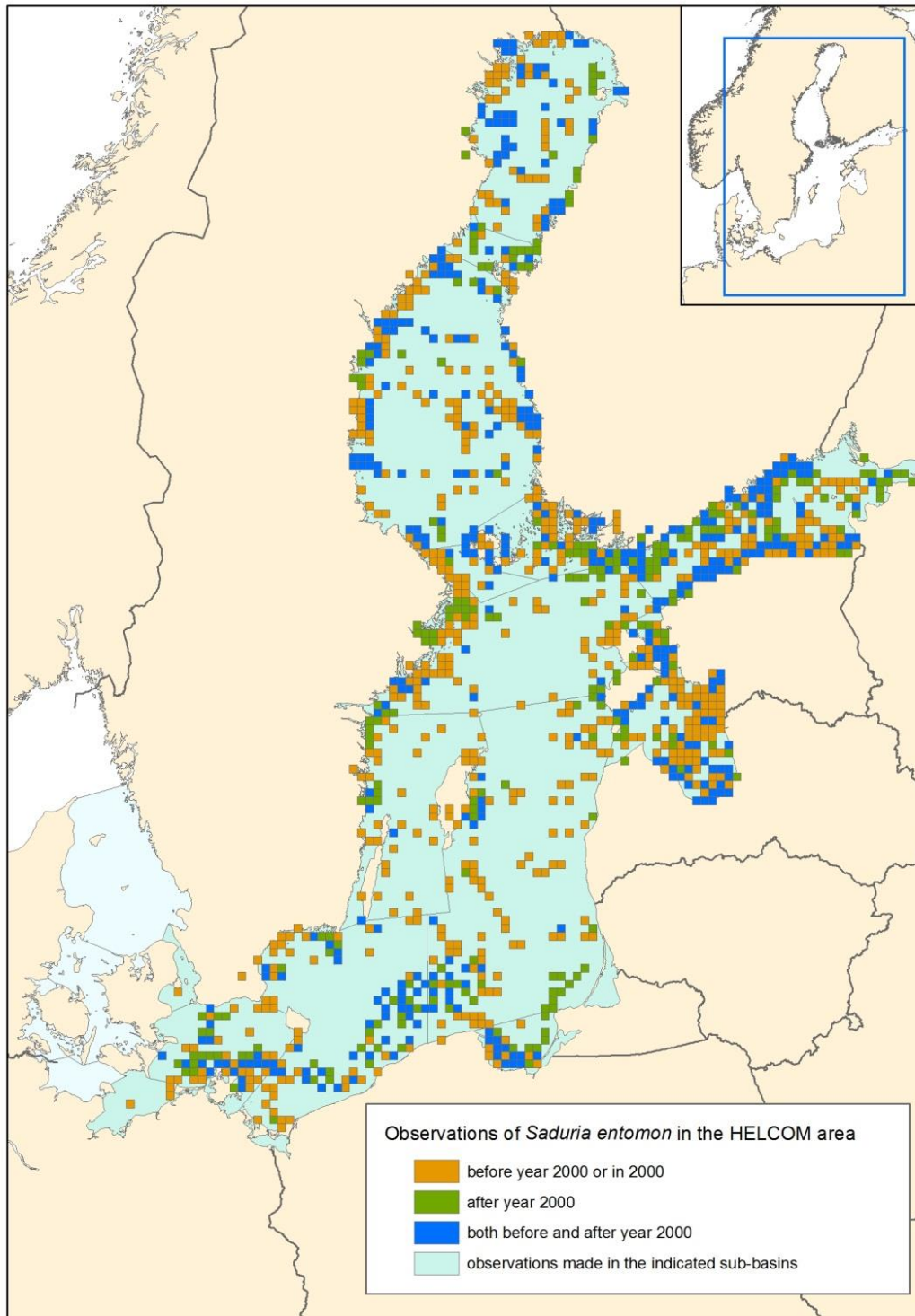
*Saduria entomon*. Photo by Metsähallitus NHS/Essi Keskinen.

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### Distribution map

The georeferenced records of species compiled from the Danish national database for marine data (MADS), from the databases of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Finnish Environment, Estonian Marine Institute, and the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research (IOW). Additional data was received from Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Poland, Russia, and Sweden from other sources. The species occurs also in a number of North European lakes, including Ladoga, Vänern and Vättern (occurrences not shown on the map).



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### Habitat and ecology

This big isopod species (up to 84 mm in length) is one of the Baltic glacial relicts and it is restricted to deep cold water zones in the Baltic Sea and tolerates reduced salinities from 35 psu down to 0 psu. *S. entomon* lives on varying types of bottoms, e.g. sand, gravel and mud. It is a scavenger and predator, capable of swimming, that feeds on other benthic animals, such as *Monoporeia affinis*, *Macoma balthica* and chironomid larvae as well as carrion. The species itself is an important food source for cod. In general, older and larger individuals are found in deeper areas, whereas juveniles and young individuals keep to shallower areas. This is believed to be an effect of the cannibalistic behaviour of the adults on the young.

### Description of major threats

The loss of oxygen in the Baltic Sea bottoms has caused decline of the *S. entomon* population in the past.

### Assessment justification

*Saduria entomon* is a common species in most of the Baltic Sea. The loss of oxygen in the Baltic Sea bottoms has caused some declines in the *S. entomon* population but no recent declines have been observed or suspected. It does not meet any of the Red List criteria and is categorized as Least Concern (LC).

### Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

The species is not threatened but it would benefit from reduction of nutrient loading in the Baltic Sea.

### Common names

Denmark: østersøkrebs, Estonia: merikilk, Finland: kilkki, Germany: Riesenassel, Latvia: –, Lithuania: –, Poland: podwój wielki, Russia: –, Sweden: Ishavsgråsugga/skorv/spånakärring

### References

Database of the Marine Research Centre, Finnish Environment Institute, all observations 1964–2007.

Received in March 2011.

Gosselck, F. 2009. *Saduria entomon* (Linnaeus 1758), Skorv (Crustacea). HELCOM fact sheet.

EMI, observational data from the database of the Estonian Marine Institute.

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea ICES data portal. Available at

<http://ecosystemdata.ices.dk/inventory/index.aspx>.

IOW database. Observational data from the database of the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research.

MADS, The Danish national database for marine data. NERI: University of Aarhus; National

Environmental Research Institute. Downloaded in June 2011.

Rachor, E., Bönsch, R., Boos, K., Gosselck, F., Grotjahn, M., Günther, C.-P., Gusky, M., Gutow, L., Heiber, W., Jantschik, P., Krieg, H.-J., Krone, R., Nehmer, P., Reichert, K., Reiss, H., Schröder, A., Witt, J. & Zettler, M. L. 2012. Rote Liste und Artenliste der bodenlebenden wirbellosen Meerestiere. Vierte Fassung, Stand Dezember 2007, einzelne Aktualisierungen bis 2012. Naturschutz und Biologische Vielfalt 70(2). Bundesamt für Naturschutz.

SMHI database. Observational data for zoobenthos from the database of the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, all observations 1971–2010. Downloaded in 9 April 2011.