

# ISPP PROJECT - FIELD REPORT

<p><b><u>Project</u></b> ISPP</p>
<p><b><u>Date of site visit</u></b> 02/05/2018</p>
<p><b><u>Purpose of visit</u></b> To observe mussel settlement on ISPP test site which were relayed from the project's test line site in Bantry on 09/10/2017.</p>
<p><b><u>Location of fieldwork</u></b> ISPP test sites where mussel seed (<i>Mytilus</i> spp.) was replayed in Cromane, Co. Kerry  <b>Foley's Site:</b> Area: (from Trimble)  <b>Arthur's Site:</b> Area: (from Trimble)</p>
<p><b><u>Equipment</u></b> GoPro hero 5 Tape Bucket Quadrat Trimble Geo 7X Handheld - Trimble Geospatial Balance weighing scales Digital calipers</p>
<p><b><u>Findings</u></b> Low mussel recruitment on both sites, especially rare on Foley's site. No live mussels &lt;4cm in length found at Foley's. Since we were unable to sample from Foley's sites, measurements were taken from <i>Mytilus</i> spp. recovered from Arthur's site. Results of sample are seen in Table 1 and figure 1 below. Sample was taken west of Foley's site to confirm the seed had not moved.</p>
<p><b><u>Summary and action items</u></b> -Visit ISPP site again in 2 weeks (ca. 21/05/2018) as Finian O'Sullivan has deployed</p>

ropes 05/04/2018.

-Liaise with Tara Chamberlain (Marine Institute) to be trained in mussel larvae identification.

-In the future rope seed will also be deployed to Emmet Casey, John Foley and Terence McCarthy.

**Note**

An otter (*Lutra lutra*) (1), oystercatchers (*Haematopus ostralegus*) (>20) and green shore crabs (*Carcinus maenas*) (3 dead), see figure 2, were present.

Table 1 Morphometric measures of *Mytilus* spp. from sites presented as  $\bar{x} \pm SD$ 

Location	n	Shell length (mm)	Weight (g)
Arthur's site	50	35.65 $\pm$ 3.39	4.67 $\pm$ 1.21
Foley's site	10	58.08 $\pm$ 3.86	29.87 $\pm$ 6.16
West of Foley's site	10	58.09 $\pm$ 4.79	28.46 $\pm$ 6.48
Grand Total	70	42.06 $\pm$ 10.83	11.67 $\pm$ 11.66

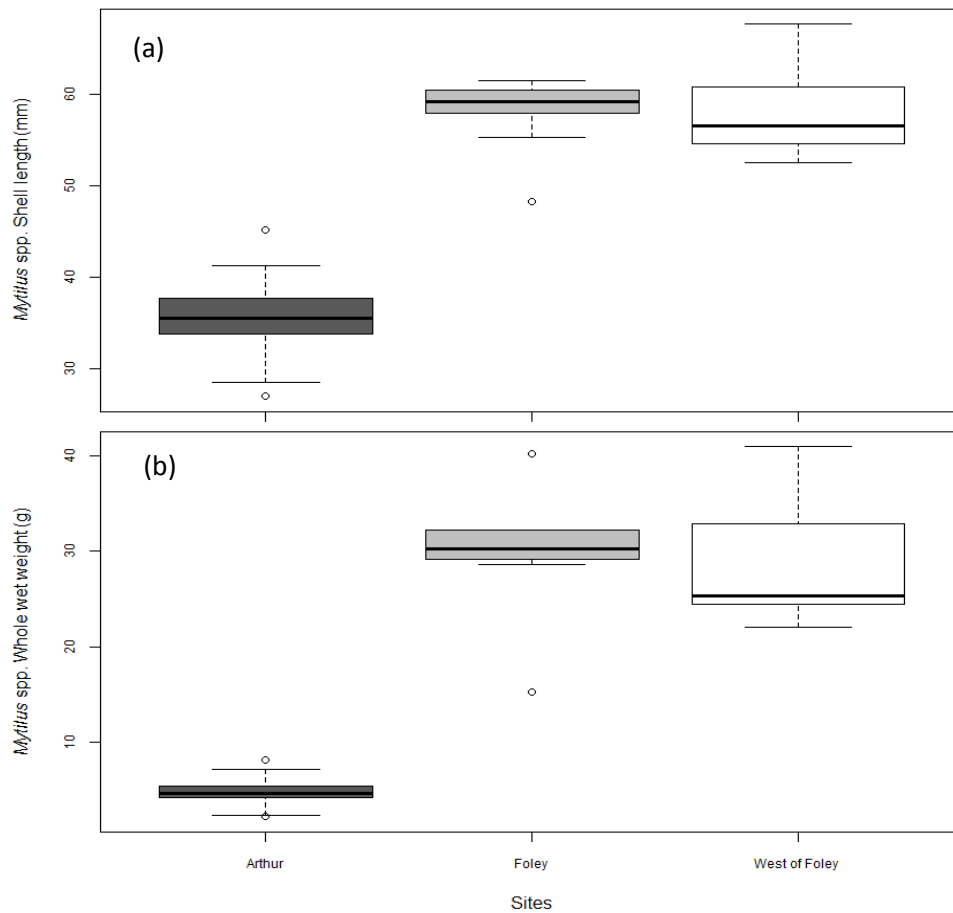


Figure 1 boxplots of *Mytilus* spp. (a) shell length and (b) whole weight of *Mytilus* spp. sampled from Arthur's site (n=50), Foley's (n=10) and West of Foley's site.



Figure 2 photos and screenshots of footage taken on GoPro Hero5 . (a) patchy distribution of large *Mytilus* spp. (>4cm in length) at Foley's site (b) quadrat of *Mytilus* spp. % coverage on Arthur's site, (c) West of Foley's site, (d) *Mytilus* spp. sampled from Arthur's site, (e) Greenshore crab (*Carcinus maenas*) and (f) otter (*Lutra lutra*) both seen adjacent to Arthur's site.