

OCENE
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REVIEWS

Joan Barrull and Isabel Mate: TIBURONES DEL
MEDITERRÁNEO, Libreria El Set-ciències,
Arenys de Mar, 2002, 292 pp.

"*Tiburones del Mediterráneo*", published in 2002 by Libreria El Set-ciències, is one of the most comprehensive books on sharks of the Mediterranean Sea. The authors, Joan Barrull and Isabel Mate, both researchers at the Museum of Zoology in Barcelona, and active members of the Mediterranean Shark Research Group, are widely recognized as shark authorities in this geographic area. They have been researching the shark species featured in the book for many years, writing several scientific reports and articles in magazines on different aspects of sharks' biology and ecology.

The 292 pages of the book include parts about anatomy, reproduction, feeding, fishery and trade, attacks on humans, a key to identification and full description of the 45 species found in the area. There is also a very interesting wide section dedicated to morphometric measurements with a great amount of

data collected in part by the authors and in part taken from other sources. The book ends with a glossary and an extensive bibliography.

The authors skilfully combine bibliographical references, data collected by themselves and good pictures. The book includes 125 photographs, mostly shot in Spanish waters (many in colours, a rarity for a book on sharks of this area), as well as 115 fine and precise drawings made by one of the authors, Isabel Mate, who is also a talented wildlife illustrator. All general graphics of the book, which came out in a practical 17x24 cm format, are well designed and the paper is of good quality.

The book has made the main results of the shark research conducted in the Mediterranean Sea available to a wide readership. It will satisfy both the general reader and the scientist working on this matter. This excellent work has rightly taken a place among the main guides written on the subject of the Mediterranean sharks, together with "*Guía de los tiburones de aguas ibéricas, Atlántico Nororiental y Mediterráneo*" by J. A. Moreno and "*Requins de Méditerranée et d'Atlantique*" by J. Cadenat and J. Blache.

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