



**PERSONAL  
INFORMATION**

**NAME:** Michele Gristina

**SEX:** Male

**DATE OF BIRTH:** June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1961

**NATIONALITY:** Italian

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married

**WORK ADDRESS:** Italian National Research Council (CNR) - Istituto  
per l'Ambiente Marino Costiero (IAMC)  
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**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Main work experiences on fishery ecology

**Italian programs**

- Effects of the protection of Spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas* Fabricius, 1787) in the “Egadi Islands “ Reserve: 2002.
- Settlement and juvenile habitat of the European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* (Fabricius, 1787) (crustacea decapoda) in the north western sicilian coasts: 2004.
- Assessment of demersal resources of the Italian Seas (from 1993 onward GRUND programs):1985/87,1990/93, 1994/96, 1997/99, 2000/03; 2004
- Strategies for management of the European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* (Fabricius, 1787) (crustacea decapoda) in the Carini Gulf.

**European programs:**

- International Bottom Trawl Survey in the Mediterranean (MEDITS):1994/95; 1996/97; 1998/99; 2000/01; 2002; 2003;



2004.

- INDECO - Development of Indicators of Environmental Performance of the Common Fisheries Policy. SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME PRIORITY 8.1 - Policy-orientated research: Modernisation and sustainability of fisheries.
- Eurosyng - Promoting action on broad ocean challenges by delving into the past, present and future of European syngnathids. Call Biodiversa+ 2021 (fondo FESR). 2023-2026.

#### International Programs

- MedsudMed “Assessment and Monitoring of the Fishery Resources and the Ecosystems in the Strait of Sicily”: 2002/2010

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1979 -1984: University of Palermo (Italy): **BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences**.  
Main subject: Marine Biology, Ecology.  
Thesis: Zoobenthic colonization of the Terrasini (PA) artificial reef.

2012-2015: University of Bari (Italy): **PhD Biological Sciences**.  
Main subject: Marine Ecology and Conservation.  
Thesis: Ecologia, biologia e conservazione di *Hippocampus guttulatus* (Cuvier, 1829)

#### MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND MAIN WORKING GROUPS

Società Italiana di Biologia Marina (SIBM);



## TEACHING

### TEACHING AND LECTURER ACTIVITIES

Courses taught

#### **University of Palermo**

"Technology and methodologies for sea ranching" - Environmental Sciences (2005/2006).

"Technology and methodologies for sea ranching" - Environmental Sciences (2006/2007).

#### **FAO**

MedSudMed Training course on: "Multivariate Methods to analyze marine Communities". La Goulette, INSTM, Tunisia, (2005)



## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Fishery biology and ecology  
Syngnathids ecology and biology

*List of recent Relevant  
publications*

Planas, M., **Gristina**, M., Palma, J., Qin, G., Rose, E., Roth, O., & Teske, P. R. (2023). Syngnathid fishes: biology, ecology, physiology, conservation and innovative rearing techniques. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10, 1309683.

Spatafora, D., **Gristina**, M., Quattrocchi, F., Pierri, C., Lazic, T., & Palma, J. (2023). Different behavioral strategies of two sympatric seahorses: habitat availability and increased density of *Hippocampus guttulatus* alter the behavior of *Hippocampus hippocampus*. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10, 1138296.

Lazic, T., Pierri, C., Corriero, G., Gravina, M. F., **Gristina**, M., Ravisato, M., & Macali, A. (2023). Abundance, distribution, and habitat preference of Syngnathid species in Sabaudia Lake (Tyrrhenian Sea). *Diversity*, 15(9), 972.

Lazic, T., Fosso, B., Bachir, B., Giuseppe, C., M., **Gristina**, Marinella, M., ... & Pierri, C. (2023). *Hippocampus guttulatus* diet based on DNA metabarcoding. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10.

Pierri, C., Lazic, T., Gristina, M., Corriero, G., & Sinopoli, M. (2022). Large-scale distribution of the European seahorses (*Hippocampus Rafinesque*, 1810): A systematic review. *Biology*, 11(2), 325.

Pierri, C., Cardone, F., Corriero, G., Lazic, T., Quattrocchi, F., Alabiso, G., & **Gristina**, M. (2021). Density decline in a Mediterranean seahorse population: natural fluctuations or new emerging threats?. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 8, 692068.

T. Lazic, C. Pierri, M. **Gristina**, R. Carlucci, F. Cardone, P. Colangelo, A. Desiderato, M. Mercurio, S. Bertrandino, C. Longo, G. Corriero 2018. Distribution and habitat preferences of *Hippocampus* species along the Apulian coast. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. DOI: 10.1002/aqc.2949

M. **Gristina**, F. Cardone, A. Desiderato, S. Mucciolo, T. Lazic, G. Corriero 2016. Habitat use in juvenile and adult life stages of the sedentary fish *Hippocampus guttulatus*. *Hydrobiologia* DOI 10.1007/s10750-016-2818-3

**Gristina** M., Cardone F., Carlucci R., Castellano L., Passarelli S., Corriero G. (2014). Abundance, distribution and habitat preference of *Hippocampus guttulatus* and *Hippocampus hippocampus* in a semi-enclosed central Mediterranean marine area. *Marine Ecology*. DOI: 10.1111/maec.12116

Milazzo M., Mirto S., Domenici P., **Gristina** M. (2013). Climate change exacerbates interspecific interactions in sympatric coastal fishes. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 82, 468–477.



M. **Gristina**, M. Sinopoli, F. Fiorentino, G. Garofalo, F. Badalamenti 2011. Shelter selection of captive european spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* (fabricius, 1787) under different levels of *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier, 1797) predation threat. mar. biol. doi: 10.1007/s00227-011-1652-4

**Gristina M.**, F. Fiorentino, G. Garofalo, F. Badalamenti (2009) Shelter preference in captive juveniles of European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* (Fabricius, 1787). Mar. Biol. , 156: 1097-2105.  
Fiorentino, F. Badalamenti, F., D'Anna, G., Garofalo, G., Gianguzza, P.,

**Gristina, M.**, Pipitone, C., Rizzo, P., and Fortibuoni, T. (2008). Changes in spawning-stock structure and recruitment pattern of red mullet, *Mullus barbatus*, after a trawl ban in the Gulf of Castellammare (central Mediterranean Sea). – ICES Journal of Marine Science, 65 (7):1175–1183.

F. Palero, P. Abelló, E. Macpherson, **M. Gristina** and Pascual M. (2008). Phylogeography of the European spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*): Influence of current oceanographical features and historical processes. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, 48, 2: 708-717.

**Gristina M.**, Bahri T., Fiorentino F., Garofalo G. (2006) Comparison of demersal fish assemblages in three areas of the Strait of Sicily under different trawling pressure. Fish. Res. 81: 60–71.

**Gristina M.** and Gagliano M., 2004 - Performance of traditional rush and modern plastic traps on the capture of *Palinurus elephas* (Fabricius, 1787) in laboratory tanks. Fisheries Research, 67: 235-239.

Mazara del Vallo 05.05.2025

Michele Gristina