

The Alien Barnacle  
*Elminius modestus* –  
Does it fit into an Empty  
Ecological Niche?

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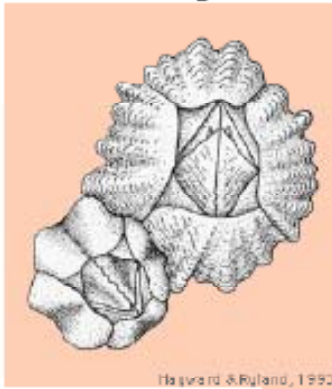
Who is *Elminius modestus*?



# How to distinguish the alien species from the native ones?

## **Elminius modestus**

4 plates  
Star like shape

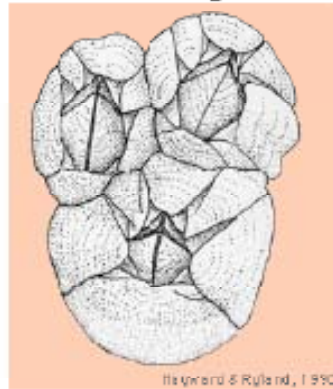


Hayward & Ruland, 1992

**THE ALIEN**

## **Balanus crenatus**

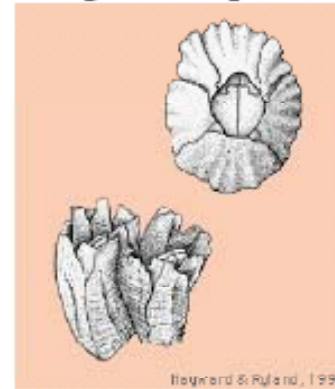
6 plates  
Smooth shape



Hayward & Ruland, 1990

## **Semibalanus balanoides**

6 plates  
Irregular shape

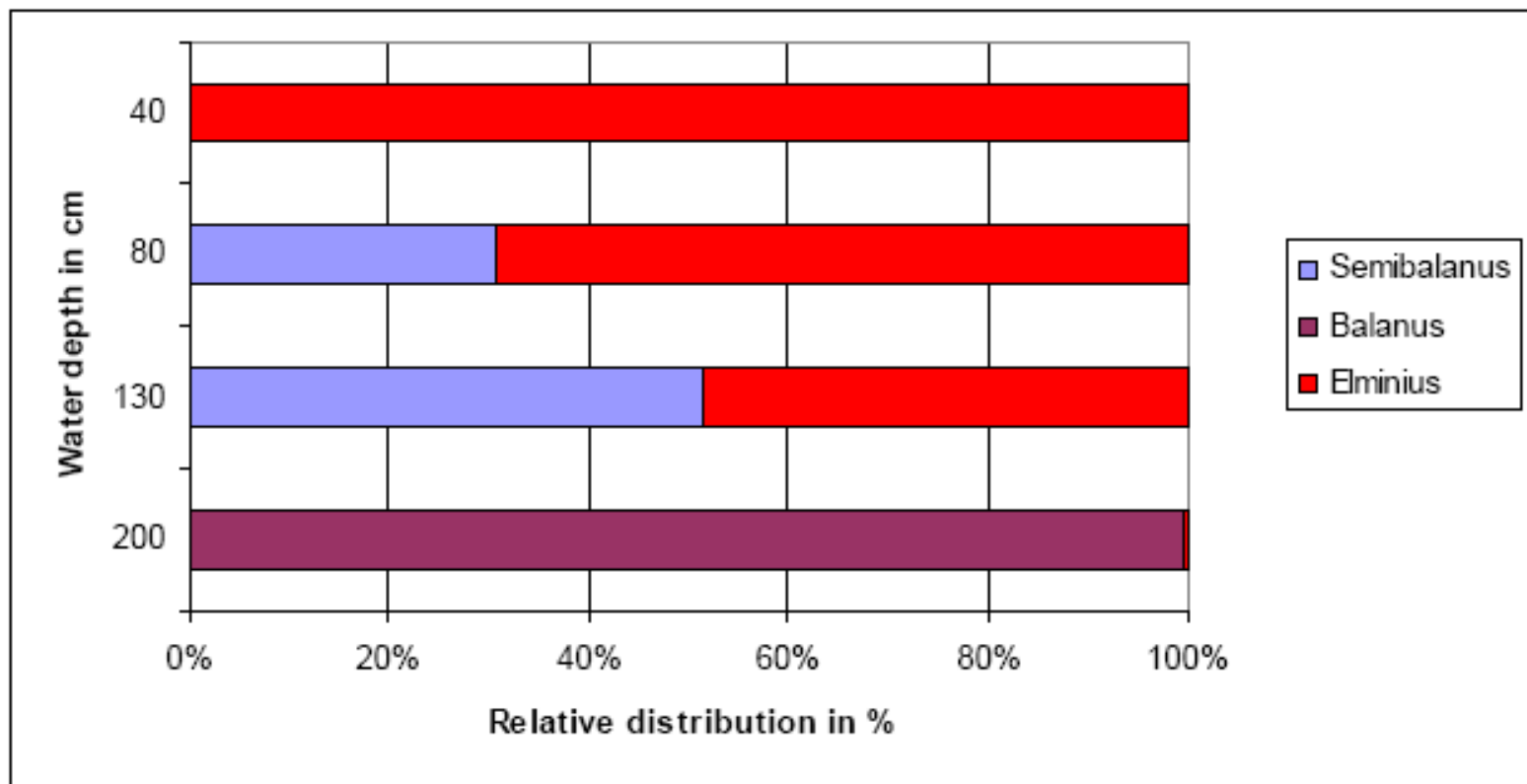


Hayward & Ruland, 1990

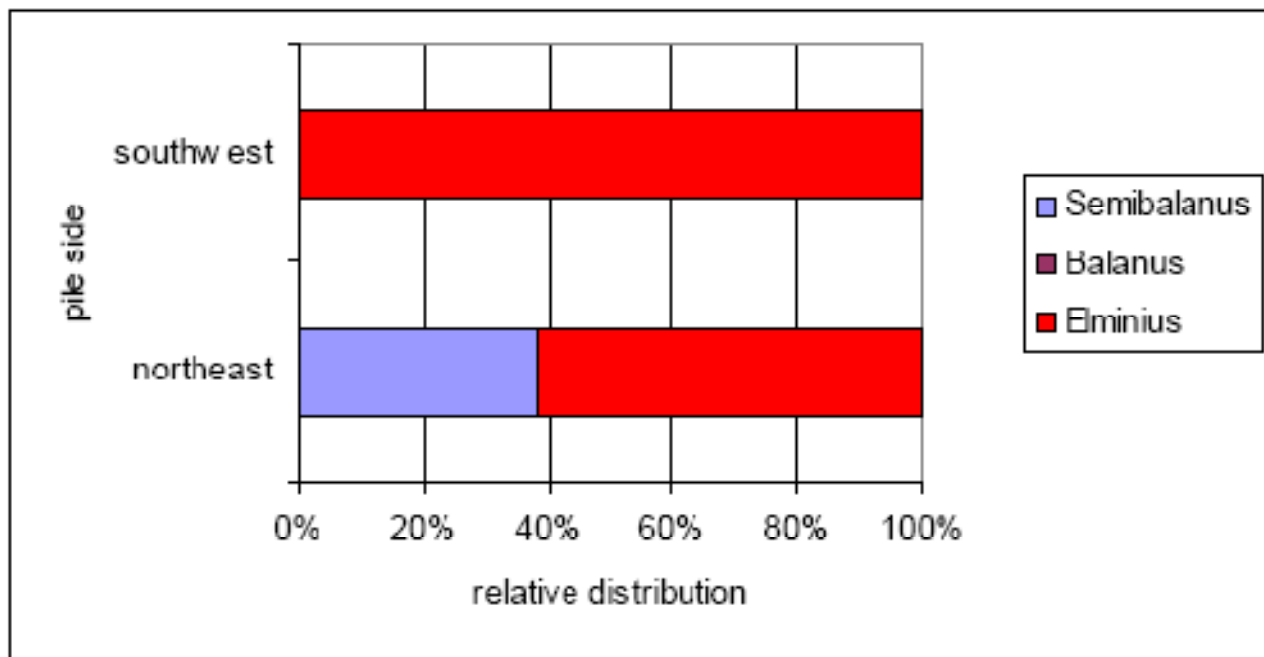
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Our research

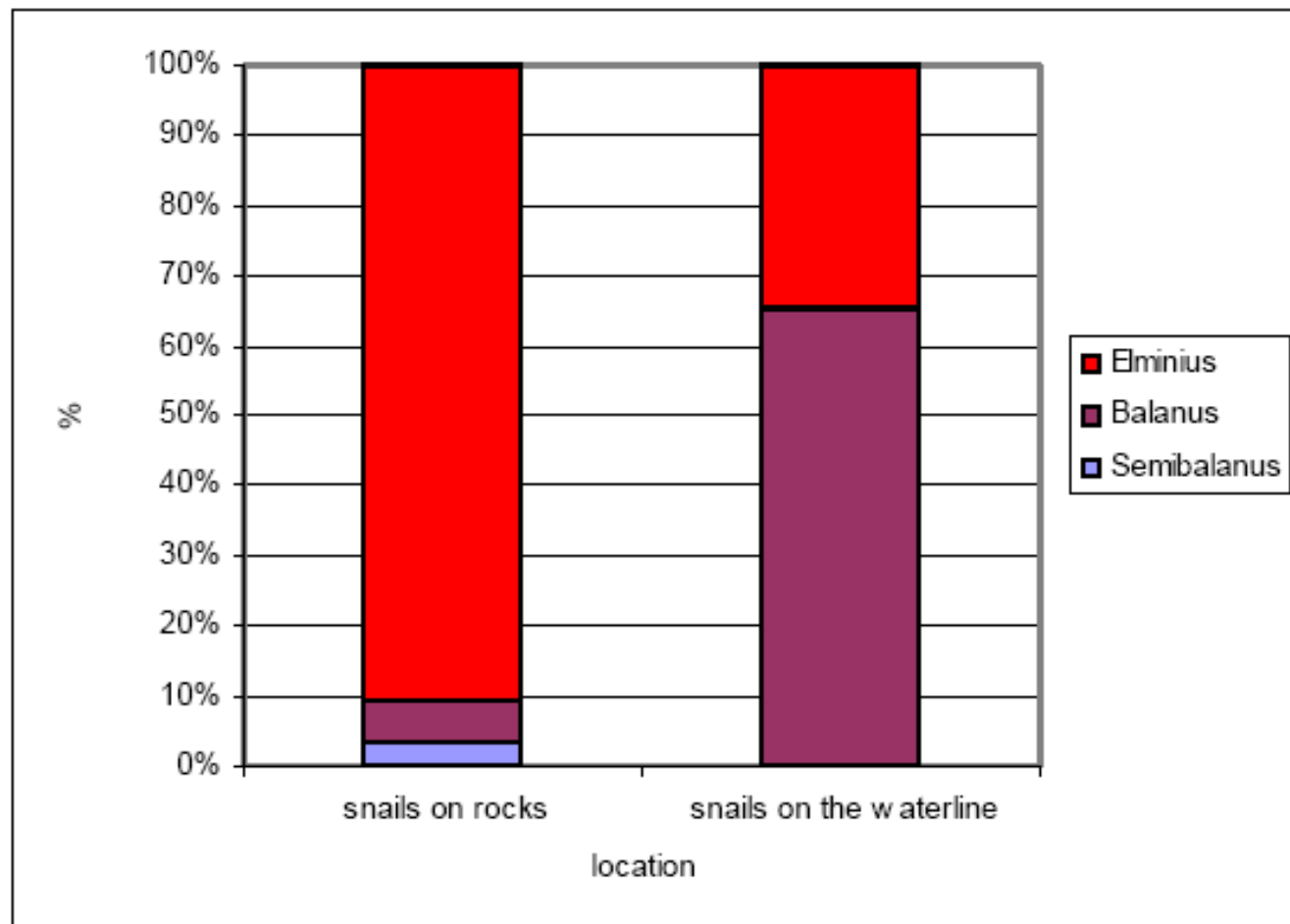




**Figure 1: Relative distribution of barnacle species at different water depths**



**Figure 2: Comparison on the barnacle distribution of the wooden pile sides at 40 cm water depth**



**Figure 3: Barnacle species distribution on snails collected from a rock pile and the low tide waterline (ca. 1 m lower)**

Don't be afraid of aliens – learn to live  
with them!



Thanks for your attention!