

**PANEL: ARE SOUTH AMERICAN LIBRARIES ACCESSING CORE MARINE  
SCIENCE JOURNALS FROM COMMERCIAL PUBLISHERS**

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**THE URUGUAY SITUATION**

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**Abstract:** This paper presents the relevance, scope and also the limitations of access to core marine, aquatic and fishery science journals in Uruguay. Since 2009 an important player has appeared in the field of online access to international commercial peer reviewed journals: the Timbo Portal. Timbo is a consortium of public and private organizations administrated by a government Agency, the National Agency of Research and Innovation (ANII is its Spanish acronym). Also, we stress the importance of the IAMSLIC Resource Sharing service in providing quick and effective access to articles from core journals that could not be accessed by other means.

**Keywords:** core journals, commercial publishers, on line access, marine libraries, South America, Uruguay,

The problem of resourcing journals to support teaching and research is well known. The potential increase in access to content leads scientific and academic libraries to form consortia that allow them to make better deals with publishers and content access providers.

Timbo is a consortium of public and private organizations, administrated by a government agency, the National Agency of Research and Development (ANII is its Spanish acronym). Participating institutions are universities, ministries, and research institutes. This consortium offers on line access to full text scientific information of high quality through Timbo Portal (<http://www.timbo.org.uy>) since January 2009. Timbo Portal brings access countrywide to a number of full text databases, including the following commercial publishers and intermediaries: JSTOR, Springer, Elsevier, Ovid, EBSCO, IEEE.

The criteria used to determine whether a journal was included in the core relied mainly on lists of core journals generated using citation data from the Science Citation Index. The Journal Citation Reports (JCR) offers a systematic, objective means to critically evaluate the world's leading journals, with quantifiable, statistical information based on citation data. Table 1 shows core journal titles in marine, aquatic and fishery sciences sorted in decreasing order by Impact Factor (IF) > 1, and to which Uruguayans have access.

<b>JOURNAL TITLE</b>	<b>IF</b>	<b>Access</b>
OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE BIOLOGY	7.312	NO
FISH & FISHERIES	4.189	YES
ADVANCES IN MARINE BIOLOGY	3.900	NO
ECOSYSTEMS	3.586	YES
PRECAMBRIAN RESEARCH	3.581	YES
LIMNOLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	3.545	NO
OIKOS	3.147	YES
AQUATIC TOXICOLOGY	3.124	YES
ECOLOGICAL INDICATORS	3.102	YES
BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS	3.074	YES
FISH & SHELLFISH IMMUNOLOGY	2.892	YES
FRESHWATER BIOLOGY	2.861	YES
MARINE CHEMISTRY (SCIENCE DIRECT)	2.726	YES
MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN	2.630	YES
MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY	2.587	YES
MARINE GEOLOGY	2.521	YES
MARINE ECOLOGY PROGRESS SERIES	2.519	NO
HARMFUL ALGAE	2.5	YES
MARINE MICROPALAEONTOLOGY	2.440	YES
FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHY	2.427	YES
JOURNAL OF MARINE SYSTEMS	2.238	YES
REVIEWS IN FISH BIOLOGY AND FISHERIES	2.161	YES
JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL MARINE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY	2.116	YES
OCEANOGRAPHY	2.113	NO
AQUATIC SCIENCES	2.045	YES
MARINE BIOLOGY	1.999	YES
ESTUARINE COASTAL AND SHELF SCIENCE	1.970	YES
CANADIAN JOURNAL OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC SCIENCES	1.951	YES
REVIEWS IN FISHERIES SCIENCE	1.939	YES
AQUACULTURE	1.925	YES
ICES JOURNAL OF MARINE SCIENCE	1.920	YES
JOURNAL OF APPLIED AQUACULTURE	1.920	YES
JOURNAL OF SEA RESEARCH	1.803	YES
MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH	1.755	YES
HYDROBIOLOGIA	1.754	YES
AQUATIC MICROBIAL ECOLOGY	1.743	NO
AQUATIC BOTANY	1.697	YES
JOURNAL OF FISH DISEASES	1.697	YES

MARINE PETROLEUM AND GEOLOGY	1.684	YES
OCEAN DYNAMICS	1.612	YES
JOURNAL OF PLANKTON RESEARCH	1.612	NO
MARINE FRESHWATER RESEARCH	1.561	NO
MARINE ECOLOGY AN EVOLUTIONARY PERSPECTIVE	1.558	NO
JOURNAL OF MARINE RESEARCH	1.556	NO
LIMNOLOGICA - ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF INLAND WATERS	1.556	YES
ESTUARIES AND COASTS	1.554	YES
JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY	1.545	YES
FISHERIES RESEARCH	1.531	YES
MARINE MAMMAL SCIENCE	1.526	NO
AFRICAN JOURNAL OF MARINE SCIENCE	1.520	YES
ECOLOGY OF FRESWATER FISH	1.512	NO
BULLETIN OF MARINE SCIENCE	1.503	NO
AQUACULTURE NUTRITION	1.482	YES
AQUATIC CONSERVATION	1.476	NO
AQUATIC ECOLOGY	1.476	YES
MALACOLOGIA	1.440	NO
AQUATIC BIOLOGY	1.380	NO
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & ECOLOGY	1.264	YES
FISH PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY	1.232	YES
AQUATIC LIVING RESOURCES	1.227	NO
JOURNAL OF FISH BIOLOGY	1.226	YES
MARINE GENOMICS	1.200	YES
JOURNAL OF OCEANOGRAPHY	1.188	YES
MARINE BIOLOGY RESEARCH	1.182	YES
ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY OF FISHES	1.155	YES
JOURNAL OF AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH	1.153	YES
JOURNAL OF APPLIED ICHTHYOLOGY	1.121	YES
HELGOLAND MARINE RESEARCH	1.115	YES
AQUACULTURE RESEARCH	1.099	YES
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF HYDROBIOLOGY	1.082	NO
JOURNAL OF MOLLUSCAN STUDIES	1.074	YES
MARINE GEODESY	1.053	YES
MARINE STRUCTURES	1.031	YES

*Table 1. Core Journals from commercial publishers.*

From a total of 73 core journal titles, Uruguay has access to 55. Table 1 also shows that for the first 20 titles Uruguay has access to 15, and for the first 50 titles we have access to 38.

At least 79 marine, aquatic and fishery journals from commercial publishers are available full text through Timbo Portal. Each title has different time span access to full text and different embargo restrictions depending on publisher policies. Timbo Portal brings access through three content provider platforms: EBSCOHost (38 titles), ScienceDirect (21 titles) and Springer (20 titles).

A search in the Scopus database filtered by institution (Uruguay) was conducted to show in which journals Uruguayan authors in marine, aquatic and fishery science publish their papers. We analyzed those titles in order to determine to which ones Uruguayan institutions have access, and whether they are from commercial publishers. Uruguay has access to 15 of these journals through Timbo Portal. This implies the country has access to a significant part of the knowledge generated by its own scientists.

With statistical data of use (file downloads) provided by Timbo Portal, we compiled a list of the most used journals from commercial publishers that Uruguayan scientists can access.

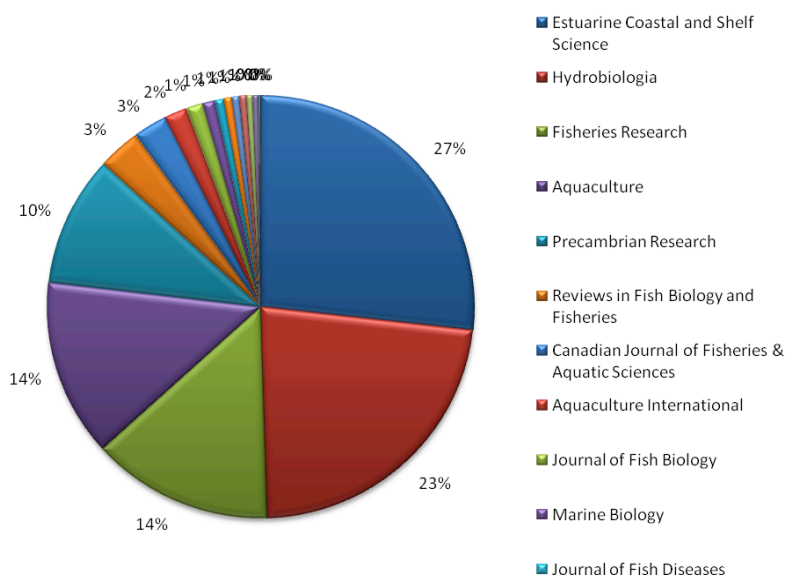


Figure 1. Most downloaded commercial publisher journals in Uruguay. Marine, Aquatic and Fishery sciences, Jan. 2009 – Jun. 2010

Figure 1 shows the journal titles that presented the highest numbers of downloads a year and half after implementation of Timbo Portal. Most downloads have focused on

five titles: *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science*, *Hydrobiologia*, *Fisheries Research*, *Aquaculture* and *Precambrian Research*.

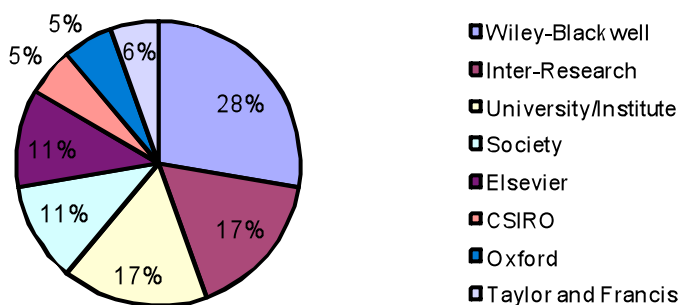


Figure 2. Marine, aquatic and fishery sciences journals with no access.

Timbo Portal is the main provider of access to full text core commercial journals in marine, aquatic and fishery sciences in Uruguay. At the present time it does not include access to the highest impact factor journal (*Oceanography and Marine Biology*), nor to the journal in which Uruguayan authors publish the most (*Marine Ecology Progress Series*), but among the first preferred 10 journals, Timbo Portal gives access to 6 of them.

According to use statistics of commercial journals with access through Timbo Portal, there is concordance between the most used core commercial journals and the journals where Uruguayan authors publish their papers. This is particularly evident for titles like *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science*, *Hydrobiologia*, *Fisheries Research*, and *Aquaculture*.

The majority of the titles to which Uruguayan institutions do not have access belong to Wiley-Blackwell, followed by journals published by Inter Research and Universities/Institutes.

Uruguayan libraries associated with IAMSLIC have been participating actively in requesting papers from IAMSLIC libraries all around the world, according to 2009-2010 Sharing Resources Statistics from IAMSLIC Z39.50 Distributed Library. This is an objective measure of what Uruguayan libraries lack locally and that they need to request through ILL to satisfy patrons demands for scientific information. Considering our collection weaknesses and limitations in on line access to core commercial journals, 184 requests is a reasonable number.

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