

# SAYA DE MALHA DAILY

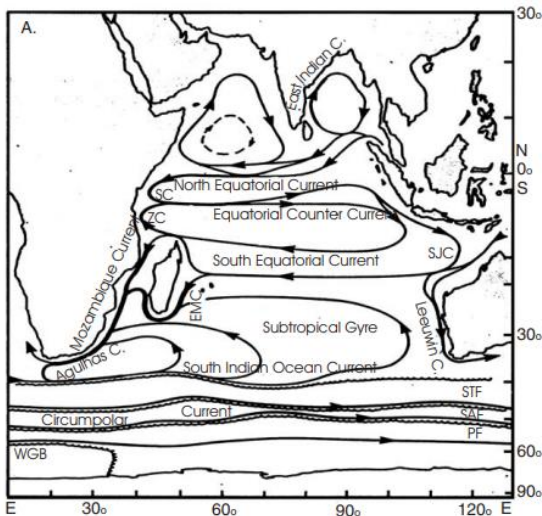
A Newsletter by Dominique and François



N°13, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## Where are we ?

South-East of Saya de Malha, Box 4  
11.62° South 62.22° East  
Nice Weather, Calm Seas, Wind 10.5 Knots  
Air Température 26°4  
Water Température 26°6



## Currents

The South Equatorial Current (SEC) is the major westward current in the South Indian Ocean. It crosses the Mascarene Plateau. As it approaches the Plateau, it is constricted to pass over a narrow sill between the Saya de Malha and Nazareth Banks. One branch of the current goes to the North of Saya de Malha and the other south between the Cargados Carajos Bank and Mauritius. The former then becomes an eastward current on joining the South Equatorial Counter Current. The main impact of the Plateau is to cut the SEC into two, with one branch going towards Madagascar. The passage through the sill South of Saya de Malha leads to significant vertical mixing of the upper and intermediary waters.

## What's on ?

### Drying Plants Samples

During each dive, Line and her team collect samples of animals and plants, mostly algae. Those samples are placed in plant presses. Species then can be preserved for centuries for further identification and analysis.



## The Portrait



### **Mariette Dine, entrepreneur**

Mariette was born in Seychelles in 1991. Her family always had an interest in the environment. She completed her university qualifications on Marine Science and Sustainability at the University of Seychelles. Thanks to SeyCCAT grants, she developed a project on the use of marine algae to produce bioplastics. "The idea is to show what economic diversification could look like, linking science and innovation to encourage local entrepreneurs to persist with their ideas. "This expedition is to look beyond Seychelles and develop new collaborations". "I want to broaden the debate around plastic pollution, show the impacts of microfibres on the ocean and change habits. It is my first time on an expedition, I learn a lot about science".

## Did you know ?

### **Sponge Crab**

Sponge crabs, or Sleepy Crabs, camouflage by covering themselves with a sponge which they carry on their back.

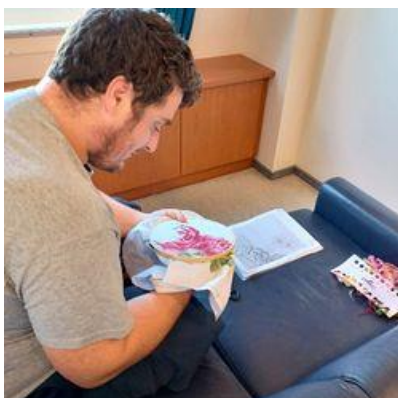


### **The Peacock Mantis Shrimp**

is one of the fastest invertebrates in the world. When it hits its prey, its legs unfold in one thousandth of a second.



## Life on Board



**Andrew** passing time before the next ROV operation.



**Laure et Rodney**, between two trawl transects.