Restoring mussel bed

de Paoli, Hélène Claudine

IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:
2017

Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database

Citation for published version (APA):

Copyright
Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Take-down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): http://www.rug.nl/research/portal. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.
Acknowledgements
This book is the record of this 6 years of research. Working on marine ecology was a dream, and -even if as a teenager, I was picturing myself studying sharks, or dolphin - mussel bed restoration turned out the be a really interesting topicing to be investigated! This PhD was a real adventure for me, crawling on the mudflats (and sometimes, almost flying over it), petting bivalves and of course, drowning into data and manuscripts. All of this work would not have been possible without the help of many, many people.

First, I would like to thank my promotor, Prof. Johan van de Koppel. Johan, you have been an amazing supervisor during all this time in Yerseke. You were always here, next door, when I needed you. You helped me to adapt (I wanted to write “to evolve”, but it would not have been an accurate word here, right?) to become a scientist. Your comments and your advices have been really inspiring, for in both experimental and writing fields. Although, carrying bricks on the mudflat was probably not the best idea ever! Anyway, I cannot imagine having a better supervision than the one you gave me.

I also want to thank my co-promoter (and co-supervisor) Dr. Tjisse van der Heide. For my first “mussel bed experience” to the last final point of the manuscript, you have been there, to help me and push me! I do not want to imagine what would have been my first year, setting up this large-scale (insane) experiment without you. Even if this field work has been rough, even if we were tired, we (almost) always worked smiling, a laughing about all the bad luck we had… Your scientific support was truly appreciated during all these years. I also want to thank you for starting up this “writing factory”, together with Johan, and to have giving me the opportunity for coming back and finish my thesis (and correcting all my FrenchEnglish mistakes). More than a supervisor, you became a friend. And think there is a Dutch saying telling “If you sweep a mudflat together, you’ll be friends forever”. Or maybe I just imagined it…
This book is the record of this 6 years of research. Working on marine ecology was a dream, and even if as a teenager, I was picturing myself studying sharks, or dolphin mussel be d restoration turned out the be a really interesting toping to be investigated! This PhD was a real adventure for me, crawling on the mudflats (and sometimes, almost flying over it), petting bivalves and of course, drowning into data and manuscripts. All of this work would not have been possible without the help of many, many people.

First, I would like to thanks my promotor, Prof. Johan van de Koppel. Johan, you have been an amazing s upervisor during all this time in Yerseke. You were always here, next door, when I needed you. You helped me to adapt (I wanted to write "to evolve", but it would not have been an accurate word here, right?) to become a scientist. Your comments and your advices have been really inspiring, for in both experimental and writing fields. Although, carryings bricks on the mudflat was probably not the best idea ever! Anyway, I cannot imagine having a better supervision than the one you gave me.

I also want to thanks my co-promoter (and co-supervisor) Dr. Tjisse van der Heide. For my first "mussel bed experience" to the last final point of the manuscript, you have been there, to help me and push me! I do not want to imagine what would have been my first year, setting up this large-scale (insane) experiment without you. Even if this field work has been rough, even if we were tired, we (almost) always worked smiling, a laughing about all the bad luck we had… Your scientific support was truly appreciated during all these years. I also want to thank you for starting up this "writing factory", together with Johan, and to have giving me the opportunity for coming back and finish my thesis (and correcting all my Frenchglish mistakes). More than a supervisor, you became a friend. And think there is a Dutch saying telling "If you sweep a mudflat together, you’ll be friends forever". Or maybe I just imagined it…

If you sweep a mudflat together, you’ll be friends forever

And all this work would not have been possible without the help of Aniek van den Berg. Working side by side with you during all the field work, sharing good times and bad times, has made my PhD a lot more enjoyable than it would have been without you. I cannot remember one time you, saying “no” when I was asking you for help. You are an amazing research assistant, and a really good friend too (of, course, we swept the mudflat together as well).

The first year of field work, setting up this large-scale experiment was a real team work. I would like to thanks Sander Holthuijsen for all his scientific and work force help. And of course, thanks to you, I now know how to recognize a “good fork”, from a “bad fork”! Marjolijn Christianen joined the project in 2013, and also did an amazing job helping me. All the scientific support was really appreciated, especially during field work, while setting up few experiments. Working as a team was probably what made the projet a success, and nothing would have been possible otherwise. So, to all the Waddensleutels crew, houra!!

Of course, digging 4 km of ditch and carrying 32 000 kg of mussels over mudflats would not have been possible with only our 4 people. So I would
like to express all my gratitude to numbers of volunteers, from Naaturmonumenten, but also, friends or family who came to help us. I especially would like to thanks Jordi, for coming with me on the mudflat, and to take pictures of the mussel beds. Driving a kite over a mudflat with you was a lot of fun! I am also really grateful to the PhD students of Mosselwad, Arno and Jasper, for the help in the field and in the lab, and for all these fruitful discussions about our projects.

I also got a lot of help from my student crew. In 2013, three students, for Perpignan in France, came to help me. Thibaut, Elisa and Carole, thanks a lot for all the support during this field work season. We did so much work done during this summer! It was a lot of fun showing you the Netherlands, and giving you a real “field experience”. I really appreciated your help and you good mood on Schiermonnikoog. And supervising you was a really nice, and inspiring experience that carried me to my new job.

Field work was an important part of my PhD, but most of time, and especially the last years, I worked in Yerseke, sitting in my office, and looking at my screen. It could have been a painful experience, but thanks to the best officemates ever, Sil and Laura, I spent a really good time! Sitting in the office with you guys, definitely made my work easier, and more enjoyable. We often had really nice conversation about our work, but also, about science in general, or about our life prospects. You guys, were always there for me, to laugh with me, and feed me chocolate when time where a bit rough (and when time were good also, it is well known, chocolate is always good). We all became really good friends, and I want to thank you for all the time spent together (alligators).

In Yerseke, I was part of the Department of Spatial Ecology, now called department of Estuarine and Delta Research. Working with all these people - Peter, Daphne, Tjeerd, Francesco, Olivier, Olivier, Lucy, Jim, Wouter, Simeon, Loretta, Bas, Zhu, Zhigang, Hui, Zhu, Heng, Tisja, Isabella, Rebecca, Monique, Lennart, Jeroen, Anette and all the people I might have forgotten - was really inspiring for me. I would like to thanks you all for the discussion we had during our department meeting. We all worked in close collaboration, and allways share our research, and tried to
like to express all my gratitude to numbers of volunteers, from Naaturmonumenten, but also, friends or family who came to help us. I especially would like to thanks Jordi, for coming with me on the mudflat, and to take pictures of the mussel beds. Driving a kite over a mudflat with you was a lot of fun! I am also really grateful to the PhD students of Mosselwad, Arno and Jasper, for the help in the field and in the lab, and for all these fruitful discussions about our projects.

I also got a lot of help from my student crew. In 2013, three students, for Perpignan in France, came to help me. Thibaut, Elisa and Carole, thanks a lot for all the support during this field work season. We did so much work done during this summer! It was a lot of fun showing you the Netherlands, and giving you a real “field experience”. I really appreciated your help and you good mood on Schiermonnikoog. And supervising you was a really nice, and inspiring experience that carried me to my new job.

Field work was an important part of my PhD, but most of time, and especially the last years, I worked in Yerseke, sitting in my office, and looking at my screen. It could have been a painful experience, but thanks to the best officemates ever, Sil and Laura, I spent a really good time! Sitting in the office with you guys, definitely made my work easier, and more enjoyable. We often had really nice conversation about our work, but also, about science in general, or about our life prospects. You guys, were always there for me, to laugh with me, and feed me chocolate when time where a bit rough (and when time were good also, it is well known, chocolate is always good). We all became really good friends, and I want to thank you for all the time spent together (alligators). In Yerseke, I was part of the Department of Spatial Ecology, now called department of Estuarine and Delta Research. Working with all these people - Peter, Daphne, Tjeerd, Francesco, Oliver, Olivier, Lucy, Jim, Wouter, Simeon, Loretta, Bas, Zhu, Zhigang, Hui, Zhu, Heng, Tisja, Isabella, Rebecca, Monique, Lennart, Jeroen, Anette and all the people I might have forgotten - was really inspiring for me. I would like to thanks you all for the discussions we had during our department meeting. We all worked in close collaboration, and always share our research, and tried to improve each other’s projects. Being such a team made us strong, and I will keep really nice memories of our meetings, and of our “Friday afternoon beers”. Working in such a nice environment, with people being supportive, helping you with my research, is one the best working experience of my life.

Living in Yerseke, in such an international institute as NIOZ, gave me the opportunity to meet a lot of people, from all around the world, who, with time, became friends. I would like to thanks all these people, and I can only cite a small part of them. Silvia, Diana, Sven, Michele, Dorina, Laurine, Christine, Cécile, Diego, Clara, Marie, Juliette, Alessia, Yayu, Francesc, Sairah, Greg, Roger, Heiko, Loran, Tadao, Vincent, Henk, Clara, Lara, Jeremy, Michele, Hui, Pablo, James, thanks you all to have made my life better during these 5 years spent together. All the time spent in the guesthouse, all the “international diners”, the Saturday markets in Goes, and all the times we went out together rhythm my life during 5 years. Thanks to a lot of you, I discovered different cultures and I could taste meals from all around the world. And anytime I needed some support, there was someone there for me.

I also would like to thanks the people of the department of Aquatic Ecology, in Nijmegen, who welcomed me during the (very) last part of my PhD, during summer 2016. It was nice to share my experience and to talk about my projects with you guys. It is also nice to hear that mussel restoration is still going on in the Wadden Sea. Ralph, now, it is your mission to “restore the impossible”!

And of course, I would like to thanks all my frenchies friends. Claudie, Emilie, Laure, Chris, Jennifer, Cyril, Coline, Eric et David, ça fait maintenant 10 ans que l’on se connait! Et oui, ça ne nous rajeunie pas! En tout cas, même si on est loin, même si on ne se voit plus autant qu’avant, je voulais vous remercier pour votre présence pendant ces quelques années. Etre une expat, c’est une très belle expérience, mais elle est d’autant plus belle que je sais que vous êtes toujours là. Et maintenant que je suis rentrée au pays, et que j’ai l’esprit un peu plus libre, j’espère que l’on trouvera le temps de se retrouver plus souvent!
Et bien sûr, je remercie la nouvelle bande de copains toulousains, les randonneurs (Manu, Domi, Guillaume, Fred, Claire et ceux croisés lors des sorties hebdomadaires) avec j’ai pu découvrir et partager la montagne, les tradeux (Gwen, Benjamin) qui me font danser jusqu’au bout de la nuit (ok, le plus souvent, jusqu’à la soupe à l’oignon), et les nouveaux collègues (Jennifer, Annie, Christelle, Luc, Pauline, Jérome et Cécile) avec qui je partage les joies et les peines de mon nouveau travail. Grâce à vous, j’ai trouvé la motivation d’avancer et d’enfin finir ma thèse.

At last but not at least, I would like to thanks my family. Claudine et Christianne (mes tatas), merci pour votre soutien pendant cette période à l’étranger, pour toutes les cartes postales reçues, et pour m’avoir rendu visite (pas vrai qu’il est bon, le hareng fumé de Yerseke). Papa, maman, je sais que ça n’a pas été facile pour vous de me voir partir aussi longtemps. Je voulais donc vous remercier de votre patience et de votre soutien pendant ces longues année! Et pour avoir enlevé le plancher de la maison de Yerseke (ce qui n’était pas une mince affaire)! En tout cas, je suis contente que vous soyez venu me voir, et de vous avoir fait découvrir la Belgique et les Pays-Bas! Je vous remercie aussi d’avoir facilité mon retour en France, et ma reconversion professionnelle. Cette fois-ci, c’est bon, j’ai un “vrai travail”! Et Myriam, ma petite sœur! Toujours là en cas de coup dur. Merci d’avoir été là, c’est bon d’avoir quelqu’un sur qui compter. Malgré la distance, on a réussi à ne pas s’éloigner! Vivement que l’on reparte en voyage...
Et bien sûr, je remercie la nouvelle bande de copains toulousains, les randonneurs (Manu, Domi, Guillaume, Fred, Claire et ceux croisés lors des sorties hebdomadaires) avec j'ai pu découvrir et partager la montagne, les tradeux (Gwen, Benjamin) qui me font danser jusqu’au bout de la nuit (ok, le plus souvent, jusqu’à la soupe à l’oignon), et les nouveaux collègues (Jennifer, Annie, Christelle, Luc, Pauline, Jérome et Cécile) avec qui je partage les joies et les peines de mon nouveau travail. Grâce à vous, j’ai trouvé la motivation d’avancer et d’enfin finir ma thèse.

At last but not at least, I would like to thanks my family. Claudine et Christianne (mes tatas), merci pour votre soutien pendant cette période à l’étranger, pour toutes les cartes postales reçues, et pour m’avoir rendu visite (pas vrai qu’il est bon, le hareng fumé de Yerseke). Papa, maman, je sais que ça n’a pas été facile pour vous de me voir partir aussi longtemps. Je voulais donc vous remercie de votre patience et de votre soutien pendant ces longues années! Et pour avoir enlevé le plancher de la maison de Yerseke (ce qui n’était pas une mince affaire)! En tout cas, je suis contente que vous soyez venu me voir, et de vous avoir fait découvrir la Belgique et les Pays-Bas! Je vous remercie aussi d’avoir facilité mon retour en France, et ma reconversion professionnelle. Cette fois-ci, c’est bon, j’ai un “vrai travail”! Et Myriam, ma petite sœur! Toujours là en cas de coup dur. Merci d’avoir été là, c’est bon d’avoir quelqu’un sur qui compter. Malgré la distance, on a réussi à ne pas s’éloigner! Vivement que l’on reparte en voyage…