Density, growth and reproduction of the sea urchin *Anthocidaris crassispina* (A. Agassiz) in two different adjacent habitats, the *Sargassum* area and *Corallina* area

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The sea urchin *Anthocidaris crassispina* (A. Agassiz) is a dominant herbivore on rocky shores in the warm temperate region of Japan. To clarify the relationship between macroalgal community and *A. crassispina* on rocky shores, *A. crassispina* collected in the *Sargassum* area and neighboring *Corallina* area were compared with respect to their density, growth and reproduction. Density of *A. crassispina* was higher in the *Corallina* area than in the *Sargassum* area. *A. crassispina* in the *Sargassum* area reached a larger size and had higher gonad indices than those in the *Corallina* area throughout the year. The annual reproductive cycles were almost the same in the two different habitats. These results indicate that *Sargassum* spp. support better growth and reproduction of *A. crassispina*. 