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Local alkalinity changes in NW Mediterranean following a post-mixing event phytoplankton bloom.

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After a deep mixing event in late winter 2005, a phytoplankton bloom developed in the Medoc area (close to 41° 45' N, 5° 7' E). Water samples were taken in a quasilagrangian design, following the drift of a floating trap anchored at 200 m depth, during EFLUBIO-2 cruise, between March 25 and April 5 2005. The study included an area south of the Nor Balearic Front (NBF) out of the bloom. Stations were occupied early in the morning and in the afternoon. Profile samples of the superficial waters (ca. 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60, 80, 100 m) and also of deep waters (ca. 200, 500, 1000 m) were analysed for dissolved inorganic carbon by the Gran alkalinity titration method. Results showed DIC gradients of 100 μ M over 100 m depth. They are discussed in relation to measured O₂ and pH gradients. These values and the CO₂ to O₂ ratios are evaluated upon the rationale of high CO₂ surface uptake and net community production.