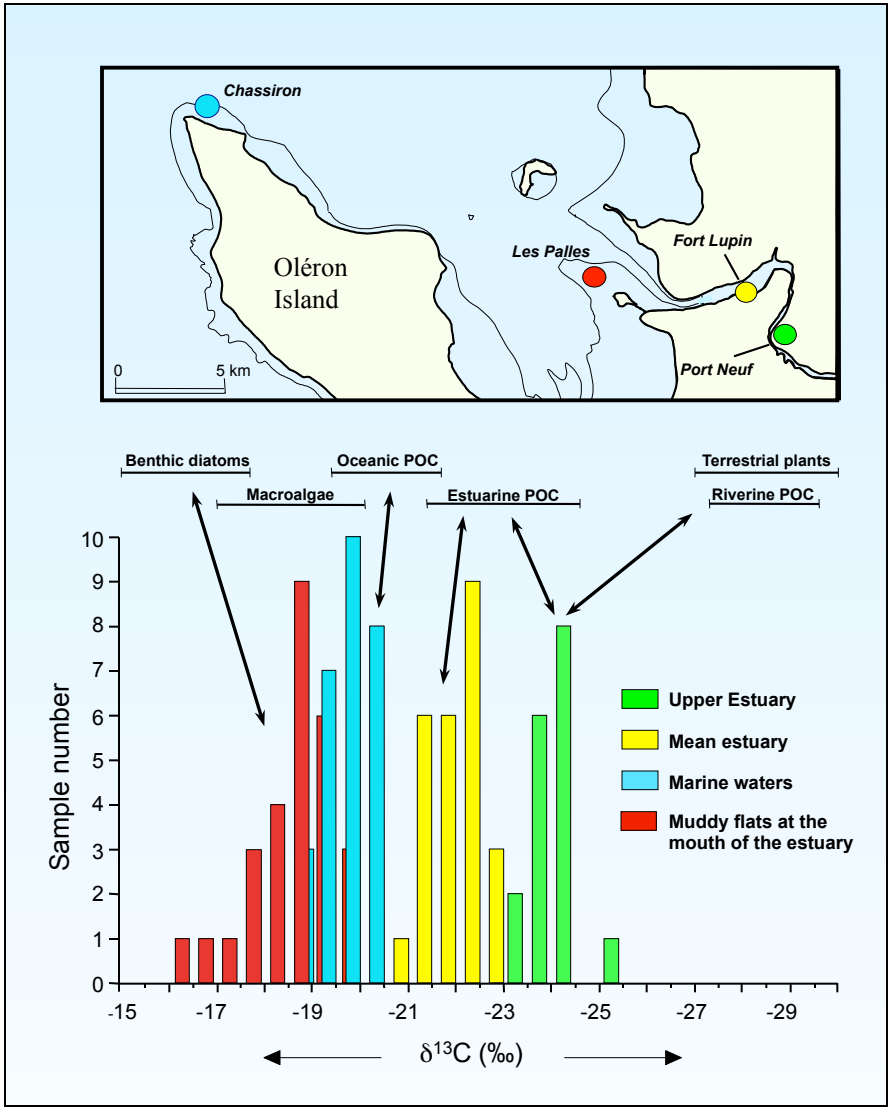

δ^{13}C of Crassostrea gigas oysters and of the trophic resources from land to ocean in Marennes-Oléron bay *(from Riera & Richard, Estuarine, Coastal & Shelf Science, 1996, 42 : 347-360)*

In this work, carbon stable isotope measurements demonstrated for the first time the prominent role of the microphytobenthos (MPB) as trophic resource of oysters, since nitrogen stable isotope data otherwise showed that macroalgae were not significantly contributing to oyster diet.

A same MPB role was later found for most deposit feeders and other suspension feeders, in numerous intertidal muddy or sandy-muddy environments.