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ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION FORM

Abstract

DIVERSITY AND ABUNDANCE OF POLYCHAETES IN SOFT BOTTOM OF CORAL REEFS
IN THE GULF OF THAILAND AND THE ANDAMAN SEA

Thipaksorn, A.*, and Yeemin, T.**

*Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, Kasetsart University, Bangkok 10900, Thailand

**Marine Biodiversity Research Group, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Ramkhamhaeng University, Bangkok 10240, Thailand

Soft bottom is an important part of coral communities and plays vital roles in marine ecosystem. However, only small numbers of publication concerning macrobenthos in soft bottom of coral reef areas. The present paper study diversity, distribution and abundance of polychaetes in soft bottom of certain coral reefs in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea. The dominant polychaetes in the Gulf of Thailand were in families Orbiniidae, Spionidae, Ophelidae, Glyceridae, Sternaspidae, Capitellidae and Nepthyidae. The abundance polychaete groups in the Andaman Sea were in families Maldanidae, Capitellidae, Spionidae, Ophelidae, Orbiniidae and Lumbrineridae. Population densities of polychaetes were much spatial and temporal variation. There were some polychaete species found in a large number at certain coral reef sites. Some species of polychaete have high potential for food source of juvenile marine animals. The present study provides basic information of polychaete diversity that could be a reference for future coral reef impact assessment.

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