REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY OF *PLEUROPLOCA TRAPEZIUM* LINNAEUS
(NEOGASTROPODA : FASCIOLARIIDAE)

By C. Raghunathan and K. Ayyakkannu

*Centre of Advanced Study in Marine Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipet, 608502, India*

**ABSTRACT**

The marine prosobranch gastropod *Pleuroloca trapezium* was collected randomly in Gulf of Mannar, southeast coast of India over a period of 12 months. The sex ratio was 1:1 (M:F) during April, June & November while females were slightly higher in number in all other months. The maximum gonad length in males (15.7 cm) and females (16.2 cm) were observed in March whereas the maximum was 6.0 cm in males and 7.2 cm in females and they were found in June. The calculated gonad indices were maximum in males (280%) and females (320%) during March and minimum in males, 0.68% females, 0.78% in July. Though spawning was noticed from January to February, peak spawning was in March. Egg capsules were collected between January and April. The morphology of capsules is described.