

**LONG TERM STUDY ON FOOD CONSUMPTION AND GROWTH RATE OF
BABYLONIA SPIRATA (NEOGASTROPODA:BUCCINIDAE)**

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ABSTRACT

Babylonia spirata was studied for 10 months. Twelve young snails were fed with the clam *Meretrix meretrix* throughout the experiment. Total length, total width, and total weight of the snails were measured every 60 days. The amount of fresh clam-meat was weighed daily to calculate the consumption. Shell length increased from 2.95-3.00 cm to 3.55-3.86 cm with gradual increments. Total weight increased from 6.4-7.8 g to 11.1-14.1 g. The average consumption of food increased from 0.51 g/day to 1.93 g/day during the initial and final 60 days periods of the experiment.