

**MASS CULTURE OF *CHICOREUS RAMOSUS* (L., 1758)  
(GASTROPODA : MURICIDAE)**

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**ABSTRACT**

Mass culture of the giant muricid snail *Chicoreus ramosus* was performed at Prachuap Khiri Khan Coastal Aquaculture Development Center using egg capsules collected from nature as well as from spawning in broodstock holding tanks. Larval development, growth and survival rates of the larvae and juveniles from different sources of eggs were studied. Veliger larvae began metamorphosis on the third week, with a survival rate ranging from 1.75 to 99.5 % from hatching. The average rate of survival from settlement to 2 months old juveniles was 5.12 %, and the size ranged between 1.3-10.9 mm. High mortality occurred after settlement due to heavy cannibalism. From several thousand egg capsules collected from September 1992 to January 1993, approximately 50,000 juveniles of 5-10 mm shell length have been produced. Provided with flowing sea water and sufficient food, juveniles reared in concrete raceways could attain the maximum size of 2.84, 10.9, 40.1, 77.0, and 100.0 mm shell length at the ages of 1, 2, 4, 7, and 12 months old, respectively. Culture techniques leading to a successful mass production of the juveniles are described.