

ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS AND MARKETING OF DOG CONCH *STROMBUS CANARIUM* LINNE, 1758 AT BINTAN ISLAND, SUMATRA, INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

Size distribution, gut content analysis, and marketing of dog conch were studied from February to July 1994. Dog conchs measuring 12-82mm in length were distributed along the intertidal zone. Conch density was higher ($P < 0.05$) within the lower intertidal than in the mid intertidal. Conchs measuring > 34 mm in total length were only found in the mid and high intertidal while all sizes were encountered in the low intertidal. Sex ratio of male to female was 1:2. Males were usually bigger than females. Gut content consisted of algae, seagrass, and deposited plankton. Based on field observation and personal communication, the marketing chain of the dog conch were: (1) Fishermen to consumer directly (2) Fishermen-restaurant-consumer (3) Fishermen-collector-export (to Singapore) or retailer-consumer.