

CHEMORECEPTION IN THE BUCCINID GASTROPODS, *BABYLONIA ZEYLONICA* AND *BABYLONIA SPIRATA* (NEOGASTROPODA: BUCCINIDA E)

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ABSTRACT

The proboscis search reaction in *Haliotis erylonica* and *Babylonia spirata* was determined using biological extracts, organic and inorganic compounds. Twenty snails were used for each test. Extracts of six species of marine animals were tested: oyster *Crassostrea madrasensis*, clam *Mererrix mererrix*, squid *Loligo* sp., shrimp *Penaeus indicus*, crab *Portunus pelliculus* and fish *Lecognathus* sp. Seven organic compounds were tested: egg albumin flake, sucrose, maltose, dextrose, lactose, starch and glycogen. The responses to 3 acids, 3 bases, and 10 salts were tested. Positive responses were obtained with extracts of *C. madrasensis*, *P. indicus*, *H. mererrix*, pure protein, carbohydrates and salts, while escape responses were recorded with acids and bases.