

## **CULTURE OF COCKLE, *ANADARA* SPP., ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTHERN THAILAND**

**By Sanchai Tandanavanitj**

*Phuket Marine Biological Center, Phuket P. O. Box 60, Phuket 83000, Thailand*

### **ABSTRACT**

During 1976-79, there was only one large area of cockle farming in Satun Province near the Thai-Malaysian border. Later, 1979-81, cockle seeds of *Anadara granosa* L., 1758 were transplanted further north from Malaysia to Trang, Phang-nga and Ranong on the west coast of Thailand. However, only minor recruitment was observed from the transplanted stocks. Apparently, the larvae were carried offshore, or they settled in unsuitable habitats, or they were transported by south going currents and settled in Malaysia. Suitable habitats are rare along the Andaman Sea coast of southern Thailand which is devoid of coherent muddy habitats. In 1985, spat of *Anadara nodifera* was transplanted from the Gulf of Thailand (Petchaburi Province) to the Andaman Sea (Phang-nga Bay). But culture was not satisfactory. The mortality was high and there was little recruitment.