

GROWTH AND MORTALITY OF *LITTORARIA PALLESCENS*,
WITH EMPHASIS ON TWO COLOUR MORPHS,
IN NORTHERN SULAWESI, INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

Growth and mortality of dark and yellow colour morphs of *Littoraria pallescens* (Philippi, 1846) were studied at Bunaken Island, northern Sulawesi, Indonesia. The dark morph grew faster ($k = 2.536$), than the yellow ($k = 0.624$), though the latter grew to a larger size ($L_{\infty} = 21.367$) than the dark morph ($L_{\infty} = 14.231$). The dark morph had a higher instantaneous rate of mortality ($Z = -0.490$) than the yellow ($Z = -3.340$). It is speculated that the dark shell colour is selected for by biological pressure (e.g., predation), and the yellow morph by physical stress (e.g., desiccation).