

MOLLUSC CULTURE SYSTEM AND ENVIRONMENTAL
CONDITIONS IN CAN GIO DISTRICT, HO CHI MINH CITY,
VIETNAM.

Nguyen Nhu Tri¹ and Chang Kwei Lin²

¹Department of Fisheries, College of Agriculture and Forestry.

Thu Due district, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

²Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management Program, Asian Institute of
Technology, PO.Box 4 Klang Luang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand.

ABSTRACT

Environmental conditions and current culture systems of the clams *Meretrix lyrata* Sowerby and blood cockle *Anadara granosa* Linnaeus were studied. The sea bed (sand and mud), which can be used to culture clam and blood cockle constitute 1,386 and 717 hectares respectively in the Can Gio district. This study was based on 2 farms for clam and 3 farms for blood cockle. Samples of clam, cockle, water and substrate of culture beds were collected and analysed monthly to determine the growth rate in relation to environmental conditions at the farms. The growth rates of clams were not significantly different during the study, although the soil texture of these two farms was significantly different. Growth rates of blood cockle were significantly different except in one case. The growth rate of blood cockle might be related to the clay and organic matter contents of the culture beds. In economic terms, very good return was gained from molluscs farming. Profits per hectare per year were 1,439 and 2,519 US\$, and profit margins were 59.8% and 40.8% for clam and blood cockle respectively.