

SUSPENDED CULTURE OF THE NOBLE SCALLOP (*CHLAMYS NOBILIS*, REEVE 1852) IN VUNG RO, CENTRAL VIETNAM

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ABSTRACT

Cultured spat of scallop (1 month old, mean height 1.5 ± 0.03 mm) were transferred from collectors in the laboratory to pearl oyster nets suspended at 2-8 m depth. Shell growth, plankton, temperature and salinity were monitored each month at the experimental site. After one year, the scallops had an average shell height of 52.7 ± 1.1 mm. After 1.5 years, the height was 70.1 ± 4.2 mm. The growth rate (%) was maximal in the first three months, but it gradually decreased as the scallops grew older. Cultivation density and the depth of the hanging cages affected scallop growth. The feasibility of cultivating *Chlamys nobilis* in Vung Ro is discussed.