

PRELIMINARY STUDIES ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOME
BIVALVES IN THE COASTAL WATERS OF SOUTH VIETNAM

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There are two centres of bivalve distribution in the coastal waters of South Vietnam: the south central sublittoral and the far south littoral areas. Strong upwelling influences the first area and the second one is in the estuary of the Mekong river. Distribution characteristics of the bivalves *Meretrix lyrata*, *Anadara antiquata*, *A. granosa*, and *Modiolus philppinarum* are discussed in the relation to the environmental conditions: depth, current, salinity, grain size and nutrient concentration in the sediment.