

GROWTH AND SURVIVAL IN THE MANGROVE SNAIL  
*LITTORARIA INTERMEDIA* (PHILIPPI, 1846)

Peter Daugbjerg Jensen<sup>1</sup>, Jens Tang Christensen<sup>1</sup> & Donald J. Macintosh<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Marine Ecology, Institute of Biological Sciences, The University of Aarhus,  
Finlandsgade 14, DK-8200 Aarhus N; <sup>2</sup>Centre for Tropical Ecosystems

Research, Dept. of Ecology and Genetics, Institute of Biological Sciences,  
The University of Aarhus, Ny Munkegade, DK-8000 Aarhus C.

ABSTRACT

Growth of *Littoraria intermedia* was measured during a 42-day interval and a Gompertz curve fitted to the data. The growth was found to be rapid though highly variable among individuals. An average snail reached 95% of the asymptotic size of 11.69 mm in 26 weeks. Significantly more small than large individuals were lost during the study period. It is speculated that the loss of small individuals is due to predation. Examination of 46 shells for scars indicates that the predation could be from shell-crushing crabs.