

ABSTRACT

A training course and workshop was organized by Phuket Marine Biological Center in co-operation with DANIDA during 23-28 January 1984. The course was attended by 54 participants from the Department of Fisheries and Universities of Thailand. The programme encompassed lectures on bivalve taxonomy and biology, laboratory work on description and identification of adult and larval bivalves, field collections, and discussions on existing problems within the scope of the course.

The course demonstrated the need for much more taxonomic and biological research in Thailand. This applies to both commercially exploited groups and to groups which are presently not commercially exploited, but are of importance in general ecological studies, and for a better understanding of the marine and brackish water ecosystems. Expertise in this field found in other countries will only rather slowly help to solve the problems which are found in Thailand and therefore it seems urgent to develop and train such expertise in this country. This conclusion was arrived at by the participants at the end of the course.