

RE-ATTACHMENT OF CORAL FRAGMENTS USING SPECIAL CEMENT IN A NON-REEFAL CORAL COMMUNITY IN THE INNER GULF OF THAILAND By Thamasak Yeemin<sup>1</sup> and Suraphol Chunabundit<sup>2</sup>: <sup>1</sup>Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Ramkhamhaeng University, Huamark, Bangkok 10240, THAILAND, <sup>2</sup>Aquatic Resources Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 10330, THAILAND:-Fragmentation is a significant process of asexual reproduction in many scleractinian corals, especially branching corals. Fragments of scleractinian corals in a non-reefal coral community at Khang Khaø Island, Inner Gulf of Thailand were surveyed. Fragments of branching *Acropora* and *Goniopora*, massive *Porites lutea* and faviid corals were frequently observed. Intensive grazing activities of *Diadema setosum* and many coral borers accelerated the fragmentation process, and many fragments of massive corals were observed to be partially dead and buried. However, many fragments were also suitable for reattachment. A special underwater cement, water proof plug, was used for reattaching coral fragments on hard substrata. A pilot study revealed that the type and size of coral fragments, and habitat types were important factors determining the success of reattaching coral fragments. The method used in the present study may be applied in certain areas in order to rehabilitate coral communities and facilitate coral reef development.