

**DISTRIBUTION AND YIELD OF COMMERCIAL  
GASTROPODS AND BIVALVES (MOLLUSCA)  
IN COASTAL WATERS OF VIETNAM**

Nguyen Huu Phung  
*Institute of Oceanography, Nha Trang, Vietnam*

**ABSTRACT**

Material for this study was collected along the coast of Vietnam from 1992-94 and supplemented with recent data. The total yield of commercial Gastropoda and Bivalvia from Vietnam has been estimated to be at 300,000-350,000 tons/year. The following species dominated: In Northern Vietnam, *Meretrix meretrix* was abundant at the Red River mouth (along Thainghien, Namdinh, Thanhhoa provinces); yield: 26,000-30,000 tons/year. In waters from Quangninh to Thuathien-Hue provinces, landings of *Ostrea rivularis* Gould were 10,000-12,000 t/yr, *Cyclina sinensis* (Gmelin) and *Dosinia laminata* (Reeve): 6,000-6,500 t/yr, *Aloides laevis* (Hinds): 130,000-150,000 t/yr, and *Corbicula subsulcata* Clessin: 600-1,000 t/yr. In Central Vietnam: The species composition of commercial molluscs is very diverse from Danang city to Ninhthuan provinces, but the yield from this area did not reach 100 t/yr. In Binhthuan province (a very special area) many important species were observed: *Chlamys nobilis* (Reeve): 15,000- 20,000 t/yr, *Anadara antiquata* (Linnaeus): 20,000-25,000 t/yr, *Modiolus philippinarum* Hanley: 3,500-4,000 t/yr, *Arca navicularis* Bruguiere: 1,000-1,200 t/yr, and *Babylonia areolata* (Link): 1,000-1,500 t/yr. In Southern Vietnam: On the east coast (Tiengiang, Bentre, Travinh provinces) *Meretrix lyrata* (Sowerby) was the most abundant commercial species; yield 54,000-61,000 t/yr. On the west coast (Camau and Kiengiang provinces) *Anadara granosa* (L.) and some other species were harvested in quantities at Kienhai and Phuquoc Islands. *Paphia textilis* (Gmelin) is a new commercial species in Vietnam. The yields were 20,000 t/yr (1996) and 15,000 t/yr (1997).