

**CEMENT POLE CULTURE OF OYSTER (**  
**CRASSOSTREABELCHERI )**  
**USING VARIOUS SIZES OF HATCHERY-PRODUCED SPAT.**

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Hatchery produced oyster spat were graded into three sizes: Large, medium and small spat on average  $5.0 \pm 0.2$ ,  $3.7 \pm 0.0$  and  $3.2 \pm 0.1$  cm in shell length, and  $4.4 \pm 0.5$ ,  $3.3 \pm 0.2$  and  $2.8 \pm 0.0$  cm in shell width respectively. Each size class was attached to 6 cement poles, 15 spat per pole. They were placed on a mud flat in Khoa Yoa Bay. Growth and survival of oyster and water quality parameters were determined monthly throughout the culture period. After 12 months of culture the size of the large, medium and small oysters were  $6.5 \pm 0.3$ ,  $6.5 \pm 0.1$  and  $6.3 \pm 0.3$  cm in length and  $5.8 \pm 0.4$ ,  $5.7 \pm 0.2$  and  $5.2 \pm 0.1$  cm in width respectively. The growth increments were 1.5, 2.7 and 3.0 cm in length and 1.4, 2.4 and 2.4 cm in width respectively. Survival rates were 35.8, 41.6 and 34.9 % respectively. It is concluded that small size hatchery-produced oyster spat can be cultured on cement pole with highest shell growth increment. Low survival was found in all size groups due to the detaching of the spat from the pole because they had too limited shell surface cemented to the pole. Environmental conditions in the culture area were temperature 26-34 °C, pH 7.1-8.2, Oxygen 3.2-8.2 mg/L, Turbidity 65-195 cm. Plankton of 52 species were found, the most abundant group was diatoms.