

**GIANT CLAMS IN THE ANDAMAN SEA, THAILAND. PART 2:
DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE AT ADANG, BITSI,
HIN-NGAM, LIPE, AND TALANG ISLANDS**

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ABSTRACT

Giant clam *Tridacna crocea*, *T. maxima* and *T. squamosa* were studied at eleven stations around the islands of Adang, Bitsi, Hin-ngam, Lipe, and Ta Lang Island in 1998. Giant clams were most abundant on the East Side of Adang Island. *T. crocea* and *T. maxima* were common in all stations and both species were more abundant on the reef flat than on the reef slope. The *T. squamosa* were found in low numbers at some stations and there were no differences in density between reef flat and reef slope. The ranges of shell length of *T. crocea* and *T. maxima* were 0.7 to 15 cm and 1 to 34 cm respectively. Both species were found from the littoral zone to 10 m depth. Large individuals of *T. maxima* were more common on the reef slope than on the reef flat. Shell lengths of *T. squamosa* ranged from 12 to 38 cm. The smaller clams were always found in shallow water, while the larger clams occurred in deeper water.