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**SCOPE FOR GROWTH OF *PERNA VIRIDIS* AS A MEASUREMENT OF  
POLLUTION EFFECTS IN PHUKET HARBOUR, THAILAND**

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**ABSTRACT**

Mussels (*Perna viridis*) were transplanted to two sites (Phuket Harbour - polluted; Jetty of the Phuket Marine Biological Center - reference) for a period of 6 days. The mean scope for growth of mussels from Phuket Harbour was positive but significantly reduced (c. 50%) compared to the reference site. This was due to the inhibition of clearance (= feeding) rate (c. 30% reduction). In addition, the workshop demonstrated that the scope for growth technique could be readily applied to indigenous tropical bivalve species, adapted to prevailing laboratory conditions and acquired and applied by regional research scientists during the time scale of a training workshop.