

GENETIC VARIATION IN POPULATIONS OF WHITE SCAR (*CRASSOSTREA BELCHERI*) AND BLACK SCAR OYSTERS (*C. IREDALEI*) ALONG THE COAST OF THAILAND BY MEANS OF ISOZYMES

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ABSTRACT: A total of 229 individuals from eight populations of cultured and natural white scar oysters (*Crassostrea belcheri*), and a total of 255 individuals from ten populations of black scar oysters (*Crassostrea iredalei*), were sampled along the coast of Thailand and Malaysia. Analysis of nine enzymes using adductor muscle tissue gave a total of twelve loci in the white scar oyster and seven loci in the black scar oyster. No clear regional differentiation was found for the oysters, which might result from the large exchange of cultured oysters across Thailand for aquaculture. The lack of differentiation of the Malaysian sample was also thought to reflect the exchange of oysters for aquaculture between the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea. One enzyme provided variation that was diagnostic for the two species.
