OBSERVATIONS OF CORAL DISEASE IN *PORITES LUTEA* IN THE ANDAMAN SEA FOLLOWING THE 2010 BLEACHING

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**ABSTRACT:** During 2008 - 2009 preliminary surveys on coral disease were conducted at 40 stations from 18 islands throughout the Andaman Sea along the coast of Thailand. The belt transect method was employed to quantify the occurrence of coral diseases. The data indicated that 90% of the surveyed reefs showed 5 categories of disease, *i.e.*, White Syndrome (WS), Ulcerative White Spot (UWS), Focal Bleaching (FB), Non-Focal Bleaching (NFB) and Pink Spot (PS). The PS was the most prevalent syndrome, *i.e.*, it occurred in about 95% of sites visited. Other categories were rare. After the bleaching event in 2010, especially in some areas of Similan Islands and Surin Islands, the UWS syndrome on *Porites lutea* appeared to have increased. In addition, the PS was still the most prevalent disease.