

**Types of Parasites in the Manila clam, *Ruditapes philippinarum* From  
Shi-Heung Ri on the West Coast of Jeju, Korea**

\*Thao T.T. Ngo, Gwang-Jong Ko and Kwang-Sik Choi

School of Applied Marine Sciences, Cheju National University  
1 Ara 1 Dong, Cheju, 690-756, Korea

Parasitic organisms in the Manila clam *Ruditapes philippinarum* were investigated from May 2001 to April 2002 from a population of clam inhabiting intertidal zone of Shi-Heung Ri on the west coast of Jeju. *Perkinsus atlanticus* and *Cecaria tapidis* were the two main parasites that occurred frequently among the clams. Occurrence of *P. atlanticus* varied seasonally with lowest level in late September 2001 (6.0%) and highest infection level in March 2002 (86.0%). A positive correlation was found between the prevalence and infection intensity ( $P < 0.05$ ). *P. atlanticus* infection exerted a certain level of stress to the infected clams resulting in hemocyte infiltration and reduce condition index. For the first time, *C. tapidis* a trematod parasite was detected from Manila clam in Jeju. *C. tapides* occurred year around among the clams although their prevalence did not show an obvious seasonal pattern. Main target tissue of the clam was ovary and some heavily infected clam with *C. tapides* exhibited degenerated oocytes or sometimes the follicles are completely vacant. Our data indicated that high level of *C. tapides* infection could reduce the fecundity of female clams.