

Kyodo-Seminar

Biodiversity of Fish Parasites and Jellyfish in Malaysia



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Fish Parasites: Copepods and isopods parasitic on commercially important edible marine fishes are common. Several wild marine fishes and cultured fishes at Kota Kinabalu, Sabah were screened for the infestation of parasites. The major infested parasites were copepods, isopods and leech. Some parasitic copepods collected from wild fishes are *Caligus*, *Lernanthropus*, *Norion*, *Hatschekia* and *Nothobomolochus*. Most of the wild fishes are harbored with copepod parasites which are new record to Malaysia. Prevalence and mean intensity were high. Summer season were found with more number of copepods. From the cultured fishes especially from hybrid grouper, in addition to caligids, leech was found in high number and cause a serious lesions on fishes and end up with mortality of hosts. The infestation of leech occurred during high water temperature. We try to formulate a biological control method using medicinal plant. Some wild and cultured fishes were also found with high number of isopods (Cymothoidae) such as *Cymothoa epimerica* and *Nerocila sunandaica* from hybrid grouper; *C. indica* from John's snapper. Overall, high temperature causing the increase in number of parasites.

Jellyfish Biodiversity: In Sabah, the months coinciding with the dry season are often associated with an increase in jellyfish populations in the coastal areas of the state. Information on cubozoan jellyfish in Malaysia is scarce, and records of envenomation incidents involving them even scarcer. Recently, jellyfish and associated fauna were collected. They were identified as: *Malo* sp. *Chironex yamaguchii*, and *Chironex* sp. In addition, we found other jellyfish such as *Acromitus flagellatus*, *Anomalorhiza shawi*, *Aurilia* sp., *Catostylus townsendi*, *Lobonemoides robustus* and *Mastigia papua*. Jellyfish feeding and its ecology are focused research in near future.



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