

SNAILS AND TREMATODE INFECTION AFTER INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI IN PHANG-NGA PROVINCE, SOUTHERN THAILAND

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Abstract. The tsunami and non-tsunami affected areas of Takua Pa District, Phang-Nga Province were investigated for fresh- and brackish-water snails that transmit human parasitic diseases during 2006 and 2007. Among 46 snail species found, 17 species of 8 families were freshwater snails, 28 species of another 7 families were brackish-water snails, and 1 species was a land snail. Of these species, 11 freshwater snails, 4 brackish-water snails and 1 land snail were of medical importance. The fresh-water snails were *Pomacea canaliculata*, *Pila angelica*, *P. gracilis*, *P. polita*, *Filopaludina* (S.) *martensi*, *F. (F.) s. polygramma*, *Melanoides tuberculata*, *Indoplanorbis exustus*, *Radix rubiginosa*, *Helicorbis umbilicalis*, *Gyraulus convexiusculus*. Four brackish-water snails were *Cerithidea cingulata*, *C. djadjarensis*, *C. alata*, *Sermyla riqueti* and *Achatina fulica* was the land snail. *I. exustus*, *M. tuberculata* and *F. (F.) s. polygramma* harbored Xiphidio, Microcercus, Furocercus, Echinostome cercariae, and cercaria without eyespots or tail with hair. Three species of brackish-water snails, *Cerithidia cingulata*, *C. djadjariensis*, and *C. alata* presented with 6 types of trematode cercariae and rediae. Knowledge of medically important snails and their parasitic diseases, and prevention were given to Takua Pa people by poster, pamphlets and broadcasting through community radio.

Key words: tsunami, snails, trematode infection

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