

Population characteristics, length-weight and length-length relationships of *Acetes vulgaris* (decapoda: Sergestidae) of the Coastal waters of Pontian, Johore, Peninsular Malaysia

ABSTRACT

The population structure, length-weight and length-length relationships of *Acetes vulgaris* were examined based on 1141 specimens collected in the months of June and July 2006 from Pontian, Johor Bahru. The morphological characteristics of *A. vulgaris* were examined and the result was found to be similar when compared with the previous research. Mean length of males was 23.18 ± 2.95 mm while for females was 23.91 ± 3.53 mm. The range of total length for the males and females was 14.00-33.00 and 13.00-32.00 mm, respectively. The relationship between the total length and body weight of *A. vulgaris* was $W = 0.0178L^{2.6368}$ ($r^2 = 0.829$) for males and $W = 0.0082L^{2.9144}$ ($r^2 = 0.902$) for females. The carapace length and total length, relationship for males and females were $CL = 4.1844TL + 2.3983$ ($r^2 = 0.732$) and $CL = 4.0872TL + 1.8879$ ($r^2 = 0.732$), respectively. The sex ratio of female to male was found to be at 1: 3.27 with the number of males exceeded that of the females.

Keyword: Population structure; Sex ratio; *Acetes vulgaris*