

Species description and distribution of *Strombus* (Mollusca: Strombidae) in Johor Straits and its surrounding areas

ABSTRACT

A total of 230 individuals of *Strombus* were sampled at various locations along the Johor Straits, Malaysia. Four species of *Strombus* were present in the study areas i.e. *Strombus canarium* Linnaeus, 1758; *Strombus urceus* Linnaeus, 1758; *Strombus marginatus* subspecies *succinctus* Linnaeus, 1767; *Strombus marginatus* subspecies *robustus* Sowerby, 1874; and *Strombus vittatus*, subspecies *vittatus* Linnaeus, 1758. *Strombus canarium* was the most common, widely distributed and most abundant, followed by *S. urceus*, while the others were only rarely found. Among the species sampled, *Strombus marginatus* and *Strombus vittatus* were two new distribution records for the Johor Straits. Since all *Strombus* were traditionally harvested and consumed by the locals since long ago, further studies are needed particularly regarding the population dynamics and fishery of the harvested species.

Keyword: Conch; Distribution; Johor Straits; Strombidae; Taxonomy