

Abstract

An initial study on the cover of some species of calcified marine algae in coral reefs at Haivan – Soncha areas in the center of Vietnam

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Calcified algae are a group of species with calcification on their cell walls. Together with other species such as corals, mollusks, and crustaceans, these species play a very important role in the shaping, development and protection of coral reefs.

Hai Van – Son Cha areas located in Thua Thien – Hue province (in the center of Vietnam). They are extending from Tu Hien rive mouth (in the north) to Lien Chieu (in the south) and Son Cha island. Hai Van – Son Cha areas are located in contiguous area of monsoon tropical (of the north) and tropical zone (of the southern).

This paper presents the results of two field surveys in 2003, 2004 (seven sites at the south of Hai Van cape and Son Cha Island) and the result in the reports (since 1992 to 2002) was showed that at Hai Van – Son Cha areas were have recorded 13 species of calcified marine algae. They are belonging to two phyla (*Rhodophytes* and *Chlorophytes*). Among them, eleven species are classified in *Rhodophytes* (comprising 84.6 % of total species); two species in *Chlorophytes* (15.4%).

The characteristics of the geographical distribution of calcified marine algae at sites of Hai Van – Son Cha areas were dissimilar. The number of species at different sites varies from 1 (site N6) species to 14 species (site N3) and average value of species is 5.4 sp.

The homogenous coefficient index of marine algae at different sites ranges from 0.00 (site number N1 and N7; N1 & N6; N1 & N2) to 0.36 (site number N3 and N4), and average value is 0,16

At Hai Van – Son Cha areas, 18 species time of 4 species time were collected in the littoral zone (22.3 %) and 14 species time (77.7 %) in sub-littoral zone.

Among the 13 calcified marine algae species, one was found at six sites; eight one at three sites; three one at three sites and one at one site.

The cover of calcified marine algae ranged from 6% (sites number N2) to 18% (sites number N6) and average cover was 14.6%.