

**Growth, mortality and yield-per-recruit of sergestid shrimp, *Acetes intermedius omori*, 1975 (Decapoda: Sergestidae) from length frequency analysis in the coastal waters of Malacca, Peninsular Malaysia**

ABSTRACT

Estimates of growth, mortality and relative yield per recruit of the sergestid shrimp, *A. intermedius* in the coastal waters of Malacca, Peninsular Malaysia were obtained from the monthly length-frequency data. The vonBertalanffy growth function (VBGF) estimates were:  $L_{\infty} = 34.65$  mm total length;  $K = 1.5$  yr<sup>-1</sup> and  $t_0 = -0.1004$  years. Natural mortality rate ( $M$ ) was 1.5 yr<sup>-1</sup>. Total mortality coefficient ( $Z$ ) was estimated as 4.15 yr<sup>-1</sup> and the exploitation ratio ( $E = F/Z$ ) was 0.43. The recruitment pattern was continuous throughout the year with one major peak. The relative yield per recruit analysis predicted the maximum allowable limit of exploitation ( $E_{max}$ ) = 0.65. The current exploitation rate  $E$  is less than the predicted  $E_{max}$ . Thus, the stock of *A. intermedius* was found to be below optimum fishing pressure ( $E < 0.50$ ) in the coastal waters of Malacca, Peninsular Malaysia.

**Keyword:** Growth; Mortality; Recruitment; *Acetes intermedius*; Malaysia