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 von Bertalanffy growth function (VBGF) estimates were: \( L !_0 = 34.65 \) mm total length; \( K = 1.5 \) yr\(^{-1} \) and \( t_0 = -0.1004 \) years. Natural mortality rate (\( M \)) was 1.5 yr\(^{-1} \). Total mortality coefficient (\( Z \)) was estimated as 4.15 yr\(^{-1} \) 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 (\( E_{\text{max}} \)) = 0.65. The current exploitation rate \( E \) is less than the predicted \( E_{\text{max}} \). 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