

STONY CORALS (COELENTERATA: SCLERACTINIA) FROM THE WEST COAST OF THAILAND

By HANS DITLEV

Phuket Marine Biological Center, Phuket, Thailand

ABSTRACT

One hundred eighty three species of Scleractinia (two of them not identified) belonging to 65 genera (with 75 subgenera) in 17 families were found along the west coast of Thailand.

Their distribution within this area is discussed. Results shows that the coral diversity is high on this eastern Indian Ocean fringe.

The literature on coral diversity in the central part of the Indo-Pacific is discussed, and it is concluded that within this area there is a continuous distribution of coral genera, with the exception of 3 genera, which are found only west of the Bay of Bengal and 9 genera found only on the east side of this bay.