

CORAL ASSEMBLAGES OF INTERTIDAL REEF FLATS AT KO PHUKET; THAILAND

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CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	1
I INTRODUCTION	1
II MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	1
STUDY SITE AND LOCATION OF TRANSECTS	1
SEDIMENT SAMPLING	3
III RESULTS.....	3
IV DISCUSSION	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	9
REFERENCES	10

ABSTRACT

The coral assemblages of intertidal reef flats surrounding the southeast corner of Ko Phuket, Thailand are described in terms of their diversity, coral cover and species dominance. Differences observed between reef flats are discussed with respect to the influence of the reversing monsoon and resultant wave energies impinging on the reefs. Sediment characteristics (mean grain size, sorting) of reef flat sediments support the exposure ranking of the reefs which is reflected in the dominance of certain coral species at each site.