



**THE ABUNDANCE OF *Rumphella sp.* (FALSE BLACK CORAL) IN  
CORRELATION WITH THE PHYSICO-CHEMICAL  
PROPERTIES OF MARINE WATER IN  
MATABUNGKAY BEACH,  
BATANGAS.**

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### ABSTRACT

This study investigated the abundance of black coral species in correlation with the physicochemical characteristics of marine water in Matabungkay Beach, Batangas. The black coral species identified was *Rumphella sp.* The black coral species was found to be abundant in the first station with a relative abundance of 41.7%, and the station with least abundant station was the second station with a relative abundance of 25% of the total relative abundance, with a relative frequency of 12 colonies. The physicochemical parameters had almost all positive correlation except for nitrite and nitrate while ammonia and phosphate had negative or negligible correlation. There was very small positive correlation between the abundance with pH and conductivity while very small negative correlation with the abundance with calcium. There was moderately small positive correlation of the abundance with water temperature and salinity while moderately negative correlation of the abundance with hardness and air temperature. There was high positive correlation between the abundance with TDS but high negative correlation between the abundance with DO and transparency.



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