

**Taxonomic Survey, Relative Abundance and Distribution of
Marine Gastropod Shells in Lipata, Alen, Samar**

080800

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ABSTRACT

NAME OF INSTITUTION : De La Salle University - Dasmariñas

ADDRESS : Bagong Bayan, Dasmariñas, Cavite

TITLE : Taxonomic Survey, Relative Abundance and Distribution of Marine

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**GENERAL :**

The objects of this study was to collect, identify, and classify according to shell morphology and describe the marine gastropod shells found at Lipata, Alen, Samar.

SPECIFIC :

- 1.) What particular species of gastropod shell were found in Lipata beach ?
- 2.) What particular gastropod shell was the most abundant in Lipata beach ?

And conversely, what particular gastropod shell was least abundant ?

- 3.) Which was the most widely distributed gastropod in Lipata beach ?

And conversely, which is the least distributed gastropod ?

SCOPE AND COVERAGE :

The study involved the collection, identification and description of marine gastropod shells in Lipata, Alen, Samar. The relative abundance and distribution of

these gastropods were also determined. The collection was done on the months of March and April 1996. Classification were made up to the species level. The study was limited to Lipata beach covering a stretch of about 50 meters from the shoreline.

METHODOLOGY :

Research Design

This taxonomical survey involved the collection, relative abundance, distribution, description, and identification of marine gastropods in Lipata beach, Alen, Samar.

Research Setting

The gastropods in this study were collected from Lipata, Alen, Samar. Identification of the collected specimens was done at Lipata beach.

Research Procedure

Determination of Sampling Sectors

The Lipata beach was divided into 30 sectors. 15 sectors were placed on the first transect line. Another 15 sectors were placed on the second transect line. Each sector had a 10 meter horizontal distance from each other.

Preparation and Storage

Those dead and empty snails and shells collected were cleaned with the use of the brush and tap water. They were then dried under the sun. Live specimens, however, were killed with the use of isopropyl alcohol.

Data-Gathering Tool

Shells were collected from the quadrants in the transect through the use of bamboo forceps, baskets, pails, pocket knives, shovel and strainers.

MAJOR FINDINGS :

A total of 204 univalves were collected, representing 33 species belonging to 13 families. There are 55 families under Class Gastropoda but only 13 of these have representatives in the area under study and these were: Trochidae, Turbinidae, Neritidae, Cerithiidae, Strombidae, Cypraeidae, Muricidae, Columbidae, Buccinidae, Vasidae, Mitridae, Conidae, and Bullidae.

CONCLUSIONS :

The study done at Lipata beach, Alen, Samar had the following findings:

- a.) 13 out of the 55 families under Class Gastropoda were obtained.
- b.) 33 species of gastropods from the 204 univalves collected were accounted for. This was how diverse in gastropods Lipata beach was as of 1996.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

Weather played an important influencing factor during the course of shell collection. For experiments concerning density and distribution reliable data can be obtained if collections are to be done during fair weather.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE-----	1
ABSTRACT-----	2
APPROVAL SHEET-----	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-----	6
TABLE OF CONTENTS-----	7
CHAPTER	
I. THE PROBLEM AND ITS BACKGROUND	
Introduction -----	9
Theoretical Framework-----	10
Statement of the Problem-----	11
Scope and Delimitation-----	11
Importance of the study-----	11
Definition of terms-----	12
II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
Conceptual Framework-----	14
Research Literature-----	15
III. MEHTODOLOGY	
Research Design-----	18
Research Setting-----	18
Research Procedure-----	18

Determination of Sampling Sectors-----	18
Preparation and Storage-----	19
Identification-----	19
Data Gathering Tools-----	19
IV. PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	
Table 1-----	20
Table 2-----	22
Table 3-----	25
V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	
Summary-----	27
Findings-----	27
Conclusion-----	28
Recommendation-----	29
REFERENCES-----	31
APPENDICES	
A.) Plates-----	32
B.) Map-----	66
C.) Taxonomy-----	70
D.) Certifications-----	72
E.) Curriculum Vitae-----	76