

Nitima Salakij 2009: Species Diversity of Calanoid Copepod in the Upper Gulf of Thailand. Master of Science (Marine Science), Major Field: Marine Science, Department of Marine Science. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Sunan Patarajinda, M.S. 188 pages.

The species diversity of calanoid copepod were collected from 132 stations around the Upper Gulf of Thailand during 2003-2008. Two types of plankton net were used as vertical towing 200 μ m mesh size and obliquely towing 330 μ m mesh size. The results showed that the highest species diversity of calanoid copepod belonged to Family Pontellidae (25 species 5 genera) followed by Family Acartiidae (3 species 1 genus) and Family Centropagidae (3 species 1 genus). According to this study, there were 5 common species, namely, *Aartia amboinensis*, *A. erythraea*, *Centropages furcatus*, *C. orsinii* and *Acrocalanus gibber*, distributed throughout the study areas and 7 endemic species, namely, *Labidocera leavidentata*, *Pontella latifurca*, *P. tridactyla*, *Pontella* sp.1, *Pontellopsis krameri*, *P. macronyx* and *Pontellopsis* sp.1, found around Samaesan Islands, Chonburi Province. Additionally, there were 4 species, i. e. , *Pontella forcicular*, *P. latifurca*, *P. tridactyla* and *P. vervoorti*, as the first record in Thai waters (Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand)

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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