

Investigation on the biodiversity of benthic fauna in the Sikao River mangrove forest, Trang province were carried out from March 2000 - April 2001. Four study sites which are located from seaward side to Klong Lum Yao and Klong Mai Fad sites, were chosen. The mangrove macrofauna were dominated by crustaceans. Polychaetes, molluscs, nematods, sipunculids, platyhelminthes and fish were also recorded. Species diversity indices were higher in the Klong Lum yao site and Klong Mai fad site respectively as compared to seaward site. The density of benthic fauna varied from 97 to 218 individuals/m.² in wet season and ranged from 78 to 174 individuals/m.² in dry season. The highest average density was recorded in the Klong Mai fad area totaled 194 ± 48.9 individuals m.². The lowest average density of 112 ± 44.27 individuals m.² was recorded in the seaward site. The similarity analysis revealed that the benthic fauna in the middle and Klong Mai Fad sites are similar in faunistic composition.