Production of Two Species of Abalone (*Haliotis asinina* Linnaeus, 1758) and *Haliotis diversicolor supertexta*) in Sea Cage Culture

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Abstract

Two species of abalone, Thai abalone (*Haliotis asinina* Linnaeus, 1758) and Taiwanese abalone (*H. diversicolor supertexta*), were cultured in sea cages at Samet Island Sub-station of Rayong Coastal Fisheries Research and Development Center, Rayong Province. The initial sizes of Thai abalone and Taiwanese abalone used in this study had the average body weight of 1.47±0.05 and 1.03±0.01 g and the average shell length of 18.04±0.11 and 18.83±0.03 mm, respectively. They were cultured with initial stocking density of 400 pieces/m² and fed with fresh algae (*Acanthophora specifera*). After culture period of eight months, the final average body weight of Thai abalone and Taiwanese abalone were 7.52±0.77 and 4.44±0.24 g, the average growth rates by weight were 0.02±0.00 and 0.01±0.00 g/day, the final average shell length of Thai abalone and Taiwanese abalone were 34.45±1.10 and 34.14±0.28 mm, the average growth rate by length were 0.06±0.00 and 0.06±0.00 mm/day, the productions were 2,255.67±456.88 and 1,370.00±43.59 g/m² and the final average survival rates were 74.58±8.52 and 77.42±6.44 %, respectively. Thai abalones showed higher average weight increment as well as higher production than Taiwanese abalones.

Key words: Thai abalone *Haliotis asinina*, Taiwanese abalone *H. diversicolor supertexta*, production, sea cage

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