

DISTRIBUTION OF MPOBENCE GRAB IN DIFFERENT
LOCALITY ALONG THE EAST COAST OF PENINSULAR
MALAYSIA

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**DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF HORSESHOE CRAB IN DIFFERENT
COASTAL HABITAT OF EAST COAST OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA**

**By
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The requirements for the degree of
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Adalah dengan ini diakui dan disahkan bahawa laporan penyelidikan bertajuk:
Distribution of Horseshoe Crab in different Coastal Habitat of East Coast of Peninsular
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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted on the distribution and density of horseshoe crabs in three sampling sites at the east coast of the Peninsular Malaysia. The sampling sites selected for this study were Tok Bali, Setiu and Kuantan. Two species of horseshoe crab were found at the sampling sites, such as *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda* or the mangrove horseshoe crab and *Tachypleus gigas* or the coastal horseshoe crab. Throughout the sampling period, a total of 70 *C. rotundicauda* and 19 of *T. gigas* were found from the three sampling site. Analysis of variance between the two species at their respective sites was overall not highly significant ($P = 0.07$). However variation between sexes was found to be highly significant ($P=0.02$). Both species co-exist in each sampling sites except for Tok Bali where only *C. rotundicauda* were found. An analysis of the morphometry of the two sexes females are generally larger than males. However statistically speaking the variation in morphometry between the males and females was found to be statistically insignificant in the case of length and width ($P=0.14$ and $P= 0.16$ respectively). In the case of weight a slight significant difference was observed between the males and females with the females being statistically heavier than the males ($P=0.06$). No eggs were obtained from any of the sampling sites so density of eggs could not be determined.