

Biomass Determination of Corals in Artificial Reefs in Northwest of the Persian Gulf (Bahrekan)

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Abstract

This study was carried out in order to biomass determination of stony and soft corals in 7 and 6 year old artificial substrate in Bahrekan coastal water in Northwest of the Persian Gulf. Seasonal sampling from 4 stations was done by SCUBA diving from May 2009 to February 2010. The samples were randomly obtained by using quadrates of 0.25×0.25 m. Determination of wet weight showed that these artificial reefs were strongly dominated by soft corals. Moreover, total biomass of cnidarians did not shown any significant differences for the sampling months ($P<0.05$). Biomass of soft corals shows that this substratum provide optimum conditions required for successful colonization, which include spatial orientation, an adequate light regime and exposure to flow.

Keywords: *Artificial habitats, Biomass, Corals, Persian Gulf.*
