
Diversity study on Echinoderms in Khanom Beach – South Sea Islands National Park, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province

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Echinoderms of Had Khanom – Mu Ko Thale Tai National Park, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, locating in the southern part of the Gulf of Thailand were studied at 12 sties namely, Ko Tan (4 sties), Ko Mudsum (2 sites), Ko Wang Nai (2 sites), Ko Wang Nok (2 sites) and Ko Rab (2 sites) in November, 2006 and May 2008. The investigations were carried out by SCUBA diving in the daytime and random searches throughout the reefs. The results yielded 24 species of Echinoderms from 5 class, 10 orders, 14 families and 20 genera. The most abundant Echinoderms in this area are : *Lamprometra palmate*, *Ophiothrix exigua*, *Holothuria (Metensiothuria) leucospilota*, and *Diadema setosum*. All observed species were commonly found in the Gulf of Thailand and the Indo-Pacific.