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## Distribution of Nitrogen and Phosphorus in Setiu Lagoon, Terengganu, South China Sea / Karie Ng Khai Li.



PERPUSTAKAAN

KOLEJ UNIVERSITI SAINS & TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA  
21030 KUALA TERENGGANU

1100042315

Lihat sebelah

HAK MILIK  
PERPUSTAKAAN KUSTEM

**DISTRIBUTION OF NITROGEN AND PHOSPHORUS IN SETIU  
LAGOON, TERENGGANU, SOUTH CHINA SEA**

**By**

**KARIE NG KHAI LI**

**Research Report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for  
the degree of Bachelor of Science (Marine Science)**

**Department of Marine Sciences  
Faculty of Science and Technology  
UNIVERSITY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MALAYSIA  
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**JABATAN SAINS SAMUDERA  
FAKULTI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI  
KOLEJ UNIVERSITI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI  
MALAYSIA**

**PENGAKUAN DAN PENGESAHAN LAPORAN PROJEK PENYELIDIKAN I  
DAN II**

Adalah ini diakui dan disahkan bahawa laporan penyelidikan bertajuk:

*Distribution of Nitrogen and Phosphorus in Setiu Lagoon, Terengganu, South China Sea* oleh **Karie Ng Khai Li**, No. Matrik **UK 7866** telah diperiksa dan semua pembetulan yang disarankan telah dilakukan. Laporan ini dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Sains Samudera sebagai memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan memperolehi **Ijazah Sarjana Muda Sains Sains Samudera**, Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi, Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia.

**Disahkan oleh:**

**Penyelia Utama** PROF. DR. LAW AH THEEM  
Nama: PENSYARAH  
Cop Rasmi: Jabatan Sains Samudera  
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi  
Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia  
21030 Kuala Terengganu

Tarikh: 24/04/2006

**Ketua Jabatan Sains Samudera**  
Nama: PROF. MADYA DR. HJ. ROSNAN HJ. YAACOB  
Cop Rasmi: Ketua  
Jabatan Sains Samudera  
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi  
Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia  
21030 Kuala Terengganu.

Tarikh: 24/04/06

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## **LIST OF ABBREATIONS**

Abs	-	Absorbance
ALPHA	-	American Publish Health Association
BOD	-	Biological Oxygen Demand
°C	-	Degree Celsius
cm	-	Centimeter
DO	-	Dissolved Oxygen
GFC	-	Glass Microfibre Filters
GPS	-	Portable Global Positioning System
Max	-	Maximum
mg/L	-	Millie Gram Per Liter
Min	-	Minimum
mL	-	Millie Liter
N	-	Normality
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-	Ammonium
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-	Nitrite
P	-	Phosphorus
p	-	Probability
ppm	-	Part Per Million
PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	-	Orthophosphate
ST	-	Station
Std.Dev	-	Standard Deviation
TN	-	Total Nitrogen
TP	-	Total Phosphorus
µM	-	Micromole
%	-	Percentage
‰	-	Part Per Trillion (ppt) or g/L

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## **ABSTRAK**

Kajian projek ini tertumpu kepada taburan nitrogen dan fosforus semasa Southwest monsoon, Inter-monsoon, dan Northeast monsoon. 12 stesen pada kajian tahun lepas dan dua stesen baru dipilih sebagai stesen penyampelan dalam kajian ini. Persampelan pertama, kedua dan ketiga telah dijalankan pada 25 Ogos, 06 Oktober dan 14 Desember pada tahun 2005. Pada persampelan pertama, purata kepekatan jumlah ammonium, jumlah nitrogen, orthofostat dan jumlah fosforus adalah  $3.08 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $89.68 \pm 0.61 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $1.36 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ , dan  $12.60 \pm 0.41 \mu\text{M}$ . Pada persampelan kedua adalah  $6.69 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $130.36 \pm 0.66 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $1.70 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{M}$ , dan  $15.25 \pm 0.39 \mu\text{M}$  serta persampelan ketiga adalah  $8.92 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $242.88 \pm 0.55 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $4.56 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ , dan  $23.61 \pm 0.47 \mu\text{M}$  masing-masing. Statistik analisis menyatakan bahawa jumlah ammonium ( $p=0.0504$ ) dan orthofosfat ( $p=0.8658$ ) tidak menunjukkan perbezaan yang ketara ( $p>0.05$ ) di antara stesen. Jumlah nitrogen ( $p=0.0004$ ) dan jumlah fosforus ( $p=0.0164$ ) menunjukkan perbezaan ketara ( $p<0.05$ ) di antara stesen. Jumlah ammonium ( $p=0.0001$ ), jumlah nitrogen ( $p=0.0000$ ), dan orthofosfat ( $p=0.0044$ ) menunjukkan perbezaan yang ketara ( $p<0.05$ ) di antara ketiga-tiga persampelan. Jumlah fosforus ( $p=0.3184$ ) tidak menunjukkan perbezaan yang ketara ( $p>0.05$ ) di antara ketiga-tiga persampelan. Kepekatan nitrogen adalah lebih tinggi daripada kepekatan fosforus bagi ketiga-tiga kali persamplean. Kepekatan nitrogen dan fosforus meningkat dari Southwest monsoon ke Inter-monsoon serta ke Northeast monsoon. Purata nisbah N:P bagi persampelan di Lagun Setiu adalah 9:1. Nisbah N:P di lagun adalah lebih rendah daripada lautan di dunia. Setiu Lagun telah mulai dicemari oleh nitrogen dan fosforus kerana kepekatan kedua-dua nutrien semakin meningkat semenjak 2004.

## **ABSTRACT**

This study is mainly aimed to study the distribution of nitrogen and phosphorus during Southwest monsoon, Inter-monsoon, and Northeast monsoon. Twelve sampling stations from previous study and two more new sampling stations were established for the study. The first, second and third sampling was carried out on 25 August, 06 October and 14 December 2005 respectively. During first sampling period, the average values of total ammonium, total nitrogen, orthophosphate, and total phosphorus were  $3.08 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $89.68 \pm 0.61 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $1.36 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ , and  $12.60 \pm 0.41 \mu\text{M}$  while for the second sampling, they were  $6.69 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $130.36 \pm 0.66 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $1.70 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{M}$ , and  $15.25 \pm 0.39 \mu\text{M}$  and third sampling, they were  $8.92 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $242.88 \pm 0.55 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $4.56 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ , and  $23.61 \pm 0.47 \mu\text{M}$  respectively. The statistic analysis had suggested that the total ammonium ( $p=0.0504$ ) and orthophosphate ( $p=0.8658$ ) had no significant difference ( $p>0.05$ ) among stations. Total nitrogen ( $p=0.0004$ ) and total phosphorus ( $p=0.0164$ ) showed significant difference ( $p<0.05$ ) among stations. Total ammonium ( $p=0.0001$ ), total nitrogen ( $p=0.0000$ ), and orthophosphate ( $p=0.0044$ ) indicated a significant difference ( $p<0.05$ ) among these three samplings. Total phosphorus ( $p=0.3184$ ) had shown that there was no significant difference ( $p>0.05$ ) among the first, second and third samplings. Generally, the nitrogen concentration was higher than the phosphorus concentration throughout this study. The nitrogen and phosphorus value had increasing from the Southwest monsoon to Inter-Northeast monsoon and then to the Northeast monsoon season. The mean N:P ratio of sampling in Setiu Lagoon was 9:1. The N:P ratio in lagoon was lower than in the ocean of the world aquatic system. Setiu Lagoon had begun contaminating with nitrogen and phosphorus due to the increasing concentration from year 2004 to the present study.