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Acropora muricata bleaching photo by Dr. Kristen Brown

Special Issue on:
Photo-physiology of marine organisms

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Book:

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Chapter in the book:

Webb CO, Cannon CH, Davies SJ. 2008. Ecological organization, biogeography, and the phylogenetic structure of rainforest tree communities. In: Carson W, Schnitzer S (eds.). *Tropical Forest Community Ecology*. Wiley-Blackwell, New York.

Abstract:

Assaeed AM. 2007. Seed production and dispersal of *Rhazya stricta*. 50th annual symposium of the International Association for Vegetation Science, Swansea, UK, 23-27 July 2007.

Proceeding:

Alikodra HS. 2000. Biodiversity for development of local autonomous government. In: Setyawan AD, Sutarno (eds.). *Toward Mount Lawu National Park: Proceeding of National Seminary and Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation to Protect and Save Germplasm in Java Island*. Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, 17-20 July 2000. [Indonesian]

Thesis, Dissertation:

Sugiyarto. 2004. *Soil Macro-invertebrates Diversity and Inter-Cropping Plants Productivity in Agroforestry System based on Sengon*. [Dissertation]. Universitas Brawijaya, Malang. [Indonesian]

Information from the internet:

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EDITORIAL NOTE

For Special Issue on

"Photo-physiology of marine organisms" Indo-Pacific Journal of Ocean Life vol. 7, no. 1, June 2023

Greetings!

This special edition of "*Photo-physiology of marine organisms*" in the Indo-Pacific Journal of Ocean Life is dedicated to the late Dr. Ricardo F. Tapilatu from the Pacific Marine Resources Research Center, University of Papua (UNIPA), Manokwari, Indonesia, and the then Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Tapilatu received the request in August 2021, and the Editorial Office launched this special edition announcement in June 2023.

The team members worked under the Pole of Research Excellence in Sustainable Marine Biodiversity (PRE-SMB), led by Dr. R. Bhagooli and the Department of Biosciences & Ocean Studies, Faculty of Science at the University of Mauritius. They submitted several manuscripts related to photo-physiological studies of marine organisms around the waters of the Republic of Mauritius. The peer-reviewed papers are presented under the special issue entitled "*Photo-physiology of marine organisms*." This special issue is presented in the context that the waters of the Republic of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean possess one of the most biodiverse but fragile coral reefs and mangrove ecosystem-associated organisms. These ecosystems provide ecological goods and services supporting coastal and national economies. Still, the same ecosystems are now at peril after extreme climatic phenomena, including climate change-driven ocean warming.

This special edition includes the photo-physiological features and stress responses in several photosynthetic marine organisms and/or marine organisms in symbiotics with photosynthetic microalgae. The original article by Narrain et al. documented three macroalgae variables: photosynthetic, phytochemicals, and anti-oxidative responses. At the same time, Gopeechund et al. present photo-physiological and anti-oxidant acclimatization in macroalgae in different nutrient regimes. Using macroalgae could attract more attention, especially in developing the "Blue Economy" concept in developing countries. Fai et al. present photosynthetic responses and distribution of the ascidian *Diplosoma simile*. The opportunistic or invasive behavior of *D. simile* seems important to be characterized as mass coral bleaching/mortality events increase in severity and frequency worldwide. Jogee et al. present spatial photo-physiological responses of diseased and non-diseased coral parts, while Mundil et al. report the prevalence and photo-physiological thermal responses of the coral disease, Skeletal Eroding Band (SEB), caused by the ciliate *Halofolliculina corallasia*, in *Acropora muricata*.

Coral diseases are increasingly being reported worldwide as local and global stressors. They represent a lethal threat to the productivity and subsistence of coral reefs, especially in the wake of climate change. Ricot et al. investigate the photo-physiological responses of fish

predated and non-predated parts of a thermally resilient coral, *Porites lutea*. It is important to test the impacts of other biological stressors, such as fish predation, on coral surviving ocean warming events to inform better coral management and conservation. Jeetun et al. investigated whether the thermal photosynthetic responses of *A. muricata* are enhanced following a coral field transplantation experiment, while Munbodhe et al. assessed the thermal tolerance of endemic/rare corals. As coral bleaching/mortality events appear more pronounced, it is essential to test whether corals can acclimatize or adapt to different thermal regimes. Ramah et al. documents variable photosynthetic thermal stress responses between two species of giant clams (Tridacnines), *Tridacna maxima* and *T. squamosa*, from Rodrigues Island. Although giant clams (Tridacnidae) are protected in many countries, the decline in their population is increasingly being reported. That is important to understand whether global warming is a major contributor must be determined for its conservation. Kaullysing et al. present a difference in photo-physiological responses of various parts of the salt-tolerant tropical mangrove plant, the *Rhizophora mucronata*. Therefore, it is worth understanding the photosynthetic contributions of various tree parts as they are subject to varying environmental conditions. Perrine et al. extend the thermal stress studies on Red Coralline Algae from Mauritius Island. The study on understanding the thermal photo-physiological susceptibility of *Hydrolithon onkodes*, an attractor of coral larvae, has important implications for managing the recovery of thermal stress-affected reefs. Finally, this special issue ends with findings presented by Soondur et al. relating to micro-phytoplankton density, diversity, and photophysiology from degraded and non-degraded reefs around Rodrigues Island.

The contributions of this special edition foster new insights into the photo-physiology of marine organisms through the application of chlorophyll fluorescence technique using the Pulse-Amplitude-Modulated fluorometer. Furthermore, the findings presented here may further inform decision-making for coral reefs and mangrove conservation and management in the Republic of Mauritius and the wider Indian Ocean.

Associate Professor (Dr.) Ranjeet Bhagooli
Editor-in-Chief

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