

Final Report
Research Project 2596 - 004 - 004

**Effect of environmental factors on
RNA/DNA profile in scombrid fish off the
west coast of Sabah**

By

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Saleem Mustafa

**Borneo Marine Research Unit
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
Kota Kinabalu**

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Synopsis

Turnover of nucleic acids in mackerel, *Rastrelliger kanagurta* was studied. The data revealed lability of RNA and stability of DNA, and left no doubt that the change in RNA/DNA ratio was related mainly to the quantitative fluctuations in RNA. The dynamics of variation in RNA/DNA ratio was linked to intrinsic and extrinsic factors. The possibility of *El Niño* acting synergistically with other factors in altering the RNA and RNA/DNA profile has been discussed.

Sinopsis

Kajian perubahan asid nuklik pada ikan rumahan, *Rastrelliger kanagurta* telah dijalankan. Data menunjukkan bahawa ketidak stabilan pada RNA dan kestabilan pada DNA mempengaruhi kadar RNA/DNA. Perubahan ini adalah berhubung rapat secara keseluruhannya kepada perubahan kuantitatif pada RNA. Dinamik variasi kadar RNA/DNA adalah dipengaruhi oleh faktor-faktor intrinsik dan ekstrinsik. Kemungkinan *El Niño* bertindak secara sinergik dengan faktor-faktor lain dalam mengubah profil RNA, dan kadar RNA/DNA telah dibincang.

