

Consolidated Checklist of Hard Corals of the Genus *Acropora* Oken, 1815 (Scleractinia: Acroporidae) in North Borneo, East Malaysia

Abstract

Acropora is the most biologically diverse group of reef-building coral, and its richness peaks at the Indo-Malay-Philippine Archipelago, the centre of global coral reef biodiversity. In this paper, we describe the species richness of *Acropora* fauna of North Borneo, East Malaysia, based on review of literature and as corroborated by voucher specimens. Eighty-three species of *Acropora* are reported here; four species are literature based and 79 are supported by voucher specimens that were subsequently photographed. New records for North Borneo were recorded for 12 species, including *Acropora suharsonoi* Wallace 1994 that was previously thought to be confined to a few islands along Lombok Strait, Indonesia. The diversity of *Acropora* in North Borneo is comparable to that of Indonesia and the Philippines, despite the area's smaller reef areas. This further reinforces its inclusion as part the global hotspot of coral biodiversity.