

First record of jellyfish *Anomalorhiza shawi* Light, 1921 (Cnidaria: Scyphozoa) and its associated organisms in Sabah, Malaysia

ABSTRACT

The present study describes a first record of the jellyfish *Anomalorhiza shawi* Light, 1921 from Malaysia. It belongs to the family Lychnorhizidae Haeckel, 1880, order Rhizostomeae Cuvier, 1799 (Cnidaria: Scyphozoa). The specimen was taken from Sepanggar Bay, Kota Kinabalu, off the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Jetty by manual collection with a bucket. The size of the bell was 430 mm in diameter with oral arms measuring 290 mm in length including the brown terminal clubs, which differentiates *A. shawi* from other congeners of the family. *Anomalorhiza shawi* belongs to the monotypic genus *Anomalorhiza*, and was first reported from the Philippines, with later reports from Hawaii and Thailand. In addition, *A. shawi* was found associated with other organisms such as the silver shad, *Alepes vari* (Cuvier, 1833) (Carangidae), and the crab *Charybdis feriata* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Portunidae). The association between jellyfish and other organisms have been discussed here. A checklist is provided for the current species of scyphozoan jellyfish reported from Malaysia.