

# Radiation Dose and Risk Assessment in Blood Clam (Anadara ganosa) from the Gulf of Thailand using ERICA Tool

Varalee Kongcharoen<sup>\*</sup> Chitsanupong Khrautongkieo Natchakan Nakkaew Rungsak Suwanklang and Yutthana Tumnoi

Regulatory Technical Support Division, Office of Atoms for Peace, Bangkok, 10900, Thailand

## Introduction

- After the Fukushima-Daiichi accident, a focus has been put into the measurement of Cs-137 in local marine species and seawater in Thailand for radiation doses assessment.
- For the first time after the accident, Blood clam (Anadara ganosa), seawater, and sediment were collected from the Gulf of Thailand for radiation dose and risk assessment.



## Materials and Methods

Blood clam (Anadara ganosa), seawater, and sediment were collected from 2 farming areas (Samut Songkhram and Samut Prakan provinces) in Gulf of Thailand in dry and rainy seasons during 2021-2022

> The purpose of this study is to estimate total radiation doses received by Blood clam (Anadara ganosa) from Ra-226, Th-232, and Cs-137 using ERICA Tool, and to further strengthen the national and regional marine radioactivity databases.

### **Results and Discussion**



- Cs-137 ranged from 0.47 to 1.18 mBq/l in the seawater, from 0.15 to 0.96 Bq/kg in the sediment, and from 0.03 to 0.05 Bq/kg in the clam. The highest amount was found in the sediment with a mean of 0.58±0.29 Bq/kg
- Ra-226 ranged from 0.95 to 1.40 Bq/l in the seawater, from 42.52 to 63.16 Bq/kg in the sediment, and from 2.11 to 3.43 Bq/kg in the clam. The highest level was found in the sediment with an average of 53.42±6.57 Bq/kg
- Figure Th-232 ranged from 0.80 to 1.08 Bq/l in the seawater, from 50.28 to 68.04 Bq/kg in the sediment, and from

#### Sample preparation and measurement

#### Sediment





micrometer sieve



plastic container



HPGe gamma spectrometry

#### Blood Clam (Anadara ganosa)





#### 0.26 to 0.83 Bq/kg in the clam. The highest value was found in shellfish with an average of 59.75±6.06 Bq/kg



Dose Rates (uGy/hr) between the natural (Ra-226 and Th-232) and the artificial radionuclides (Cs-137)





Total Dose Rate (uGy/hr)

Total Dose from Natural Total Dose from Human

External Dose Rate (uGy/hr)

- No seasonal variation observed in all radionuclides and environmental matrices studied
- ➢ Ra-226 is the main radiation dose contributor to the Blood clam

More than 99% of the total dose rates in the Blood clam is from the natural radionuclides



 $\blacktriangleright$  Total radiation doses reported in this present study are well below the guideline value of 10  $\mu$ Gy/h

contributor to radiation doses received by the studied species.

- $\succ$  The total radiation doses reported below the guideline value of 10  $\mu$ Gy/h implying that those radionuclides do not pose any radiological hazards to the clam of interest
- $\blacktriangleright$  The obtained data will be used to strengthen the national and regional marine radioactivity databases and to develop relevant guideline/plan for marine environmental radiation protection.

Acknowledgment

Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Silpakorn University

Thailand Science Research and Innovation