ABSTRACT

LIDIA LILLY. Population Characteristic of Harvested *Amyda cartilaginea* in Sambas Distric and Ketapang Distric, West Kalimantan. Under direction of YANTO SANTOSA and MIRZA DIKARI KUSRINI.

*Amyda cartilaginea* is a species of softshell turtle heavily exploited for trade. West Kalimantan is one of the major sources of *A. cartilaginea* in Indonesia, with Sambas and Ketapang Distric as the main areas of harvest.

The aims of the research are to assess demographic parameters and measure morphometric parameters of captured *A. cartilaginea* at harvesters, collectors and exporter level, and estimate actual population in harvested areas of Sambas and Ketapang. Research were carried out in March-April 2010.

We counted the number of softshell turtle captured during survey, measured the morphometric parameters and then determine the demographic parameters of those captured turtle. The population of the turtle is estimated by using catch per unit effort approach.

Results showed that captured population in Sambas is dominated by male, while in ketapang is dominated by female. Mortality at harvester and exporters in Ketapang is higher than in Sambas, meanwhile at collectors level the mortality are equal. There is no significant differences of morphometric measurement of softshell turtle’s between Ketapang and Sambas, except for medial plastron width. The estimated population of softshell turtles in Sambas and Ketapang are respectively 363 and 180 individuals. The number did not covers all area of Sambas and Ketapang, since the assessment only cover relatively small area of these district.

Keywords: *Amyda cartilaginea*, harvest, morphometric parameter, demographic parameter