A REVIEW ON INVASIVE APPLE SNAIL (*Pomacea canaliculata*) BEHAVIOURS IN DIFFERENT WATER TEMPERATURE GRADIENTS

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ABSTRACT

Golden apple snails (*Pomacea canaliculata*) belong to the kingdom Animalia, the phylum Mollusca, and the class Gastropoda. Golden apple snails are also known as channelled apple snails. In Malaysia, *Pomacea canaliculata* is known as siput gondang emas. These invasive apple snails have become severe agricultural pests worldwide, inflicting major ecological harm such as the depletion of macrophytes in natural wetlands. Snails can currently be found in all states of Peninsular Malaysia, with the exception of Johor in the south. They have now established themselves as a major rice pest in Malaysia. The snail's life cycle is influenced by environmental factors, particularly temperature. The snail's activity rate is strongly dependent on the water temperature. Feeding time increases as the temperature rises between 10 ℃ to 25 ℃, but then decreases as the temperature rises. Besides, because of the decrease in feeding time and the increase in metabolic rates, juvenile growth rates increase with temperature from 15 ℃ to 25 ℃ but do not exhibit a further increase up to 35 ℃. Apple snails are a species of concern not just because of their negative agricultural and ecological effects, but also because of the potential health danger they provide when consumed as a food source.

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