

# Studies on the Hemocytes of *Meretrix lusoria*

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to study the characteristics of the hemocytes of *Meretrix lusoria*. A medium-size clam (body length 4.5-5.5cm) contained  $4.40 \pm 1.26$ ml of body fluid which had an osmolarity of  $502.2 \pm 21.5$  mOsm. Hemocyte count of body fluid was  $1291 \pm 354/\text{mm}^3$ . There were three types of hemocyte, type 1 (He-1, 8-12 $\mu\text{m}$ ) had pseudopodia and showed amoeboid movement; type 2 (He-2, 2-4 $\mu\text{m}$ ) had smaller cell body with thread-like pseudopodia; type 3 (He-3, 15-19 $\mu\text{m}$ ) had granules in cytoplasm. The proportion of three types of hemocyte (He-1 to He-3) was 75%, 20% and 5% respectively. During storage at low temperature ( $4 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ), hemocyte count of body fluid, both *in vivo* and *in vitro*, decreased significantly with the times. However, contents of reduced sugars of the body fluid did not show significant changes.

**Key words:** hemocyte, body fluid, *Meretrix lusoria*

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