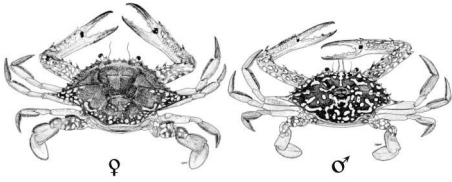


# Blue swimming crab Java Sea

Fishery: [Java Sea](#) [Java Sea \(WPP 712\)](#) [Indonesia](#) [Bottom trawls](#)

## IDENTIFICATION



### SCIENTIFIC NAME

*Portunus pelagicus*

### SPECIES NAME(S)

Blue swimming crab, Flower crab

### COMMON NAMES

Rajungan (Indonesian common name)

### STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The blue swimming crab (BSC) can be found throughout the Indo-West Pacific, from tropical to sub-tropical (Ng 1998). In Indonesia, BSC occurs throughout the archipelago with the most landings in Fisheries Management Area (FMA) 571 (Malacca Strait and Andaman Sea, where BSC contributed 9.5% of total average catches in the FMA from 2005 - 2014), FMA 711 (Karimata Strait, Natuna Sea, and South China Sea, 15.3%), FMA 713 (Makassar Strait, Bone Bay, Flores Sea, and Bali Sea, 16.5%), and FMA 712 (Java Sea, 46.6%); FMA 712 is the area where BSC is mostly found and caught, particularly on the northern coast of Java, southern coast of Kalimantan, and south-eastern coast of Sumatra (KKP-RI 2016).

There are three (3) most common fishing gear that are used to catch BSC in the Java Sea: collapsible trap (*Bubu*), bottom gill net (*Kejer*), and mini bottom trawl (*Arad*) (Ernawati et al. 2017). Collapsible trap is a selective gear and thus, contribute the most BSC in any given landing. Therefore, it is widely used in the Java Sea, and consequently it is chosen as the standard gear for stock assessment analyses (Indrajaya 2017).



### RELATED LINKS:

- [Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia \(KKP-RI\)](#)
- [Indonesia Commission for Fish Stock Assessment](#) , [Indonesian Research Center for Fisheries \(Pusriskan\)](#) , [Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia \(KKP-RI\)](#)

## ASSESSMENT

### Strengths

- APRI, as the association for the BSC processing and exporting companies in Indonesia, has been very assertive in the execution of comprehensive FIP (Fishery Improvement Project) to support sustainable BSC fishery in Indonesia;
- APRI's advocacy has resulted in several key advances in 2014 - 2016, such as scientific collaborations, and the stipulation of several regulations, including the Blue Swimming Crab Fishery Management Plan that prescribe the Road Map for sustainable management of BSC fishery;
- The leadership of APRI and its advocacy has snowballed collaboration with other organizations, such as the USAID-IMACS that extend studies on BSC beyond the scope of the Java Sea (e.g., to south-east Sulawesi), and with a focus that expanded beyond scientific (e.g., control document training, online data collection and assessment platform)
- As a consequence of the BSC assessment research, Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) has been adopted by the National Commission for Stock Assessment in 2015 as a method to complement the currently used surplus production modelling technique;
- As of 2015, results of BSC stock assessment surveys were accommodated into the official stock assessment estimations following evaluation by the National Commission for Stock Assessment.

### Weaknesses

- Catch data has been under-reported, while bycatch are not accounted for in official statistics;
- The use of non-selective gear that generates serious bycatch still persist; while the landing of under-size crabs and berried crabs are also still common;
- As most BSC fishers are small scale fishers that operate boats < 5GT, by law they are exempted from applying for fishing licenses (*SIP*) and fishing business licenses (*SIUP*), making it more difficult to monitor and control the fishery by system;
- Fishers' compliance to management regime is still low; lack of awareness on recently-decreed regulations seems to be an issue, among others.

## SCORES

### Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 6	≥ 6	< 6

### Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
< 6	< 6

## FIPS

No related FIPs

## MSC

No related MSC fisheries

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Press for and support full implementation of the Control Document adopted in July 2018 by APRI and the National Fisheries Institute Crab Council to ensure that the minimum legal size and the berried female harvest ban are being complied with by fishers and supported by processors and their supply chain, and that there is credible, third party audit of the Control Document implementation. Auditing must follow the standards and requirements developed by APRI.
- Work with the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) to implement the December 2016 'Fisheries Management Plan of the Blue Swimming Crab in the Fisheries Management Areas of Indonesia' to deliver a sustainable fishery (including healthy stocks and environment, increasing socio-economic and welfare benefits to fishers, fisher compliance with regulations, and increased participation of stakeholders and fishers in developing responsible management).
- Work with provincial and national managers to ensure the 'Fisheries Management Plan of the Blue Swimming Crab in the Fisheries Management Areas of Indonesia' is appropriately adapted for each province.
- Work with MMAF to simplify and expedite the registration of the small-

scale vessels (< 5 GT) so as to improve the government's capacity to monitor the fishery and enforce regulations.

- Engage with managers and scientists to develop higher resolution data collection and analysis programs, for the target species as well as retained and discarded by-catch species.