## **ABSTRACT**

CINTHIYA O. B. A. FAU. 2025. **Distribution Pattern and Diversity of Hermit Crabs in The Littoral Zone of Leuweung Sancang Beach, Garut**. Biology Education Department. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. Siliwangi University. Tasikmalaya.

In the littoral zone of Leuweung Sancang Beach there are many types of hermit crabs whose species and distribution have never been studied. This research aims to determine the distribution pattern and diversity of hermit crabs species in the littoral zone of Leuweung Sancang Beach. This research was carried out from October 2021 until July 2023. This research used quantitative methods and the sampling technique used a belt transect along 100 meters which was divided into 100 plots with a size 1x1 meters. The stations used are station 1 Cibako, station 2 Cikujang Jambe, and station 3 Ciporeang. The results of this research obtained data of distribution pattern of hermit crabs on Leuweung Sancang Beach is grouping with id>1 and data on hermit crab diversity consisted of 3 families, 5 genera, and 13 species. The species and the total number of each species found from 3 stations, namely Aniculus ursus 3 individuals, Calcinus laevimanus 2609 individuals, Calcinus morgani 1290 individuals, Dardanus pedunculatus 66 individuals, Dardanus megistos 226 individuals, Dardanus deformis 39 individuals, Dardanus gemmatus 21 individuals, Dardanus guttatus 30 individuals, Coenobita cavipes 2 individuals, Coenobita rugosus 16 individuals, Coenobita spinosus 1 individuals, Clibanarius eurysternus 172 individuals, dan Clibanarius virescens 244 individuals. The results of the statistics of the ecological index on hermit crabs show the average value of the density of hermit crabs is 15.73 ind/ $m^2$ , the average diversity index is 1,27 that's medium diversity category, the average evenness index is 0,52 that's medium evenness category, and the average dominance index is 0,39 that's medium dominance category.

Keywords: Hermit Crab; Distribution pattern; Diversity; Littoral Zone; Leuweung Sancang Garut Beach