

# Unusual landings of Blood clam *Anadara granosa* at Kasimedu Fishing Harbour

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*Anadara granosa* (Linnaeus, 1758) belongs to family Arcidae and is popularly known as 'Blood cockle' or 'Blood clam'.

On 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 an unusual landing of approximately 200 kg of Blood clam was observed in Kasimedu Fishing Harbour, Chennai. The clams were caught by trawl net and sold at a market price of ₹ 50 per kilogram. Although, *A. granosa* is often landed as by-catch along with other gastropods and bivalves in trawl landings it does not form a fishery



*A. granosa* landed at Kasimedu Fishing Harbour

and notable quantity of blood clam landings have not been reported earlier from this harbour.

The species is widely distributed in the Indo-Pacific region. Though the true cockles of the genus *Cardium* are not abundant in Indian waters, the cockle-like ark clam *A. granosa* forms extensive beds in some areas. The blood clams constitute an important

fishery in Kakinada Bay and contributes about 50% of the total molluscan landings there. It is one of the commercially important molluscan resources of India. Though its meat is consumed locally to a limited extent, its demand in the ornamental shell trade is growing. The clam shells are also used in producing lime by burning the whole shells.