

Stranding of whale shark off Madhavpur, Gujarat

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A dead male whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) was found off Madhavpur coast, near the fish landing centre on morning of 28th September, 2017. The investigations were covered at the joint team of ICAR-CMFRI and Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), Veraval, Gujarat. The carcass showed an injury below the first dorsal fin but cause of its death could not be ascertained. Some measurements of the stranded whale shark were recorded before it was buried (Table 1).



Table 1. Morphometric measurements of the whale shark

Parameter	Measurement (cm)
Total length	457.2
Standard length	341.4
Pectoral fin	85.3
Mouth width	60.9
Eye to spiracle	36.6
Inter eye width	88.3
Snout to first dorsal fin	204.2

First dorsal base	42.6
First dorsal fin height	54.8
Inter dorsal	33.5
Inter caudal	54.8
Second dorsal base	21.3
Second dorsal fin height	27.4
Caudal depth	48.7
Caudal fin length (upper lobe)	115.8
Clasper length	18.0