

# Abnormalities in Indian oil sardine

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Routine sampling of Indian oil Sardine, *Sardinella longiceps*, for biological studies was done . On 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017, out of 61 specimens collected, one sardine with blunted snout (Fig. 1) and one with deformed caudal fin (Fig. 2) was observed.



Fig. 1. Indian oil sardine with deformed head region



Fig. 2. Indian oil sardine with deformed caudal fin

Pre orbital region in one sardine specimen was deformed and formed a distorted upper jaw. Lower jaw also appeared more blunt than a normal specimen. The specimen was immature with total

length (TL) of 14.4 cm and total weight (TW) of 23.3g with empty gut. The other was a maturing

female specimen with 15 cm TL and 34.7 g TW with empty gut. The lower lobe of caudal fin was curved upward.