



## Indian Pompano

### *Trachinotus mookalee* (Cuvier, 1832)

- ◆ Indian pompano is an important marine food fish, widely distributed in shallow coastal waters of Indo West Pacific region and is considered to be suitable for mariculture.
- ◆ It breeds during February-April. Adult males and females weighing 2.5-3.0 kg are raised in Re-circulating Aquaculture System (RAS) @ 1 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and fed with vitamin-mineral mixed squid and clam meat twice a day.
- ◆ Three months after stocking, females undergo final oocyte maturation with vitellogenic oocytes measuring more than 500- $\mu$ m in size and males are found in milt oozing stage.
- ◆ Both the females and males are injected with human chorionic gonadotrophin @ 350 IU/kg body weight. Spawning occurs within 36-38 h after injection and the number of eggs spawned ranges 0.6-1.5 lakhs/spawner.
- ◆ The eggs hatch out after 20-22 hrs at temperature of 28-30°C and salinity of 30-32%. Newly hatched larvae measure 2.1-2.2 mm in total length.
- ◆ Larvae are stocked in green water at 10 nos/l and are fed a combination of rotifers and copepod nauplii (2 nos/ml) initially, followed by *Artemia* nauplii and artificial feed.
- ◆ The metamorphosis of the larvae starts on the 17<sup>th</sup> day post-hatch and is completed by 22<sup>nd</sup> day post-hatch by which time it reaches a size of 1.6-1.7 cm.
- ◆ The breeding technology is mainly confined to the states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.



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