

Rare occurrence of Bombay duck from Central Kerala

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The occurrence of Bombay duck along south coast of India is very rare, especially Kerala coast. On 4th December, 2019, one specimen of Bombayduck, *Harpadon nehereus* measuring 252 mm in total length and weighing 114.5 g was landed at Chellanam landing centre, Kochi (9°47'56.8"N 76°16'32.2"E) by an outboard ringseiner unit operated at a depth of 30-50 m targeting Indian oil sardine. Morphometric and meristic characters of the specimen landed were recorded (Fig.1). Measurements (in mm) were: Fork length 213, Standard length 201, Head length 45.3,

Head depth 35.9, Maximum body depth 45.2, Snout length 4, Eye diameter 3.5, Lower jaw length 30.9, Upper jaw length 33.2, Post orbital length 40.5, Interorbital width 12.6, Pre dorsal length 88.7, Pre pectoral length 45.3, Pre pelvic length 91, Pre anal length 162, Pre adipose length 174, Pectoral fin length 55.6, Pelvic fin length 53.6, Dorsal fin height 49.7, Anal fin height 34.2, Adipose fin height 12.4, Caudal peduncle depth 13.8, Lower caudal fin length 41.1, Dorsal fin base length 32.2 and Anal fin base length 27.3.

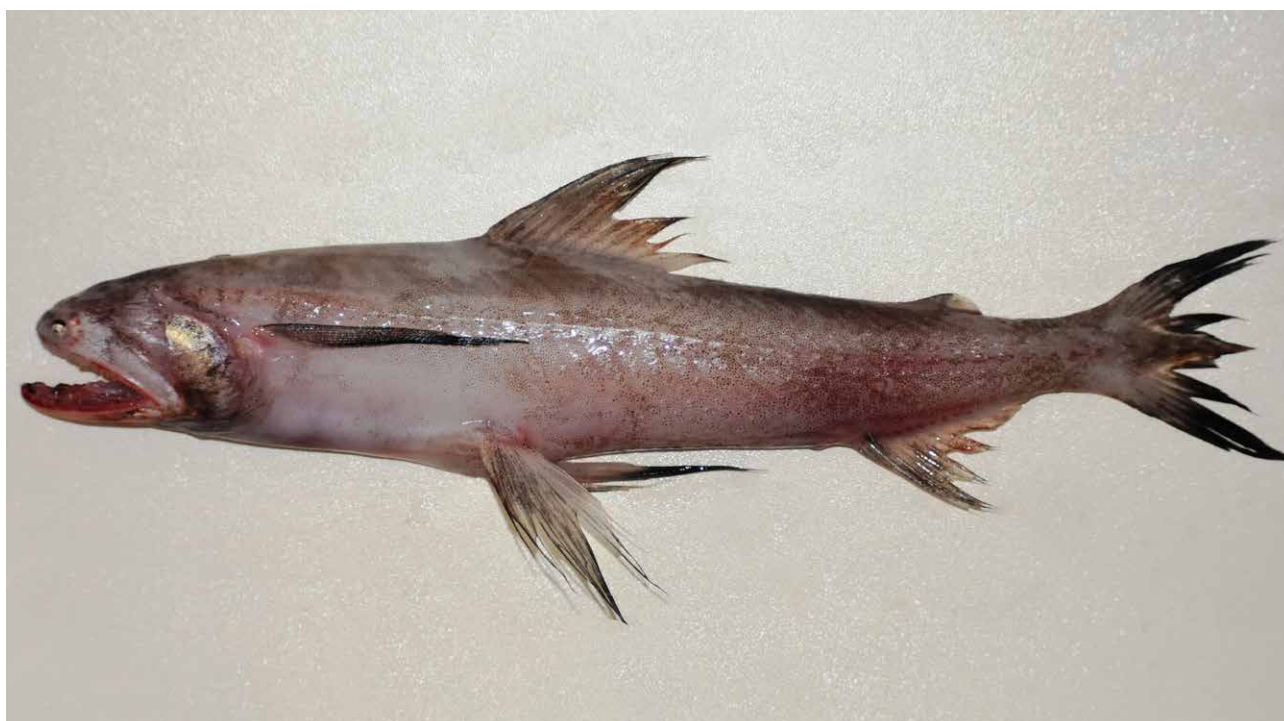


Fig.1. Bombay duck collected from Chellanam fish landing centre in Central Kerala