

Rare occurrence of cusk eel, *Brotula multibarbata*



Fig.1. *Brotula multibarbata* landed in New Ferry Wharf

A single specimen of cusk eel, *Brotula multibarbata* (Temminck & Schlegel, 1846) commonly known as Goatsbeard brotula, was landed by a multiday trawler on 8th May 2019 in New Ferry Wharf. The trawl was operated at a depth of 50 m off Mumbai. The specimen measured 284 mm in total length and weighed 176 g. The species comes under family Ophidiidae under

order Ophidiiformes. Adults of the species are bottom dwelling, on the continental shelf and slopes; while early stages are pelagic and found in reef areas. The morphometric measures were recorded (Table 1).

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Table 1. Morphometric measurements (in mm) of *Brotula multibarbata* landed in New Ferry Wharf

Standard length	268
Snout to anal origin	112.13
Body depth	50.96
Head length	50.22
Upper jaw length	24.19
Snout length	10.6
Orbit length	11.25
Interorbital	5.4
Longest pectoral ray	21.18
Pectoral base	12.74
Longest Length of pelvic rays	30.26
Postorbital eye distance	28.55
Pre dorsal fin length	55.99
Pre pelvic length	29.82
Pre anal fin length	116.14
Depth of the anal fin origin	49.86
Pectoral fin length	21.18