

Occurrence of Diamond squid at Veraval

Among squid catches, frequent by-catch of Diamond squid was observed during this year along Gujarat coast. The diamond shaped squid, *Thysanoteuthis rhombus* is a non-abundant epipelagic inhabitant of warm tropical waters of the Indian Ocean. It has a bright red coloured body with fins occupying the entire length of the mantle, being broader in the middle and tapering at both anterior and posterior ends, which give its name as rhomboid or diamond squid. Even if it is in lesser

numbers, this species is showing frequent occurrence in the trawl catches along with *Loligo duvaucelli*. This species started appearing regularly as an incidental catch from last year (2010) onwards. Usually processing plants discard this squid because of its ammonia flavour of flesh. Still few were sold in market for



domestic consumption namely in Diu market.

(Reported by R Thangavelu, Sreenath K R, Mohammed Koya K, and Shiju P, Veraval RC)