

Report on crested hair tail *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Trichiuridae) from Goa

A single specimen of ribbon fish *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Klunzinger, 1884), commonly called the crested hair tail, was landed in Cotbona jetty, South Goa on 26th November 2021. The specimen was collected from a mechanized purse seiner which operated at a depth of 60-80 meters off west of Cotbona. The mature female specimen weighed 119 g and was 71 cm in length. The species was found along with the commonly landed *Trichiurus lepturus* (large head

hairtail). This is the first record of *T. cristatus* from Goa coast.

Morphological identification was based on the silvery elongate, strongly compressed and ribbon like body with dorsal side of head convex shaped. Eye, large and situated laterally. Large mouth with dermal flaps at tip of both jaws, front teeth without barbs. Convex hind gill margin. Single long dorsal fin, pectoral fins short and not reaching the lateral line, caudal

fin absent.

Molecular identification was conducted with the tissue samples collected and preserved in 95% ethanol followed by isolation of DNA with the Phenol Chloroform method. The COI gene was amplified using primers Fish F1 and Fish R1 using standard protocols. After sequencing and alignment, 683bp sequence was obtained. Similarity search (BLAST) in NCBI database showed 99.85% identity to *T. cristatus* with 99% query coverage. The sequence was submitted to NCBI Genbank with accession number: ON183167.



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