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> भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

## ON THE STRANDING OF DOLPHIN SOUSA CHINENSIS IN MANDAPAM REGION \*

On 18-06-1990, a dolphin measuring 151 cm in total length and 50 kg in weight was washed ashore in Mandapam Camp. Gulf of Mannar region. It was identified as Sousa chinensis. Thirty three teeth were noticed on one side of the upper and lower jaws (Fig. 1). The main characteristics of Sousa chinensis are the presence of 34-39 teeth on one side of upper and lower jaws. The stomach was empty. The detailed morphometric measurements (in cm) of the Sousa chinensis are given below.

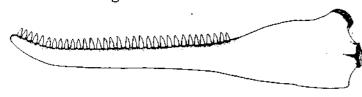


Fig. 1. Lower jaw of Dolphin, Sousa chinensis, showing 33 numbers of teeth.

Total length	151.0
Length from the tip of the snout to fork of the tail	149.0
Length from the tip of the snout to blow hole	26.0
Length from the tip of the snout to centre of eye	26.2
Length from the tip of the snout to origin of dorsal fin	68.5
Length from the tip of the snout to anterior insertion of flipper	43.0

Length from the tip of the snout	
to centre of anus	105.8
Length from the notch of the fluke	
to posterior end of dorsal fin	53.3
Length from the notch of the fluke	
to centre of anus	44.2
Length of the fluke on outer curvature	24.1
Length of the fluke on inner curvature	16.0
Distance between extremitie	
of the fluke	37.0
Length of dorsal fin base	25.0
Vertical height of dorsal fin	12.4
Length of flipper from anterior	
insertion to tip	24.0
Length of flipper along curve	
of lower border	18.9
Greatest width of flipper	9.3
Depth of body at anal region	23.1
Depth of body at origin of flipper	37.0
Depth of body at origin of dorsal	38.5
Length of upper jaw	23.8
Length of lower jaw	24.0
Diameter of eye	3.0
Total number of teeth on one	
side of upper jaw	33
Total number of teeth on one	
side of lower jaw	33
Sex	Female
Approximate weight	50 kg
approximate weight	oo ng

<sup>\*</sup> Reported by S. Krishna Pillai, C. Kasinathan and N. Ramamoorthy, Regional Centre of C. M. F. R I., Mandapam Camp.