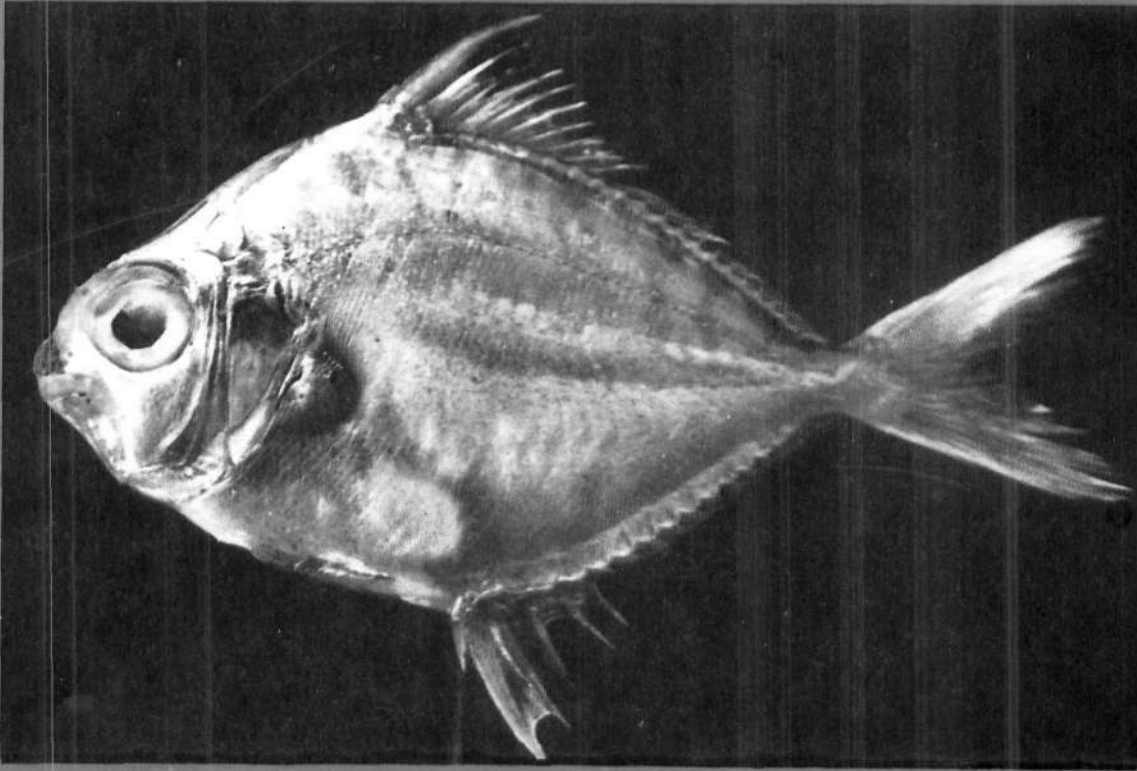




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केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्यकी CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES
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भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

ON THE FIRST RECORD OF THE DEEP SEA SHARK *CENTROPHORUS GRANULOSUS* (BLOCH AND SCHNEIDER) FROM INDIAN SEAS*

Two numbers of the deep sea gulper shark *Centrophorus granulosus* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801) belonging to the family Squalidae were landed at the Cochin Fisheries Harbour on 23-2-1991. The specimens were 95 cm and 91 cm (Fig.1) in total length and weighed 6 and 4.5 kg respectively. It is for the first time that this species is recorded from the Indian coasts; though common in the Atlantic and upto Southern Mozambique. Both specimens were females. A single fully developed embryo with characters of the adult was present in the specimen of total length 91 cm. The embryo measured 323 mm in total length and weighed

190 g. They were caught northwest off Cochin (off Ponnani-Chavakkad) at depth ranging 300-320 m in shark long lines. Again on 19-6-'91, two female specimens of the same species, measuring 90 and 98 cm were landed at the Fisheries Harbour, caught by the same gear.



Fig. 1. *Centrophorus granulosus*, the deep sea gulper shark.

*Prepared by Grace Mathew, K. Thulasidas and K. M. Venugopal, CMFRI, Cochin - 682 031.

Colour dark brown, fins dark, body elongate and slightly compressed. Snout pointed and longer than width of mouth, but shorter than distance from mouth to pectoral fin origin. Teeth in upper jaw small, broad and blade like, lower jaw teeth large, compressed and blade like. A strong spine with lateral grooves present on anterior edges of both dorsal fins. First dorsal relatively high, second lower than first, its base about $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of first dorsal base. Inner corners of pectoral fins produced as narrow, pointed lobes that extend to behind first dorsal spine; caudal fin with a deep subterminal notch, caudal peduncle without dorsal keels of precaudal pits.

Teeth $\frac{16-19/1/16-19}{14-17/1/14-17}$

Morphometric measurements in cm are given below:

Total length	:	91
Length of first dorsal base	:	18
Length of second dorsal base	:	10.6
Height of first dorsal	:	6.2
Height of second dorsal	:	5
Snout length	:	8.4
Width of mouth	:	9
Horizontal diameter of orbit	:	4.5
Tip of snout to origin of caudal	:	71
Tip of snout to origin of first dorsal	:	29
Tip of snout to origin of second dorsal	:	62
Tip of snout to origin of ant. of orbit	:	5.5
Length of interdorsal space	:	24
Length of pectoral base	:	10.2