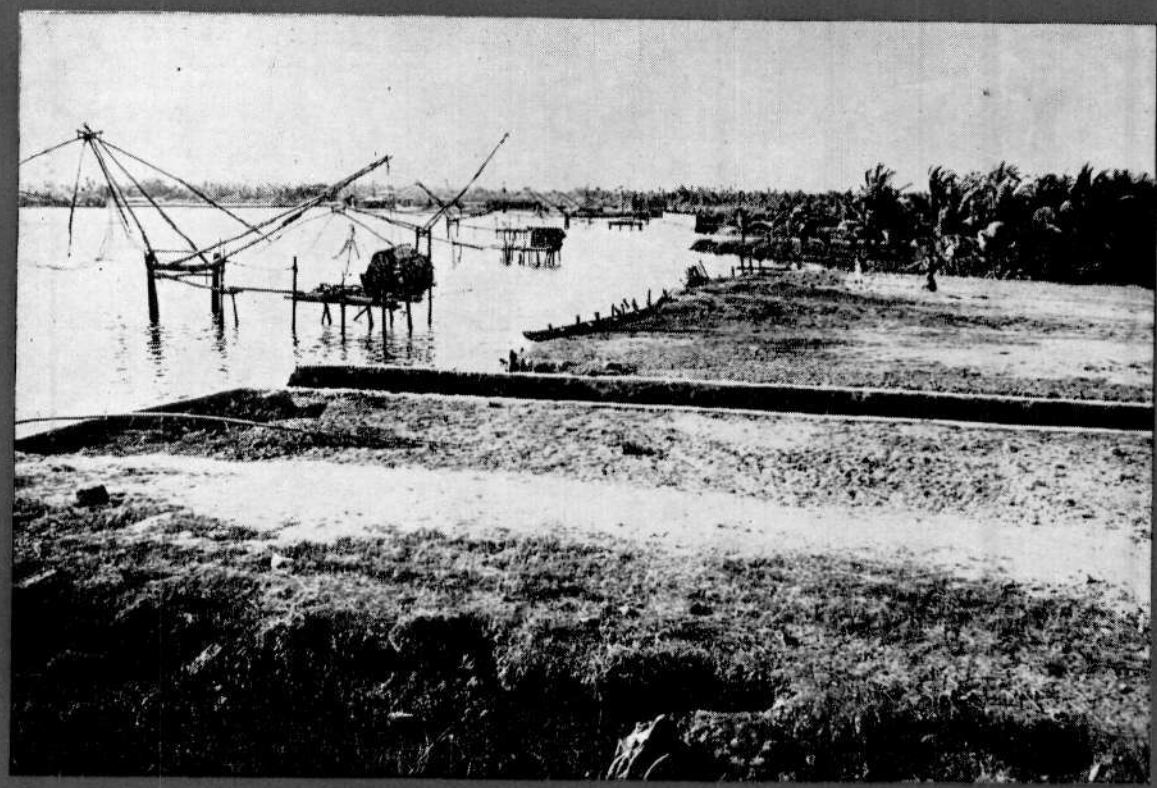




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## ON THE OCCURRENCE OF SEEDS OF THREADFIN AND INDIAN SAND WHITING ALONG THE CALICUT COAST\*

Occurrence of seeds of Threadfin (*Polynemus tetradactylus*) and Whiting (*Sillago sihama*) was noticed for the first time along the Calicut coast during the last week of November, 1985. The seeds were found in fairly good numbers in the surf of Konnad beach extending about 500 m length in the West Hill area. The Threadfin seed was available only during November, 1985; whereas the availability of Whiting seed extended upto the end of January, 1986. The Threadfin seed was available at an average of 36 numbers per haul (179 numbers per hour). During the months of November and December the Whiting was available at a rate of 0.5 number per haul (2.2 per hour); whereas in January it was available at the rate of 39 per haul (196 per hour).

A total of 1,250 numbers of Threadfin seed ranging in size from 15 to 23 mm and 1,193 numbers of Whiting seed ranging in size from 30 to 50 mm were collected and utilised for culture experiments.

The seeds were collected by using an ordinary mosquito netting from the shallow waters upto 5 m distance from the shore line having a maximum depth of 1m. The early morning hours and high tide periods seemed to be the best time for the collection of seeds. The salinity and temperature of the water ranged between 32.8 and 33.5‰ and 28 and 30°C respectively in the area where the seeds were collected. The bottom of the ground was sandy and a good concentration of yellow-green algae was noticed in the area. Young ones of *Ambassis* sp., *Therapon* sp. and carangids were also found along with the above seeds.

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\*Reported by S. Lazarus and K. Nandakumaran, Calicut Research Centre of CMFRI, Calicut.

