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925 Accidental catch of three Risso's dolphins at Beemapally, Near Vizhinjam

Three young Risso's dolphins *Grampus griseus* (Cuvier, 1812) of the size 130, 132 and 138 cm (snout to notch of caudal fluke) were caught dead along with oil-sardine catch in a shore seine at Beemapally, near Vizhinjam on 30-06-1999. The Risso's dolphin is rare and is differentiated from other dolphins by the absence of the beak.

A male Risso's dolphin measuring 245 cm was first reported from Madra on the southeast coast of India (Rajagopalan *et al.*, 1984, *J.mar. biol. Ass. India*, 26: 171-173). The stranding of a male measuring 250 cm in length was reported on 31-08-1998 near Vizhinjam from the southwest coast of India by Thiagarajan *et al.* (in press).

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