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RESEARCH INSTITUTE
COCHIN, INDIA

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
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**932 On the landing of porpoise
Neophocaena phocaenoides at
Rameswaran, Tamil Nadu**

Finless black porpoises locally called 'Mini kutti' often occur in the nearshore waters and are caught on many occasions along the Palk Bay coast around Mandapam region. On 18.1.'99, a female Porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides* measuring 144 cm in total length (Fig.1) was landed at Rameswaram Verkode. The porpoise was caught by gillnet locally called as *Vali valai*, operated off Rameswaram in the Palk Bay at a depth of 18 m. The morphometric characters are given in the Table 1.

TABLE 1. *The morphometric measurements (cm) of the porpoise*

Tip of upper jaw to tip of caudal fluke	144
Tip of upper jaw to origin of flipper	32
Tip of upper jaw to centre of eye	12
Tip of upper jaw to centre of blow hole	14
Length of upper jaw	6.5
Length of lower jaw	6
Width of eye	3
Width of blowhole	2
Length of blowhole	2.5
Weight (in kg)	40



Fig. 1. *Neophocaena phocaenoides* landed at Rameswaram.

Reported by M. Bose, Mandapam Regional Centre of
CMPRI, Mandapam Camp-623 520, India.
