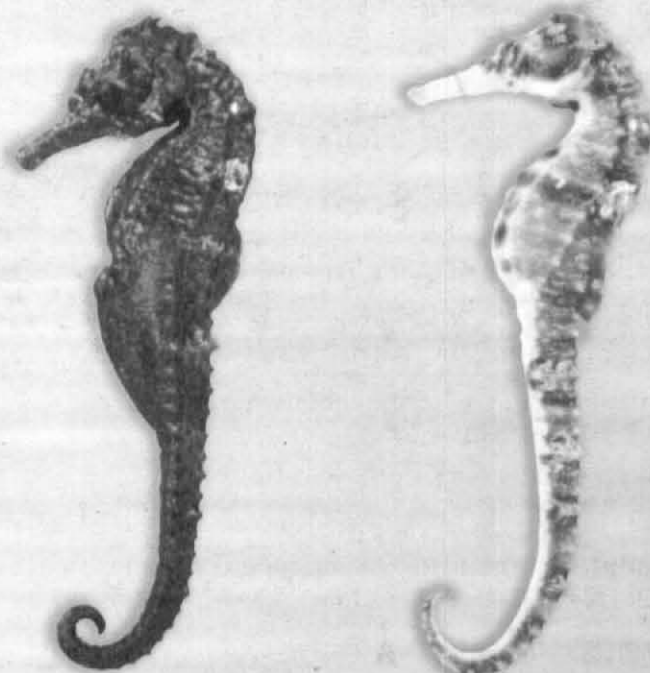




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On a female devil ray *Manta birostris* (Walbaum) entangled in bottom set gill net at Kelwa-Dandarpada, Maharashtra

On 24-09-02 one female giant devil ray *Manta birostris* (locally called "Ulack") was entangled in a bottom set gill net at about 16.00 hrs from a depth of 45-50m, off Kelwa-Dandarpada, Maharashtra.



Rear view of *Manta birostris* (Walbaum)

The ray measured 594cm across the disc, weighed about 1500 kg and was auctioned for Rs.6000/-. The specimen was a pregnant female with one male embryo weighing about 5 kg. The other morphological characters were as follows.

Disc width	594 cm
Disc length	417 cm
Width of mouth	106 cm
Weight	1500 kg
Sex	Female
Tail length	92 cm
Length of cephalic horn	60 cm

Reported by: Umesh H. Rane, Field Centre of CMFRI, Dahanu