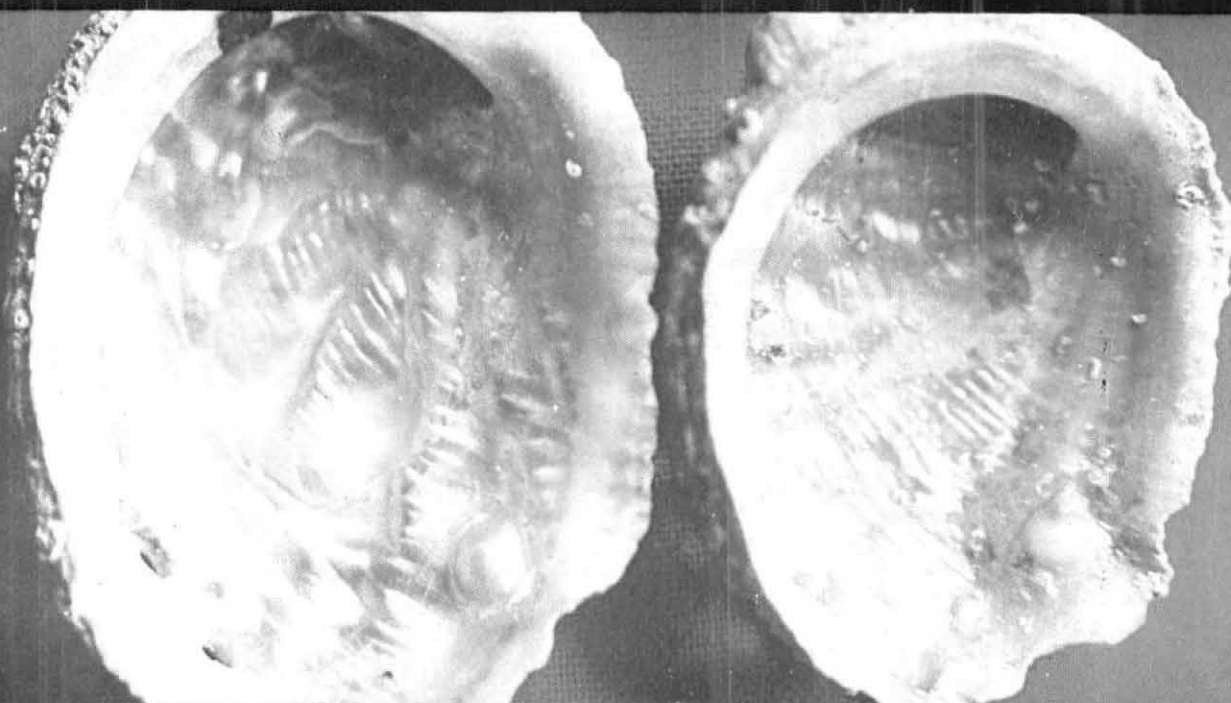




MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 170

October, November, December 2001



TECHNICAL AND EXTENSION SERIES

CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

COCHIN, INDIA

(INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH)

978 On a whale shark, *Rhincodon typus* Smith, landed at Dakti Dahanu and Gungwada, Thane, Maharashtra

On 21st December 1999, a whale shark *Rhincodon typus* Smith (Male) got entangled in a nylon gill net (locally called *wagrajal*) at about 0400 hrs., at a depth of 40M. was landed at Dakti Dahanu & Gangwada. It was alive but subsequently died at about 0800 hrs. on the same day. The shark towed to the shore was laying for three days as there was no demand for the flesh and fins. The various body measurements taken were as follows.



Whale shark landed at Dakti Dahanu

Total length	-	625cm
Standard length	-	490 "
Head length	-	150 "
Girth of body (maximum)	-	210 "
Width of mouth	-	73 "
Vertical height on first dorsal fin	-	58 "
Second dorsal fin	-	17 "
Anal fin	-	15 "
Length of caudal fin along upper margin	-	180 "
Snout to origin of		
First dorsal fin	-	269 "
Second dorsal fin	-	411 "
Pectoral fin	-	115 "
Pelvic fin	-	351cm
Anal fin	-	417 "
Inter space between		
First and second dorsal	-	73 "
Anal and caudal	-	58 "
Pectoral and pelvic origin	-	170 "
Pelvic and anal origin	-	48 "
Other body measurements		
Length of pectoral fin along outer origin	-	115 "
Length of pelvic fin along outer margin	-	55 "
Length of second dorsal	-	43 "
Length of first dorsal	-	92 "
Length of clasper	-	33 "
Approximate weight (Tonnes)	-	1.8 "

The local fishmerchant bought the fish for Rs.6,000/-. It was cut into pieces after 3 days of landing, liver and skin were removed. The liver weighed 96 kg and yielded 25 litres of quality oil. The flesh was buried in the soil

Reported by : **S.K. Kamble and U.H. Rane,**
Dahanu Field Centre of CMFRI, Dahanu