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1027 Stray landings of flying fish, *Cheliopogon furcatus* (Mitchill, 1815)
at New Ferry Wharf, Mumbai

Flying fish have been occasionally reported from different fish landing centres along the coastal strip of India. But its landings have been observed lately at New Ferry Wharf landing centre in Mumbai, from trawl net



Cheliopogon furcatus (Mitchill, 1815)

operations during the second Jan '03. The catch of the species was observed along with small sized tuna. Since they are tropical pelagic fish, probably migrate towards shallow water areas near the shores for spawning, hence the occurrence. The body was elongate, somewhat flattened ventrally, dorsal fin with 12-14 and anal fin with 9-11 rays. Pectoral fins were long, about 60-70% of total length of fish. Only the first pectoral fin ray was unbranched. A total catch of about 160 kg was landed on 1/2/03. The furcal length ranged between 29 - 34 mm. Probably this is a new entrant to the fishery and needs close monitoring.

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