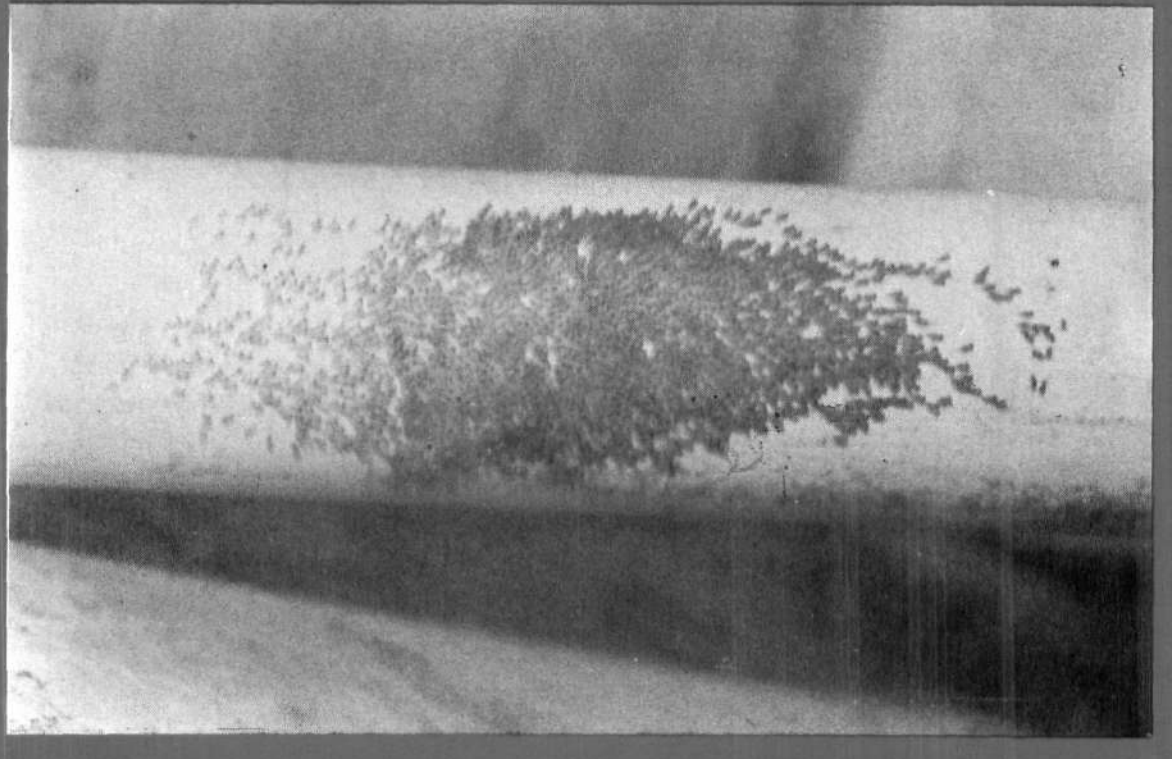
ISSN 0254-380 X

भाकृअनुप
ICAR

समुद्री मात्स्यिकी सूचना सेवा
MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 161 : July, August, September 1999



तकनीकी एवं विस्तार अंकावली
TECHNICAL AND EXTENSION SERIES

केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्यिकी अनुसंधान संस्थान
कोचिन, भारत
CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
COCHIN, INDIA

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

erated for lobsters on the forenoon of 19-10-1996 behind Vivekananda Rock Memorial, 1 km east of Kanyakumari at 15m depth. This specimen, a female measuring 363 cm in total length and 280 kg weight was landed at Chinnamuttom Fisheries Harbour, 2 km north of Kanyakumari (Fig.1) and was transported for sale to Thoothoor, a fishing

Fig. 1. Largetooth sawfish, *Pristis microdon*, landed at Kanyakumari (a one foot scale placed on its pectoral).

centre 50 km away where sharks and shark relatd products have an exclusive market. The caudal and the two dorsal fins which have great export value were sold for Rs. 5,530/- and the remaining portion fetched Rs. 9,500/-

Earlier records show that this species reaches a maximum length of 15 feet (457 cm); but a 705 cm long female specimen was recorded in 1988 at Chennai (formerly Madras) *(Mar. Fish. Infor. Ser., T&E* Ser., 98:13). Another recorded at Contai (West Bengal) in 1992 had a length of 540 cm *(Mar.Fish. Infor. Serv., T&E Ser.*, 135:16). Since occurrence of sawfish has become rare along the southern coast of India its morphometric measurements are given in Table 1 .

TABLE 1. *Morphometric measurements of* Pristis microdon *landed at Kanyakumari*

		Measurement in cm	Percentage in TL
Total length	..	363.0	-
Standard length	..	308.2	84.9

****

913 On the rare occurrence of a sawfish at Kanyakumari

A large-tooth sawfish *Pristis microdon* Lathem, 1794 (Elasmobranchii: Rajiformes: Pristidae), locally known as *aathu iluppa* or *kombu suraave* got entangled in a bottom-set gillnet, Kalraal valai, op-

Disc length	..	187.8	51.7
Width of mouth from angle to angle	..	21.4	5.9
Horizontal diameter of orbit	..	3.8	1.0
Vertical height of first dorsal fin	..	31.3	8.6
Vertical height of second dorsal fin	..	28.5	7.8
Length of first dorsal fin	..	40.1	11.0
Length of second dorsal fin	..	34.6	9.5
First dorsal base	..	31.0	8.5
Second dorsal base	..	23.7	6.5
Interdorsal space	..	40.1	11.0
Length of caudal fin along upper margin	..	54.8	15.1
Snout to anterior end of orbit	..	72.9	20.1
Snout to first dorsal fin origin	..	198.8	54.8
Snout to second dorsal fin origin	..	269.9	74.3
Snout to pectoral fin origin	..	125.8	34.7
Snout to pelvic fin origin	..	215.2	59.3

Reported by Jacob Jerold Joel, Vizhinjam Research Centre of CMFRI, Vizhinjam - 695 521 and I.P. Ebenezer, Kanyakumari Field Centre of CMFRI, Kanyakumari - 629 702, India.

****