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INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

ON THE LARGEST GREASY GROUPEP *EPINEPHELUS TAUVINA* FORSSKAL LANDED AT VISAKHAPATNAM *

A large sized greasy grouper *Epinephelus tauvina* Forsskal, locally called 'Nallabontoo' measuring 236 cm in total length and weighing 300 kg was landed by a trawler of 13.1 m length, on 20th March, 1991 at Visakhapatnam from a depth of 60 m. Talwar & Kacker (*Commercial Sea Fishes of India*, 1984) reported that this species attains a maximum length of at least 220 cm, and 220 kg in weight. According to Fischer & Whitehead (*FAO species Identification Sheets, Eastern Indian Ocean, Area 57, Vol. 4, 1974*) it attains a maximum length of 150 cm. The present specimen seems to be the largest recorded so far.

The morphometric measurements (in cm) of the species are given below.

Total length	236
Standard length	201
Head length	66
Diameter of eye	4.6
Length of spiny dorsal fin base	107
Length of pectoral fin	36.4
Base of pectoral fin	31.3
Base of anal fin	33.5
Base of pelvic fin	7.3
Length of caudal fin	35.2
Maximum width of caudal fin	61.5
Maximum depth of body at dorsal fin	69
Maximum width of body	61

*Reported by C.V. Seshagiri Rao and J.B. Varma, Visakhapatnam Research Centre of CMFRI, Visakhapatnam - 530 003.