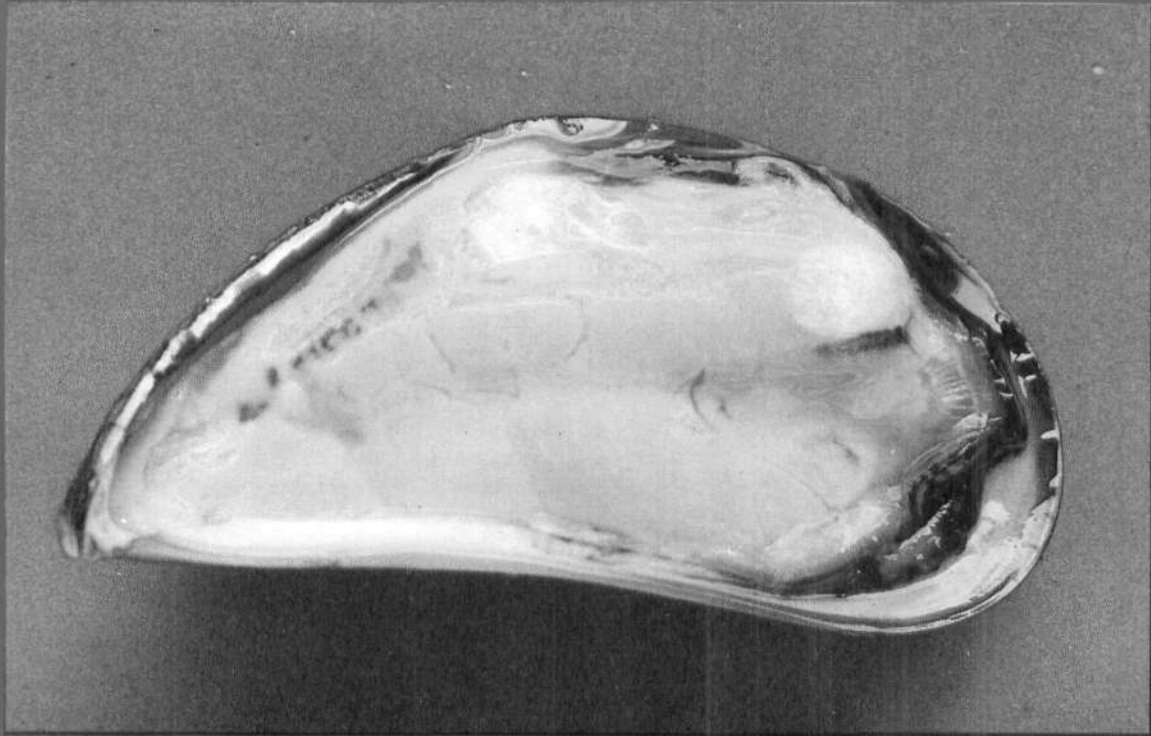




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भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद  
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

**939 A report on a large sized mud spiny  
lobster *Panulirus polyphagus*  
(Herbst, 1793) landed at Veraval**

A large sized mud spiny lobster *Panulirus polyphagus* (Herbst) was observed on 23 November, 1998 in the trawl landing at Bhidiya landing centre of Veraval. This was brought in from a long-trip trawler fishing for 4-5 days off Dwaraka fishing grounds. The specimen was a male, weighing approximately 1,500 g, measuring 133 mm in carapace length and 380 mm in total length. The predominant size class usually represented in the fishery is 70 - 80 mm carapace length.

Available information suggests that the maximum size attainable in *P. polyphagus* is 370 mm, total length (FAO Species Identification Sheets, for Fishery Purposes, Western Indian Ocean, Fishing Area 51, Vol. 5 (1984)). Male *P. polyphagus* upto 365 mm and a female as big as 395 mm have been reported from Bombay waters by Kagwade (*Indian J. Fish.*, **34(4)** : 389-389 (1987)). However, such large specimens have not been reported earlier from the Gujarat coast and the specimen under report is the largest so far recorded from Veraval. Based on the studies made by Kagwade (1987) the specimen being reported is more than eight years old.

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**Reported by : Joe K. Kizhakudan and B.P. Thumber, Veraval Research Centre of CMFRI, Veraval, Gujarat - 362 269, India**

