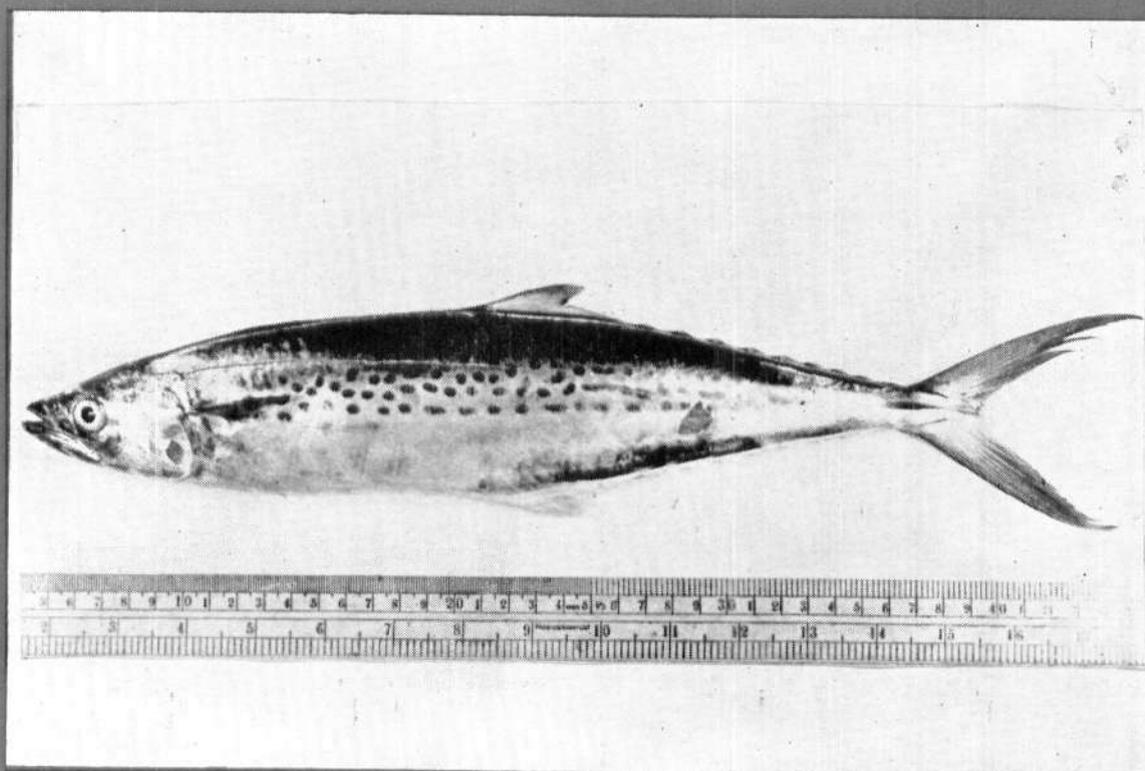




# MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE



No. 81  
MARCH 1988

*Technical and Extension Series*

CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

COCHIN, INDIA

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

## ON A WHALE SHARK *RHINIODON TYPUS* SMITH LANDED AT PUDUMANAIKUPPAM, MADRAS\*

On the 6th March, 1987, a female whale shark measuring 506 cm was landed at 1400 hrs at Pudumanai-kuppam landing centre, Madras District, Tamilnadu State. It was reported that the whale shark along with other fishes namely *Scomberomorus* spp. and *Euthynnus affinis* got entangled in a gill net operated by a mechanised boat about 30 km north from the shore at about 70 m depth. The gill net was completely damaged by the whale shark. The boat crew tied nylon rope around the body and brought it to the shore. The whale shark weighed approximately 1,250 kg. As there was no buyer, the whale shark was towed to the sea and discarded.

---

\*Reported by S. Subramani, Madras Research Centre of CMFRI, Madras.

The following measurements (in cm) have been recorded:

1. Total length	: 506
2. Standard length	: 389
3. Width of mouth from angle to angle	: 74
4. Snout to first dorsal	: 217
5. Snout to second dorsal	: 301
6. Snout to first gill	: 82
7. Length of caudal fin	: 117
8. Snout to pectoral	: 99
9. Vertical height of first dorsal fin	: 44
10. Vertical height of second dorsal fin	: 19

