



# **FISHING CHIMES**

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hatchery is very high, until and unless one uses an assured method, returns cannot be obtained in proportion to cost involved. Dr. Singh therefore, pointed out that for modern scientific aquaculture one should use an assured method of fish seed production which is possible with the formulated drug Ovaprim, and this is a viable substitute for fish pituitary for carp breeding. He gave history of LH-RH analogue hormone with the domapori done as antagonist. The Deputy Director, Asst. Director and Chief Executive Officers of FFDA, Govt of U.P., private fish breeders and many progressive farmers attended this Symposium which was held for the first time in this area.

A progressive fish breeder, Mr. Surendra Singh hosted the Symposium at his hatchery and shared his experience of using Ovaprim. He told that Ovaprim was an easy and effective substitute for pituitary gland. Mr. Singh had been using Ovaprim for the last three years. He gave fish spawning demonstration to fish farmers and Doordarshan for telecast in the evening from local relay centre at Gorakhpur.

Mr. Asok Bhattacharya and Mr. Vinod Sant from Glaxo also participated in the Symposium to hear about the difficulties faced by farmers in obtaining Ovaprim.

## A Fishery for southern Rough Shrimp *Trachypenaeus curvirostris* off Bombay coast

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Fishery of tough-shelled *Trachypenaeus curvirostris* (Stimpson) called 'Dugdu' in Marathi is of recent origin. (Aravindakshan and Karbhari, 1983). Earlier the species was reported as stray, not contributing to a fishery.

The introduction of mechanised trawling showed a change in the landings of some of the penaeid shrimps. One change is that *Trachypenaeus curvirostris* was found to have considerable fishery importance. The average landings accounted for over 180 tonnes an year worth about Rs. 20 lakhs. The figures are given below, based on data collected by the field staff of the Centre.

Year	Gear	Catch	Catch/ Unit
1993	Trawl	180	10kg/unit
	Sassoon dock	tonnes	
1994..		181..	9kg/unit

Though the CPU (Catch per unit) is small, the level of catches went up because of the number of trawlers operating. The catches were seen to be available in plenty in the local market. Being tough-shelled it was found to have a resisting power from decay, than light shelled ones such as *Solenocera choprai*. The maximum size measured was 106mm for females. This is a record as Holthuis (1980) stated the maximum size for females was below 100mm.

The fishery for the species is to be considered still in its infant stage. The present fishing ground is between 40-70m depth range operated off Murud and Janjira coasts of Maharashtra. According to Holthuis (*Op.cit*) the species is found in a depth range of 13-150m. Hence there is a possibility that larger stocks may be available for tapping at greater depths. However the country craft in the present state can fish only up to 70m depth.