A Fishery for southern Rough Shrimp

Trachypenaeus curvirostris off Bombay coast

M. Aravindakshan, A. Y. Mistry and M. Shriram

Scientists, Bombay Research Centre of CMFRI, Bombay

Fishery of tough-shelled *Trachypenaeus curvirostris* (Stimpson) called ‘Dugdhu’ 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 per year worth about Rs. 20 lakhs. The figures are given below, based on data collected by the staff of the Centre.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Catch</th>
<th>Catch/ Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Trawl</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>10 kg/unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sassoon dock</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>9 kg/unit</td>
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</tbody>
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Though the CPT (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 cranchii*. The maximum size measured was 100 mm for females. This is a record as Holthuis (1980) stated the maximum size for females was below 100 mm.

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

References


National Seminar on Status of "Fisheries Education in the country and relevance of Fishery Council"

A Seminar on the above subject will be held under the auspices of the Forum for Advancement of Fisheries in Calcutta in August 1995. Those interested may kindly indicate their desire to attend the seminar to the Secretary, Forum for Advancement of Fisheries, "Minakshi" 85-Old Calcutta Road. P.O Taltipukur - 743187, Barrackpore, District North 24-Parganas, W.B. giving address and designation along with their views in the form of a ‘write-up’ on the status of Fisheries education immediately for enlistment of their names for participation in the seminar.

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Training to small scale shrimp farmers in Ganjam Dist. in Orissa

The B.F.D.A, Ganjam, Berhampur organised a 15 days small scale shrimp farmers training programme at Pallur in Ganjam block in Orissa. 58 farmers have been imparted training for 15 days. The training programme was inaugurated by Mr. D.N. Panda, Collector, Ganjam on 21-1-1995 where Mr. S.N. Misra, Chief Executive Officer of the B.F.D.A. Ganjam appraised the activities of the Agency and aims and objectives of this training programme for successful shrimp farming in the area. Misra stated that the B.F.D.A. Ganjam in Orissa was established on 4th August 1989 and within 5 years of its operation, 1246 nos. of farmers had been enrolled and shrimp farming in 1395 ha of brackishwater was in progress in the District.

The Agency had sanctioned and distributed Rs. 29 lakhs as subsidy to the farmers and Banks had sanctioned 2.17 crores of rupees for brackishwater shrimp farming in the District. The production ha which was 200 mt/annum at the beginning of the Agency had now gone upto 750 mt by December 1994. Misra had also taken a video film on the activities of B.F.D.A. Ganjam which was shown to the farmers. The film included small scale shrimp farming methods adopted in Ganjam Dist. and Agency’s activities to increase shrimp production in Traditional, Extensive & Improved Extensive projects. The Agency had also tried shrimp farming in Salt pan areas and also with borewell in salt areas in stagnant ponds and received good yield and also response from the farmers. The Agency had also taken up carp culture for the first time in 1994-95 and shown types of excavations through manual work, tractors, ploughs etc. to construct shrimp culture ponds. The film also covered education on different technologies adopted by the farmers in the District. The activities of the B.F.D.A and functioning of the Agency had been also included in the video film. The Collector and Chairman, Mr. D.N. Panda had also advised the farmers for taking up scientific shrimp farming without spoiling their environment and waters.

The B.F.D.A. Ganjam had also shown a Video film of J.V. Marine, Taiwan on modern shrimp farming methods to 58 farmers who along with local interested people had also witnessed the film and the training programme had been acclaimed by the local people, farmers and the Collector. Stipend of Rs. 25 per day/beneficiary had also been sanctioned and distributed to the farmers by the B.F.D.A. Ganjam. Mr. M.R. Das, Block Development Officer, Ganjam along with bankers had participated in the training programme.

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Fishing Chimes

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June 1995