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ON THE FISHERY OF *ACETES JOHNI* AT KARWAR AND TADRI*

Acetes shrimps occasionally appear as stray catches along the Karwar coast. During November–December, 1986, *Acetes johni* formed a regular fishery for 40 days both at Karwar and Tadri. The species was found amongst *Oratosquilla nepa*, *Lepturacanthus savala* and other trash fishes caught by trawlers and purse seiners. The estimated catches of *A. johni* at Tadri and Karwar were 84 and 22 tonnes respectively.

There appeared to be a decrease in catch around new moon day and a rise around full moon day. The general sex-ratio was 35:65 for males to females during the season. The size range of the species was 19–22 mm and the water content amounted to 84% of the total wet body weight. From both the centres nearly 106 tonnes (wet weight) of *A. johni* were landed. The estimated sun-dried weight was 16.928 tonnes. The species was sold at Rs. 12 per kg (retail price) on dry weight basis which amounts to a total of Rupees two lakhs during the season.

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