

The Fishery for Flamingo Shrimp *Parapenaeus longipes* (Alcock) at Sassoon Dock, Bombay

M. Aravindakshan, Scientist, Bombay R.C of CMFR Institute

The fishery of this small shrimp was first reported by Aravindakshan and Karbhari (1983). Though it was seasonal at the time of its report, its fishery was found to be increasing covering the whole year subsequently. The reason is that there is great demand for prawn meat and large prawns are caught in lesser measure and therefore mechanised trawlers venturing deeper waters to tap new resources of less known shrimps.

Flamingo shrimp is a good contributor to penaeid prawn landings by trawl net at Sassoon dock, Bombay. Table I given shows the magnitude of its landings during different months of the year. The catches continue to be high during pre-monsoon months when it was reported at first. The fishermen used to go for deep water fishing during pre-monsoon months when large penaeid prawns dwindle in the catches from inshore waters. From the Table it is seen that landings are more than 150 tonnes on

an average though the fishery showed considerable decline in 1993.

Showing landings of *P.longipes*,
monthwise at S.dock, Bombay by
trawl net (Catch in kg)

Year	1991	1992	1993
Jan	15784	18113	
Feb	14668	25348	4350
Mar	15196	27966	2542
April	22640	13967	5514
May	69998	31512	5304
Jun	11772	25180	14534
Jul	14732	33251	8440
Aug	68249	18138	6794
Sep	20605	16285	5213
Oct	19946	9960	3751
Nov	16630	5828	2983
Dec	11338		3250
Total	301550 (14.6)	225540 (10.2)	62675 (5.00)

C.P.U in parenthesis

As Holthuis (1980) remarked the fishery is 'minor or nil' for this species. But

occurrence of this magnitude at Sassoon dock, Bombay gives the first place in the world for the species whose stock is still to be assessed.

The female was found to grow upto 106mm which was the maximum recorded for this species. Since larvae of Flemingo Shrimp had not been recorded in abundance from inshore waters, the breeding is believed to be taking place in off-shore region. Further investigations are needed for a fuller understanding of the life history of this delicate shrimp, a good contributory trawl fishery in Maharashtra state.

References

Aravindakshan, M. and J.P. Karbhari 1983. New penaeid prawn resources showing along Maharashtra coast. *Mar. fish. Infor Serv* T&E Ser.58.10-12

Holthuis, L.B 1980. Shrimps and prawns of the world. *FAO FISH: Symp.* Vol.1.1 281.p