

Deformity recorded in the lower jaw of Malabar red snapper, *Lutjanus argentimaculatus* landed at Chennai

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Deformity of lower jaw as a dislocation of the hyoid bones between the mandibular branches was observed in the Malabar red snapper, *Lutjanus argentimaculatus* landed at Kasimedu Fishing Harbour, Chennai on 20th July 2011. There was about 1.8 t of *L. argentimaculatus* (in the size range 520-620 mm length and 4.5 - 5.5 kg weight) landed by mechanised trawlers. The lower jaw outgrowth size was 80 mm. A similar type of lower jaw deformity has been reported in salmon fry as a drop of the hyoid bones between the mandibular branches. In severe cases, this was visible as a “double mouth”. This deformity is often sorted out early, or the fish die, possibly from problems with eating (Institute of AKVAFORSK, Norway). Fishes with an evident deformity in the lower jaw (Jaw Deformity, JD), was reported in Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar* from Chile during 1998, from Scotland (Bruno, 1980) and Ireland (Quigley, 1995).



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