

Green mussel (*Perna viridis*) fishing at Rajiwada, Ratnagiri

D. Sawant

Field Centre of CMFRI, Ratnagiri

During the months of December and January, fishery for live green mussels (*Perna viridis*) (Fig. 1) is observed along the coast of Rajiwada in Ratnagiri. Small non-mechanised crafts (locally known as *pagar*) having overall length of 4 – 5 m, with two crew members are engaged in this fishing activity. The live mussels were collected by diving at a depth of upto 3 - 4 m in the area of mussel beds (under Rajwade bridge). The fishing operation lasts for about one hour. The fishing is generally carried out in the morning from 70 00 hrs

to 09 00 hrs and in the evening during 16 00 hrs to 17 00 hrs. The total catch ranges from 100 – 150 kg per day during peak season. The length of *P. viridis*



Fig. 1. *Perna viridis* collected at Rajiwada, Ratnagiri

caught ranges from 10 to 13 cm. These mussels are kept alive in netbags immersed in water for about 4 to 5 days and sold in local market, @ ₹ 100 - 120 per dozen.