

Finless porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides* incidentally caught off Mangalore, Karnataka

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An Indo-Pacific finless porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides* (G. Cuvier, 1829) was incidentally caught off Mangalore and landed at Bunder harbor on 1.10.13 (Fig. 1). The fishermen refused to identify the boat which caught the porpoise as they were well aware of the ban. In Mangalore, a large

number of *N. phocaenoides* were earlier reported by researchers as being caught by purse seines. These porpoises are susceptible to bycatch in fishing gear, habitat degradation and are vulnerable to human activities. The morphometric measurements of the male porpoise is given in Table 1.



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of the finless porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides*

Table 1. Morphometric measurements of Indo-Pacific finless porpoise *N. phocaenoides*

Body Characters/sex	Male (cm)
Straight length (Tip of upper jaw to deepest part of caudal fluke notch)	134
Tip of upper jaw to anterior insertion of flipper (right)	24.8
Tip of upper jaw to anterior insertion of flipper (left)	24.8
Tip of upper jaw to centre of eye (right)	6.8
Length of eye	0.9
Width of eye	0.6
Tip of upper jaw to starting of tubercles on the dorsal surface	24
Starting of tubercles to the ending on dorsal ridge	72

Tip of upper jaw to blow hole	12.5
Tip of upper jaw to anterior edge of blow hole	11.5
Blow hole length	2
Blow hole width	1.3
Tip of upper jaw to centre of umbilicus	61
Length of flipper- tip to anterior insertion (left)	27.5
Length of flipper- tip to axilla (left)	21.5
Flipper width	9.5
Tip of upper jaw to centre of anus	94.5
Girth at eye	49
Girth at anus	52.5
Girth at axilla	68
Fluke span	38
Fluke depth of notch	1.8
Fluke width	12.5
Tip of upper jaw to centre of umbilicus	66
Length of genital slit	11
Fluke depth of notch	1.2
Teeth count (in numbers)	
Upper jaw (right)	16
Upper jaw(left)	18
Lower jaw (right)	16
Lower jaw (left)	17
Weight (kg)	28