

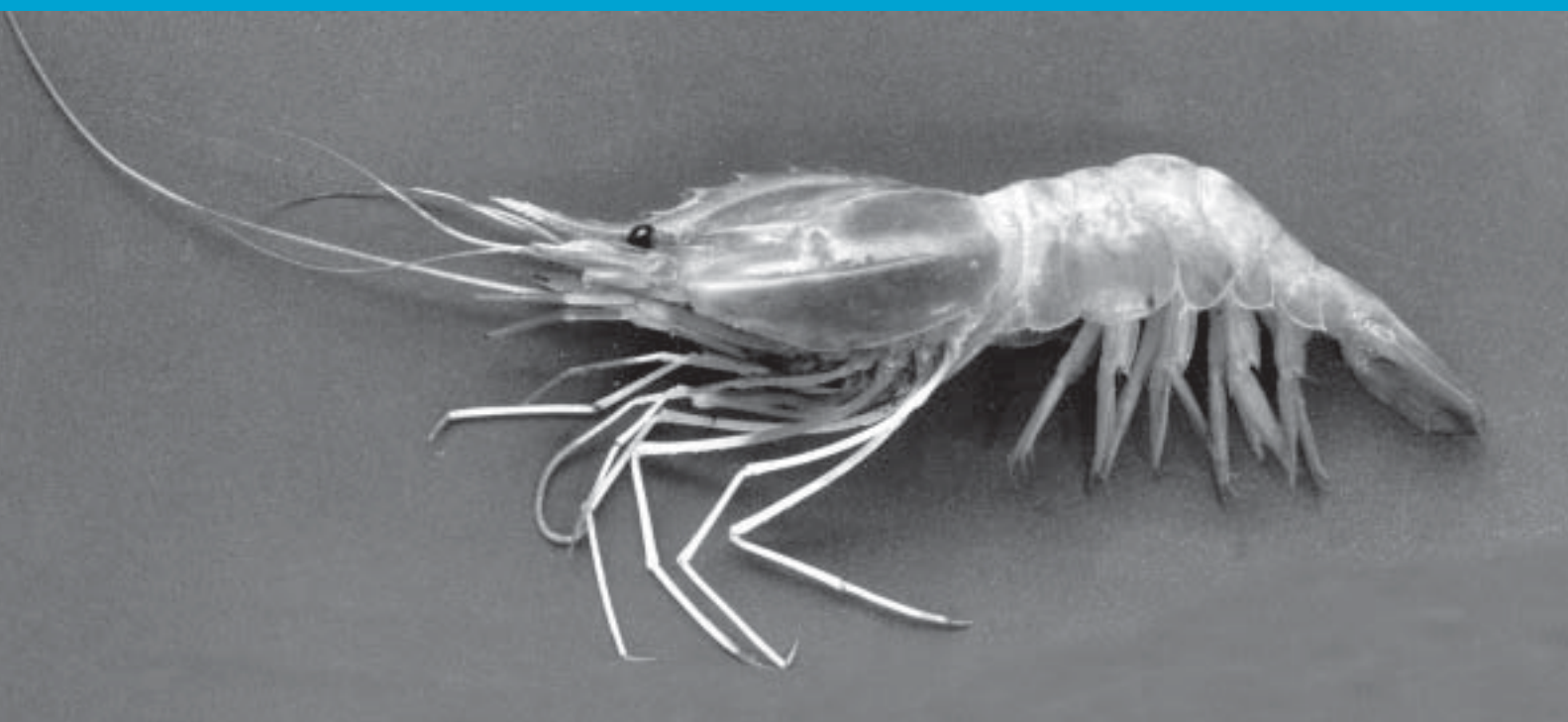
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Stray landings of *Brotula multibarbata* (Temminck & Schlegel, 1846) at New Ferry Wharf, Mumbai.

Occurrences of *Brotula multibarbata* commonly known as 'goatsbeard brotula' has been observed at New Ferry Wharf landing centre in Mumbai, in the second trawl net operations. The landings were during the second half of November 2003. It is a pelagic fish in



Brotula multibarbata (Temminck & Schlegel, 1846)

its early stage and usually found in reef areas in the mature stages. This is the first report of the species from Maharashtra waters.

The body was elongated with a tapering caudal part. Twelve barbels present on snout and chin, fine teeth present on jaws and palate. Fins were spine less. Dorsal and anal fins long, continuous with caudal fin. Pelvic fins are with two rays each. Body completely covered with small cycloid scales. The body colour was uniform silvery brown.

At present this species has no commercial value and hence is taken as trash for fish meal/manure purpose.

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