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1038 Unusual landings of *Otolithoides biauritus* in gill net and dol net at Mahim bazaar and Yarangal bhati, Maharashtra

Mahim bazaar landing centre is exclusive for mechanized gill netters. At the Mahim bazaar different types of gill nets are in operation. The details are given below.

Sl. Nos.	Type of the net	Types of filaments	Mesh size in mm.
1.	Wagera jal	Multi filaments	120-180
2.	Dalda jal	-do-	80-120
3.	Budi jal	-do-	40-80
4.	Disco jal	Mono filaments	25-35

On 14-11-2002, 6 boats landed an unusual catch of *Otolithoides biauritus* locally known as "koth" at Mahim bazaar landing centre. The details of catch are given below.

Sl. Nos.	No. of koth landed per unit	Total catch (Kg.)	Weight of Koth (Kg.)	Percentage
1.	36	497	454	91.3
2.	8	115	85	74.0
3.	4	78	50	64.0
4.	4	92	65	70.65
5.	6	159	125	78.6
6.	5	91	58	63.7

Other constituents were *Hilsa toli*, *Esculosa thoracata*, *Sardinella* spp., *Arius* spp., *Pampus argenteus*, *Harpadon nehereus*. *O. biauritus* is generally caught by dol net as bycatch. However, such a heavy landing of koth is recorded for the first time from disco gill net. The entire catch was disposed to whole sale market, at the rate of Rs. 55.00 to 60.00 per Kg. The size range of *O. biauritus* was 100 to 180 cms.

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