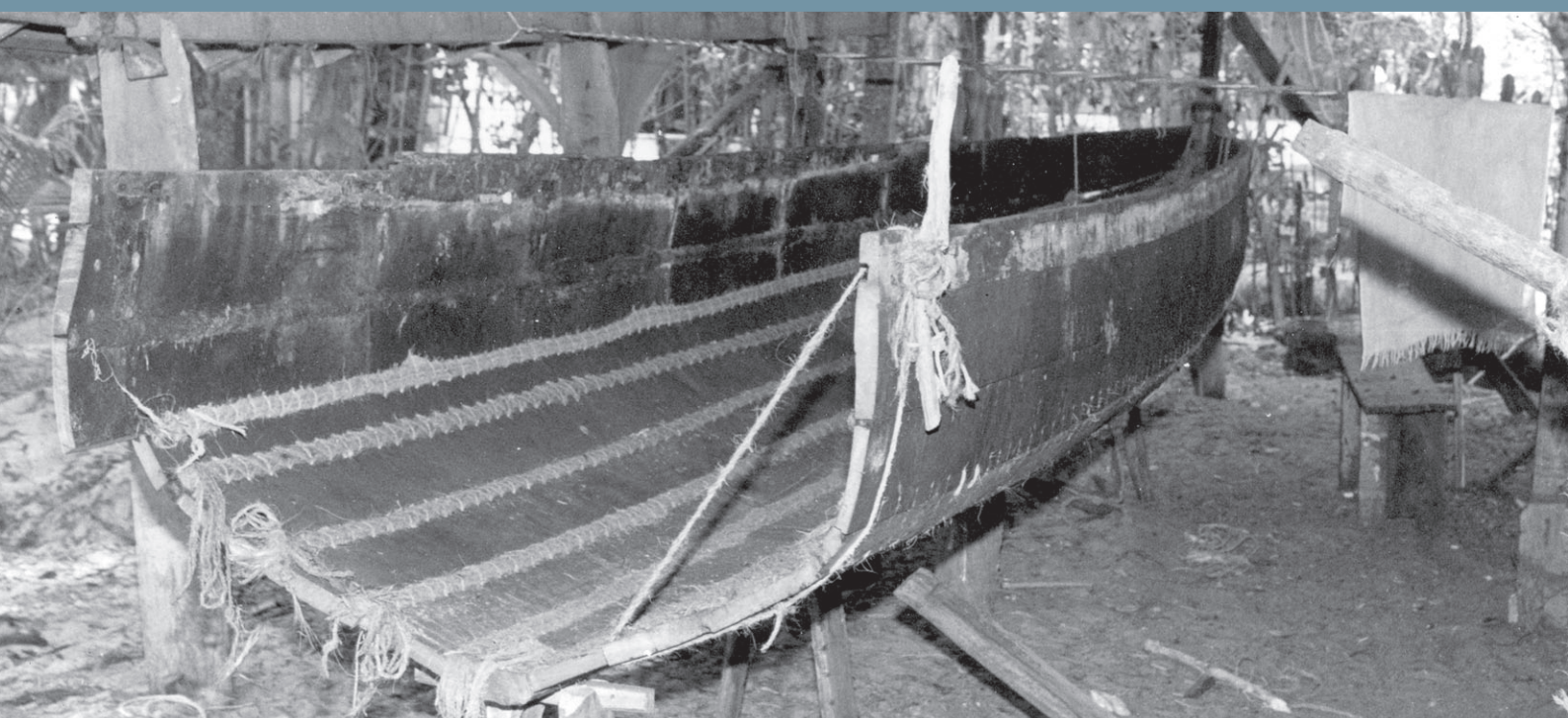




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COCHIN, INDIA

(INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH)

Landing of Whale shark, *Rhiodon typus* at Gopalpur, Ganjam district, Orissa

A male whale shark, *Rhiodon typus* was landed at Gopalpur on 02-03-2004. It was landed by a shore seine (*Pedda Vala*) at about 9.00 hrs. and the specimen was caught from a depth of 10-12m. The vernacular name of this shark in Telugu is *Pulimukham* or *Pulibokku sorrah* and in Oriya it is called as *Timiri magar*.

There was no local demand for this shark and hence it was discarded after removing the fins at the sea shore itself.

The morphometric measurements (in cm) are given below:

Total length	780
Standard length	630
Head length	165

Width of mouth from angle to angle	96
Girth of body	360
Length of caudal fin along upper margin	160
Snout to first dorsal fin	262
Snout to second dorsal fin	345
Snout to pectoral fin	136
Length of pectoral fin along outer margin	97
Length of first dorsal fin	100
Length of second dorsal fin	45
Height of first dorsal fin	83
Height of second dorsal fin	35
Sex	Male
Weight (approximate)	2.5tonnes

Reported by : S.V. Subba Rao, Gopalpur FC of CMFRI, Gopalpur.