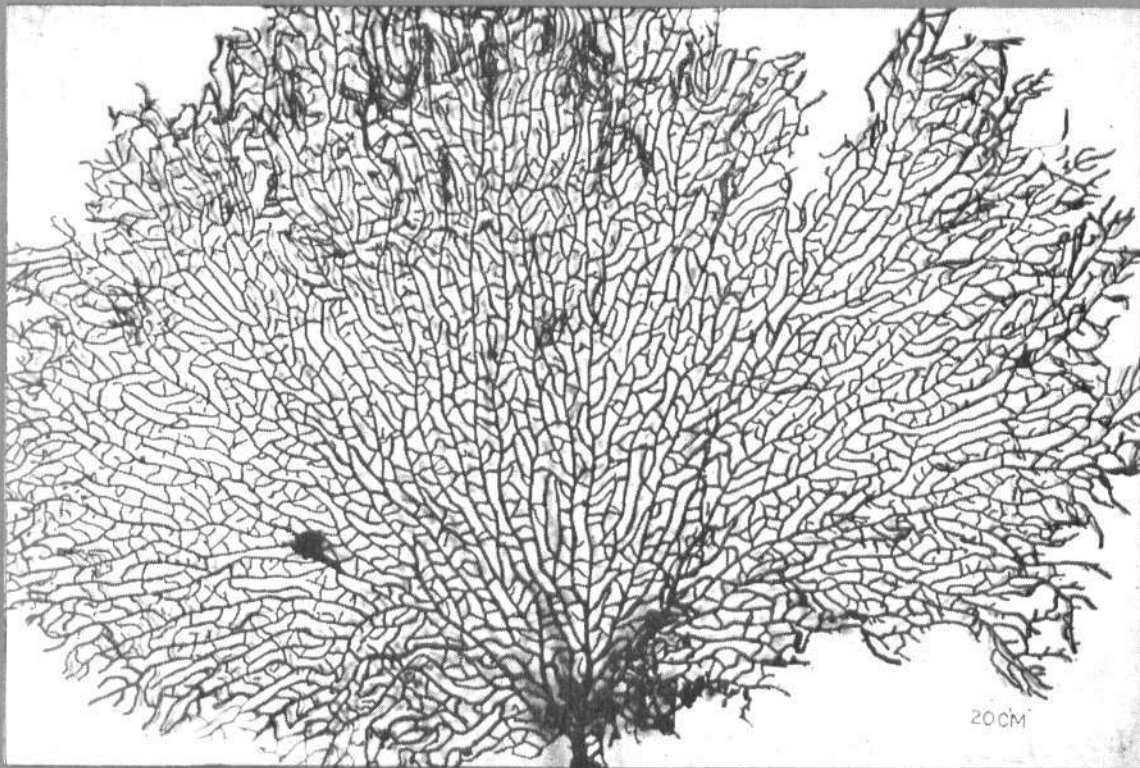




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A NOTE ON THE HEAVY LANDINGS OF *DIAGRAMMA PICTUM* ALONG THE SAURASHTRA COAST*

During the visit in connection with fishery survey data collection at Mangrol, it was observed on 17-12-1983 that unusually high catches of *Diagramma pictum* (Cuv. & Val.) were landed both by trawl nets and gill nets. Subsequently observations were made at Porbander and Veraval also, where high catches of the same species were recorded. The fishery was of short duration extending for 30 days. Afterwards the catches declined both from the gill nets and trawl nets. The estimated catches at Mangrol, Porbander and Veraval were 401.796, 163.608, and 87.475 tonnes respectively. The fishing was conducted at a depth of 40 to 70 metres. The species formed about 46.58%, 16.45% and 1.19%

out of total catches at Mangrol, Porbander and Veraval respectively.

The size range of *D. pictum* from the trawl net was 301-650 mm with modal length at 351-375 mm, while from gill nets the size range was 310-660 mm with modal length at 525-550 mm.

Initially the fish fetched a very good price i.e., Rs. 6/- per kg but due to heavy catches the price decreased to Rs. 3/- per kg. The catches were sent to Bombay and Delhi mainly by road.

I am very much thankful to Dr. T. Appa Rao, Scientist S-2, Officer-in-Charge and Shri M. Z. Khan, Scientist S-2 of Veraval Research Centre of CMFRI, Veraval for their help in preparing this note.

*Reported by Y. D. Savaria, Veraval Research Centre of CMFRI, Veraval.

