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Heavy landings of juvenile lizard fishes and silverbellies at Neendakara

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On 25.2.2008, a heavy landing of lizard fish of about 1,000 kg along with silverbellies by trawlers was recorded at Neendakara (Fig. 1). The catch was from Chavara area (off Neendakara) caught from 10-20 m depth. Among the lizardfish catch, *Saurida undosquamis* and among the silverbellies, *Leiognathus elongatus* were the dominant species. The length range of *S. undosquamis* (sample size: 72) was 110-170 mm, with the modal length of 150 mm. The length range of *L. elongates* (sample size: 140) was 20-70 mm with the mode of 50 mm. Most of the specimens of *S. undosquamis* were in immature stages. Stomach of the fish was observed to be full. Since the catch mostly consisted of juveniles, it was utilized for making manure.



Fig. 1. Heavy landing of juvenile lizard fish along with silverbellies at Neendakara