

ISSN 0254-380 X



MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 175

January, February, March, 2003



TECHNICAL AND EXTENSION SERIES

CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

COCHIN, INDIA

(INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH)

Finless black porpoise often occur in the near shore waters and are caught on many occasions along Palk bay coast around Mandapam region. On 16.9.2002, a female porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides* measuring 113 cm in total length was landed at Rameswaram. The porpoise was caught by gill net locally called as valivalai, operated off Rmeswaram at a depth of 16m. The morphometric characters are given in the table. As there was no bidder for the porpoise it was thrown back in to the sea.



Neophocaena phocaenoides landed at Rameswaram.

Table Morphometric measurements (cm) of *Nephoacaena phocaenoides*

| | |
|---|------|
| Length from tip of upper jaw to the tip of caudal fluke | 113 |
| Length from tip of upper jaw to the origin of flipper | 23 |
| Length from tip of upper jaw to the centre of eye | 10.2 |
| Length from tip of upper jaw to the centre of blow hole | 11 |
| Length of upper jaw | 6.5 |
| Length of lower jaw | 6 |
| Length of blow hole | 2 |
| Length of flipper (outer margin) | 20.5 |
| Length of flipper (inner margin) | 12.5 |
| Length of caudal fluke (outer margin) | 20.5 |
| Length of flipper (inner margin) | 12.5 |
| Length of caudal fluke (outer margin) | 18.7 |
| Length of caudal fluke (inner margin) | 15.5 |
| Length of snout to the of genital opening | 68 |

Reported by : M. Bose and A. Palanichamy, Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam camp