



समुद्री मात्स्यकी सूचना सेवा MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 106

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 1990



तकनीकी एवं TECHNICAL AND
विस्तार अंकावली EXTENSION SERIES

केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्यकी CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES
अनुसंधान संस्थान RESEARCH INSTITUTE
कोचिन, भारत COCHIN, INDIA

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

ON A LARGE DEVIL RAY *MANTA BIROSTRIS* LANDED AT TUTICORIN *

On 3-5-1990, two numbers of Devil ray measuring 2.17 and 2.11m in total length and 5.54 and 5.25 m in breadth respectively were caught from the inshore waters of Tuticorin at a depth of 50 m by gill net operated from Tuticorin type of boat. It was identified as *Manta birostris* locally known as ' *Kombu thirukai*'. While the former was a female weighing 1,200 kg (Fig. 1). The latter was a male weighing 1,150 kg. Both the specimens were auctioned for Rs. 400/- at the landing centre. The morphometric measurements taken are presented in Table 1.

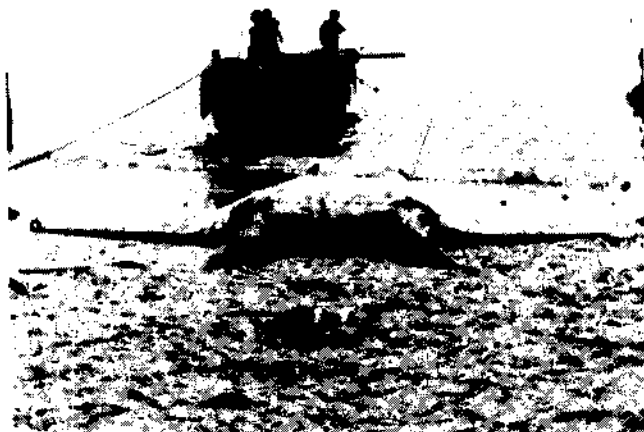


Fig. 1. The Devil ray *Manta birostris*. Ventral view of the specimen (anterior).

TABLE 1. *Morphometric measurements of Manta birostris (Walbaum)*

Particulars	Female (mm)	Male (mm)
Disc horizontal length (width)	5540	5250
Disc vertical length (length of body)	2170	2110
Inter orbital distance	1380	1320
Breadth of cephalic horn	310	295
Length of cephalic horn	690	670
Diameter of eye	110	98
Diameter of eye ball	25	24
Length of mouth	890	780
Length of tail	1270	1160
Length of pelvic fin	350	320
Width of first gill slit	560	520
Width of second gill slit	560	520
Width of third gill slit	540	495
Width of fourth gill slit	470	430
Width of fifth gill slit	390	350

* Reported by S. Rajapackiyam, T. S. Balasubramanian and G. Arumugam, Tuticorin Research Centre of CMFRI, Tuticorin.