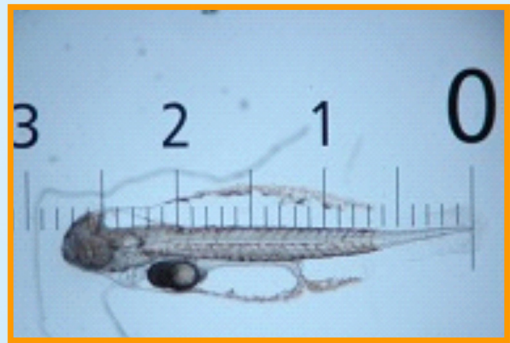


# A Success in Finfish Breeding: Pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) at CMFRI

## Brief Description

- ★ Silver Pompano, a high value marine tropical finfish due to its fast growth rate & high market demand is a potential mariculture giant which has vast domestic and global business prospects & CMFRI achieved the milestone of first successful broodstock development, induced breeding and larval production which is akin to highly priced Pomfrets, popularly referred as American Pomfret.
- ★ As it is caught only sporadically in the commercial fishery, its natural availability in the sea is scarce & is a much sought after species whose demand can be met only through aquaculture.
- ★ Farming can be carried out in ponds, tanks and floating sea cages & is able to acclimatize and grow well even at a lower salinity of about 10 ppt & hence suited for farming in the vast low saline and brackish waters.
- ★ Success in breeding at CMFRI, Mandapam research Centre is a major step in the development of seed production technology.



Larva on 2dph



Aviary of larva

## Technology Benefits

- ★ In the breeding process, after the successful larval rearing, fish was transported by road from Mandapam, in Tamilnadu to Antervedi in the East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh at a distance of 1200 km and about 3,600 seeds were stocked in 1 acre pond of a farmer & fed with indigenous pellet feed and maintained good pond environment, resulting in a survival of more than 95%.
- ★ Formulated pellet feed cost is about Rs 25/kg & an FCR of 1:1.8 was achieved in this crop. Within 8 months, they reached a size range of 450-550 g weight, An excellent table size for marketing.
- ★ Fish can feed at all angles, which makes it a versatile and most aquaculture friendly and by separating the nursery phase, 2 harvests in one year can be made. About 12,000 seed can be stocked in one hectare & about 5 tons of fish can be harvested per crop.
- ★ Looks and tastes like silver pomfrets and fetches a farm gate price of about Rs 200/kg. Collected as young ones, nurtured them to maturity and successfully induced them to spawn with suitable hormonal protocols developed by CMFRI.
- ★ As the total availability of high valued marine fish in India from marine capture fisheries is about only 2 lakh tonnes per year, such fish are in great demand in all Metros, particularly during the national trawl ban period on east and west coasts & demand is estimated at about 2 lakh tonnes & fetches highest price during this period. Therefore it's harvest gains importance to aquaculture to bring barren coastal saline low lying lands to produce high valued fish, to improve the food production and nutritional enhancement of the country.



Fingerlings 45dph



Sampled pompano weighing 250 gram



**CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE**



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