

A note on a stranded Humpback dolphin

Thirumalaiselvan, S.¹, Anasukoya, A¹. and Jeyabaskaran, R²


¹Calicut Research Centre of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kozhikode

²ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi

On 17th September, 2015, a dead dolphin was found at Beypore beach, Kozhikode. On enquiry with local fishermen, it was reported to be washed ashore eight days before. It was identified as Indo-Pacific Humpback dolphin *Sousa chinensis* (Osbeck, 1765) with the help of external characters especially the number of teeth. It had a stocky, robust body with a well-defined beak set off from the rounded melon. The specimen was a male measuring 107 cm in



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measurements of the Humpback dolphin are given below.

Table 1. Morphometrics of *Sousa chinensis*

Morphometrics	cm
Diameter of eye	2
Tip of snout to notch of caudal fluke	107
Tip of snout to origin of dorsal fin	46
Tip of snout to centre of eye	14.5

Tip of snout to origin of flipper	26.4
Tip of snout to centre of anus	68
Length of flipper along outer margin	17
Length of flipper along inner margin	12
Length of dorsal fin along outer margin	25.4
Length of dorsal fin along inner margin	12
Depth at origin of dorsal fin	24.5
Length of upper jaw	18
Length of lower jaw	17