

Kaleidoscope

Unusual landings of large sized Yellowfin tuna by purse seiners at Karwar, Karnataka.

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Unusual landings of large sized Yellowfin tuna *Thunnus albacares* (Bonnaterre, 1788) was observed at Baithkol Fisheries Harbour, Karwar during the period 16th to 22nd February 2020. Six tunas were landed by two purse-seiners with individual weights ranging from 68 kg to 103 kg. One purse-seine unit landed with only one yellowfin tuna weighing 68 kg in the early morning hours of 16.2.2020. The other multiday purse-seine unit of OAL 19.8 meter overall length (OAL) fitted with a 350 hp Sonatrac engine was operated at a depth of 54 meter off Belekeri (N 14° 38' 100" E 073° 52' 500") during night hours on 18.2.2020 and four yellowfin tuna weighing 103, 97, 82 and 78 kg each were hauled in and sent immediately by a carrier boat to landing centre which reached in the morning hours of 19.2.2020. The same purse-seine boat landed one Yellowfin tuna of 71 kg after multiday fishing on 22.2.2020. The Yellowfin tunas were sent to Goa for marketing and observation indicates the availability of large sized yellowfin tuna in northern Karnataka. The other fishes in the landings by purse-seiners included Indian mackerel *Rastrelliger kanagurta*, squid *Loligo duvauceli*, Little tunny *Euthynnus affinis*, seerfish *Scomberomorus commerson* and scad *Decapterus russelli*.



Fig. 1. Yellowfin tuna landed at Baithkol Fisheries Harbour, Karwar.