

Small scale sea cage culture:

A success story from Mumbai RC

Fishermen of village Kalamb requested for small and low cost cage from Mumbai Research Centre for conducting lobster cage culture in open sea. In response to their request Mumbai Research Centre fabricated small G. I. cage frame locally with four barrels for buoyancy. Inner diameter of the cage frame was of 3 m whereas outer diameter was of 4 m and nets were designed in conical to provide more space at bottom for lobster to rest. Cages were moored in the open sea by means of two grapnel anchors. 200 juvenile lobsters collected from Versova landing centre were stocked in the cage (average wet wt. 51.6 gm) in the month of January 2012. Local fishermen took up the responsibility of daily feeding to lobsters with trash fishes from their daily catch. After rearing period of four months lobsters were harvested in the auspicious

presence of Dr. W. S. Lakra, Director and Vice-Chancellor, Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai. Dr. V. S. Somvanshi, Ex-Director General, Fishery Survey of India, Shri. Vinod Naik, Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries, Faculty members of CIFE and State Fisheries Department Officials also attended the function and addressed fishers regarding the need of mariculture along Maharashtra coast to increase fish production and overcome unemployment issue among rural fishers. A total of 158 lobsters were recovered from the cage after four months rearing (average wet wt. 155 gm). Lobsters were sold to buyers at the rate of ₹ 840 per Kg after harvesting.

(Mumbai Research Centre of CMFRI)



Dr. W. S. Lakra, Director and Vice-Chancellor, CIFE with Dr. Deshmukh, SIC, Mumbai RC



Dr. W. S. Lakra, Director and Vice-Chancellor CIFE, Mumbai addressing the gathering



Fishers expressing their views on open sea cage culture of lobsters at Vasai.

