

Identification of Shark Species off The Nigerian Coast Using DNA Barcoding

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Abstract : Nigeria is one of the major shark fishing nations in Africa, but its fisheries managers still record catch data in aggregates 'sharks' with no species-specific details. This is because most of the shark specimens look identical in morphology, and field identification of some closely related species is tricky. This study uses DNA barcoding as a method to identify shark species from five different landing areas off the Nigerian Coast. 100 dorsal fins were sampled in order to provide a Chondrichthyan sequence that would be matched to reference specimens in a DNA barcode database

Keywords : BOLD, DNA barcoding, nigeria, sharks

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