

Length Weight Relationship and Relative Condition Factor of *Atropus atropus* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801) from Mangalore Coast, India

Authors : D. P. Rajesh, H. N. Anjanayappa, P. Nayana, S. Benakappa

Abstract : The present study deals with length-weight relationship of *Atropus atropus* for which no information is available on this aspect from Mangalore coast. Therefore the present investigation was undertaken. Fish samples were collected from fish landing center (Mangalore) and fish market. The regression co-efficient of male was found to be lower than female. From this observation it may be opined that female gained more weight with increase in length compared to male. Data on seasonal variation in condition factor (Kn) showed that Kn values were more or less similar in both the sexes, indicating almost identical metabolic activity. Gonadal development and high feeding intensity are the factors which influenced the condition factor. The seasonal fluctuations in the relative condition factor of both the sexes could be attributed to the sexual cycle, food intake and environmental factors. From the present study, it can be inferred that the variation in the condition of *Atropus atropus* was due to feeding activity and gonadal maturity.

Keywords : *Atropus atropus*, length-weight relationship, Mangalore coast, relative condition factor, Kn

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