

Occurrence and Distribution of Fish Species off Yemen (Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea)

H. al Sakaff and M. Esseen

The following species list is drawn from an analysis of catches taken by Somalian and Russian trawlers in the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea between 1985 and 1990. The southern coastline of the Republic of Yemen has been divided into 7 areas, including waters around Socotra Island (Fig. 1). The average depth of each trawl was recorded in 50 m increments.

Non-appearance of any species in an area does not mean that the species do not occur in that area or depth, merely that it was not recorded in any of the samples analyzed. Specimens that could not be identified to species level have been excluded. A total of 195 species from 75 families was recorded and is summarized in Table 1.

Most of the identification of species was from FAO species identification literature (Fischer and Bianchi 1984). Confirmation of some species and usage of common names is from FishBase (Froese and Pauly 1996) and Al Sedfy et al. (1982). The number

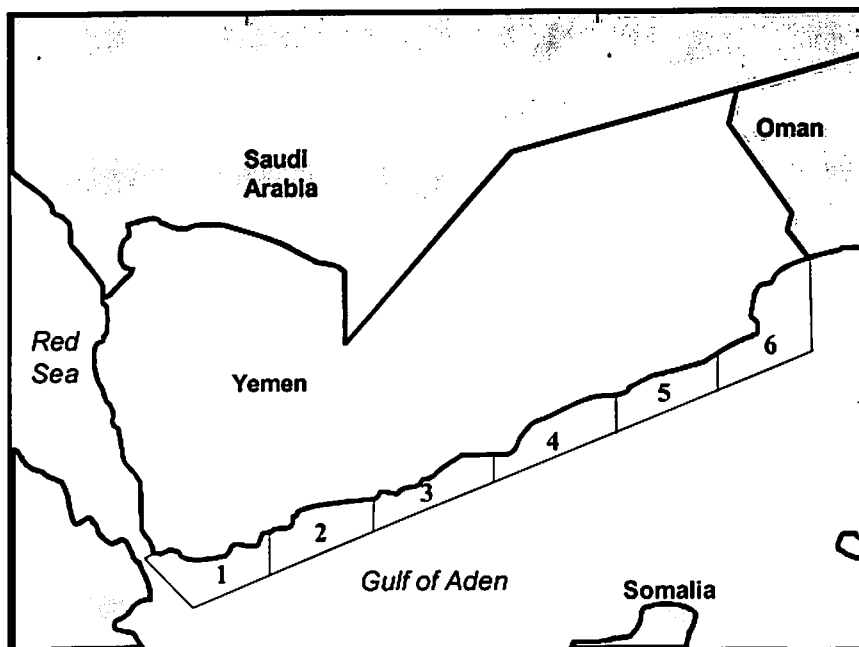


Fig. 1. Fishing areas in the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea.

of families and species in each depth range is shown in Fig. 2.

References

Al Sedfy, H.M., A.K.E. Imam and N.A. Al Baker. 1982. Fishes of Qatar. Department of Fisheries, Qatar.

Fischer, W. and G. Bianchi, Editors. 1984. FAO species identification sheets for fishery purpose. Western Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51). Prepared and printed with the support of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, Rome. Vols. 11-6: pag.var.

Froese, R. and D. Pauly. 1996. FishBase 96: concept, design and data sources. CD-ROM. ICLARM, Manila, Philippines.

H. AL SAKAFF is from the Marine Science and Resources Research Centre, Labour Island, Aden, Republic of Yemen; M. ESSEEN is the Technical Assistant to Fourth Fisheries Project, funded under European Union Project Number ALA/91/22. Address: c/o MacAlister Elliot and Partners, 56, High Street, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 9AH, U.K.

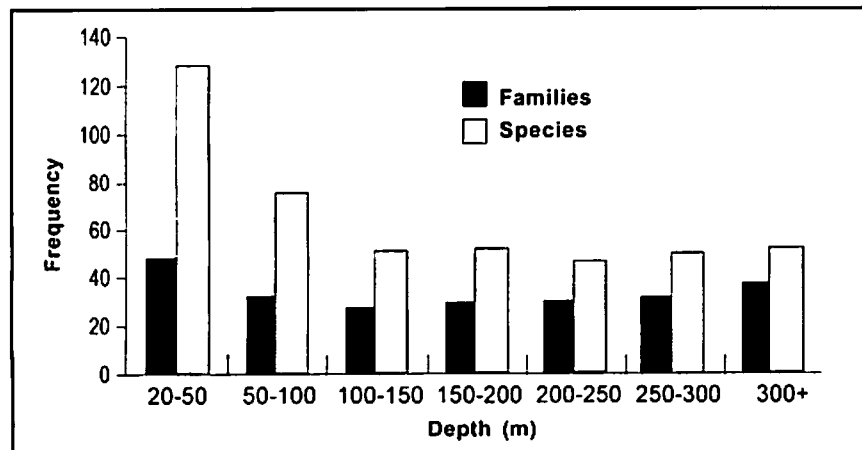


Fig. 2. Number of families and species recorded at each depth range.

Table 1. Species caught off Yemen, by area and depth range.

Family	Species	Common name	Area	Depth
Acanthuridae	<i>Acanthurus blochii</i>	Ringtail surgeonfish	4,7	20 - 50
Acanthuridae	<i>Acanthurus mata</i>	Blue-lined surgeonfish	7	50 - 100
Acropomatidae	<i>Neoscombrops annectens</i>	Sombre splittfin	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	100 - 300+
Acanthuridae	<i>Synegrops adeni</i>	Aden splittfin	1,3,4,5,6,7	100 - 300+
Ariidae	<i>Arius dussumieri</i>	Blacktip sea catfish	6	20 - 50
Ariidae	<i>Arius maculatus</i>	Spotted catfish	6	50 - 100
Ariidae	<i>Arius tenuispinis</i>	Thinspine sea catfish	5,6	20 - 50
Ariidae	<i>Arius venosus</i>	Veined catfish	6	20 - 50
Ariidae	<i>Netuma thalassina</i>	Giant catfish	1,4,5,6	20 - 100
Ariommatidae	<i>Ariomma indica</i>	Indian ariomma	1,3,4,5,6,7	100 - 300+
Astronesthidae	<i>Astronesthes lucifer</i>	Pacific astronesthid fish	4	250 - 300
Astronesthidae	<i>Borostomias antarcticus</i>		1	300+
Balistidae	<i>Abalistes stellaris</i>	Starry triggerfish	3,5,6	20 - 50
Balistidae	<i>Odonus niger</i>	Red-toothed triggerfish	7	20 - 100
Balistidae	<i>Sufflamen fraenatus</i>	Masked triggerfish	3,5,6,7	20 - 50
Bathyclupeidae	<i>Bathyclupae elongata</i>		1,3,4,5	250 - 300+
Berycidae	<i>Beryx splendens</i>	Slender alfoncino	1,3,4,5,6	250 - 300+
Bothidae	<i>Bothus pantherinus</i>	Leopard flounder	5	20 - 50
Callionymidae	<i>Callionymus maculatus</i>	Spotted dragonet	3,5,6	100 - 250
Callionymidae	<i>Callionymus persicus</i>	Dragonet	6	50 - 100
Caproidae	<i>Antigonia rubescens</i>	Indo-Pacific boarfish	7	200 - 250
Carangidae	<i>Alectis indicus</i>	Indian threadfish	5,6	20 - 100
Carangidae	<i>Atule mate</i>	Yellowtail scad	1,5	20 - 200
Carangidae	<i>Carangoides chrysocephalus</i>	Longnose trevally	1,4,5	20 - 100
Carangidae	<i>Carangoides equula</i>	Whitefin trevally	3,4,5,6,7	20 - 200
Carangidae	<i>Carangoides ferdau</i>	Blue trevally	3,5,6	20 - 200
Carangidae	<i>Carangoides malabaricus</i>	Malabar trevally	1,5,6,7	20 - 250
Carangidae	<i>Caranx sexfasciatus</i>	Bigeye trevally	3	20 - 50
Carangidae	<i>Decapterus kurroides</i>	Redtail trevally	1,4,6,7	50 - 300+
Carangidae	<i>Decapterus macarellus</i>	Mackerel scad	1,6	20 - 200
Carangidae	<i>Decapterus macrosoma</i>	Shortfin scad	1,4,5,6	20 - 150
Carangidae	<i>Decapterus russelli</i>	Indian scad	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 250
Carangidae	<i>Megalaspis cordyla</i>	Torpedo scad	5,6	20 - 100
Carangidae	<i>Scomberoides tol</i>	Needlescaled scad	6	20 - 50
Carangidae	<i>Selar crumenophthalmus</i>	Bigeye scad	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300
Carangidae	<i>Seriola dumerili</i>	Greater amberjack	3,6	20 - 50
Carangidae	<i>Trachinotus africanus</i>	Southern pompano	4,5,6	20 - 50
Carangidae	<i>Trachinotus blochii</i>	Snubnose pompano	5,6	20 - 50
Carangidae	<i>Trachurus indicus</i>	Arabian scad	3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300
Carangidae	<i>Uraspis helvola</i>	Whitemouth jack	1,3,5,6	50 - 300+
Carangidae	<i>Uraspis uraspis</i>	Whitetongue jack	5,6	20 - 50
Carcharhinidae	<i>Carcharhinus macloti</i>	Hardnose shark	6	20 - 50
Carcharhinidae	<i>Loxodon macrorhinus</i>	Sliteye shark	6	20 - 250
Carcharhinidae	<i>Rhizoprionodon acutus</i>	Milk shark	1,5,6	20 - 300
Centrolophidae	<i>Psenopsis cyanea</i>	Indian ruff	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	50 - 300+
Champsodontidae	<i>Champsodon capensis</i>	Gaper	1,4,7	250 - 300+
Chlorophthalmidae	<i>Chlorophthalmus asassizi</i>	Shortnose greeneye	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	150 - 300+
Chlorophthalmidae	<i>Chlorophthalmus bicomis</i>	Spinyjaw greeneye	4,5,6,7	150 - 300+
Clupeidae	<i>Dussumiera acuta</i>	Rainbow sardine	1	20 - 50
Clupeidae	<i>Etrumeus teres</i>	Round herring	5,6	50 - 150
Clupeidae	<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>	Indian oil sardine	1,2,3,4,5,6	20 - 200
Clupeidae	<i>Sardinops ocellatus</i>	South African sardine	1	20 - 50
Cynoglossidae	<i>Cynoglossus carpenteri</i>		5,6	150 - 300
Dactylopteridae	<i>Dactyloptena orientalis</i>	Oriental flying gurnard	1,2,3,4,5	20 - 150
Dasyatidae	<i>Dasyatis brevicaudata</i>	Short-tail stingray	5	50 - 100
Dasyatidae	<i>Himantura uamak</i>	Honeycomb stingray	1,5,6	20 - 50
Dasyatidae	<i>Urogymnus natalensis</i>	Butterfly ray	5	20 - 100
Diodontidae	<i>Cylichthys orbicularis</i>	Birdbeak burrfish	2,3	20 - 50

continued

Table 1. (continued)

Family	Species	Common name	Area	Depth
Drepanidae	<i>Drepane punctata</i>	Spotted sicklefish	1,5,6	20 - 200
Echeneidae	<i>Echeneis naucrates</i>	Live sharksucker	5	20 - 50
Echinorhinidae	<i>Echinorhinus brucus</i>	Bramble shark	6	300+
Emmelichthyidae	<i>Emmelichthys nitidus</i>	Redbait	5	200 - 250
Engraulidae	<i>Encrasicholina heteroloba</i>	Shorthead anchovy	1	20 - 50
Engraulidae	<i>Stolephorus indicus</i>	Indian anchovy	1	20 - 50
Fistulariidae	<i>Fistularia petimba</i>	Red cometfish	1,3,6	20 - 150
Gempylidae	<i>Promethichthys prometheus</i>	Roudi escolar	1	300+
Gerreidae	<i>Gerres filamentosus</i>	Whipfin silverbiddy	1,4,5,6	20 - 50
Gonostomatidae	<i>Cyclothone pallida</i>	_____	4	300+
Haemulidae	<i>Diagramma pictum</i>	Painted sweetlips	4,5	20 - 100
Haemulidae	<i>Plectorhinchus pictus</i>	Trout sweetlips	1,5,6,7	20 - 200
Haemulidae	<i>Plectorhinchus schotaf</i>	Minstrel sweetlips	5,6	20 - 50
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys argenteus</i>	Silver grunt	6	20 - 50
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys furcatus</i>	Banded grunt	5	20 - 50
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys maculatus</i>	Saddle grunt	1,5,6	20 - 150
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys multimaculatum</i>	Cock grunter	4	20 - 50
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys opercularis</i>	Smallspotted grunt	5	20 - 50
Haemulidae	<i>Pomadasys stridens</i>	Striped piggy	4,5,6	20 - 150
Holocentridae	<i>Sargocentron rubrum</i>	Redcoat	1	250 - 300
Leiognathidae	<i>Gazza minuta</i>	Toothpony	1	20 - 50
Leiognathidae	<i>Leiognathus bindus</i>	Orangefin ponyfish	1,4,5,6	20 - 100
Leiognathidae	<i>Leiognathus elongatus</i>	Slender ponyfish	2,3,5	20 - 100
Leiognathidae	<i>Leiognathus fasciatus</i>	Striped ponyfish	4,5,6	20 - 50
Leiognathidae	<i>Leiognathus leuciscus</i>	Whipfin ponyfish	3,4,5	20 - 50
Leiognathidae	<i>Leiognathus lineolatus</i>	Omate ponyfish	3	20 - 50
Leiognathidae	<i>Secutor insidiator</i>	Pugnose ponyfish	1,5	20 - 50
Lethrinidae	<i>Lethrinus lentjan</i>	Pink ear emperor	5	20 - 50
Lethrinidae	<i>Lethrinus microdon</i>	Smalltooth emperor	4,7	20 - 100
Lethrinidae	<i>Lethrinus miniatus</i>	Trumpet emperor	2,3,5,6	20 - 50
Lethrinidae	<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>	Spangled emperor	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Lophiidae	<i>Lophiomus setigerus</i>	Blackmouth angler	5,6	20 - 300+
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Mangrove red snapper	2	50 - 100
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus bengalensis</i>	Bengal snapper	1,4,5,6	20 - 200
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus gibbus</i>	Humpback snapper	2	50 - 100
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus johnii</i>	John's snapper	6	20 - 50
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus rivulatus</i>	Blubberlip snapper	2,5	20 - 100
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus sanguineus</i>	Humphead snapper	5,6	20 - 50
Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus sebæ</i>	Emperor red snapper	7	20 - 50
Lutjanidae	<i>Pristipomoides multidentis</i>	Goldbanded jobfish	1	50 - 100
Lutjanidae	<i>Pristipomoides typus</i>	Sharptooth jobfish	3,4	100 - 150
Mobulidae	<i>Mobula diabolus</i>	Devil ray	5	20 - 50
Monacanthidae	<i>Aluterus monoceros</i>	Unicorn leatherjacket	3,4,6	20 - 50
Monacanthidae	<i>Stephanolepis diaspros</i>	Reticulated leatherjacket	4,5	20 - 50
Moridae	<i>Physiculus capensis</i>	_____	1,2,3,5,6	200 - 300+
Mullidae	<i>Parupeneus heptacanthus</i>	Cinnabar goatfish	4,5	20 - 50
Mullidae	<i>Parupeneus indicus</i>	Indian goatfish	5	20 - 100
Mullidae	<i>Parupeneus rubescens</i>	Rosy goatfish	4,5,6,7	20 - 100
Mullidae	<i>Upeneus bensasi</i>	Bensasi goatfish	1,3,5	20 - 200
Mullidae	<i>Upeneus moluccensis</i>	Goldband goatfish	1,4	20 - 100
Mullidae	<i>Upeneus sulphureus</i>	Sulphur goatfish	1,3	20 - 50
Mullidae	<i>Upeneus vittatus</i>	Yellowstriped goatfish	1	20 - 100
Muraenesocidae	<i>Muraenesox cinereus</i>	Daggertoothed pike conger	6	20 - 50
Myctophidae	<i>Benthoosema pterotum</i>	Skinnycheek lanternfish	1	250 - 300
Myctophidae	<i>Diaphus coeruleus</i>	_____	1,5,6	100 - 300+
Myctophidae	<i>Diaphus drachmanni</i>	_____	3,5	300+
Myctophidae	<i>Diaphus taaningi</i>	_____	1,4,5,6,7	200 - 300+
Myliobatidae	<i>Aetomylaeus niehoffi</i>	Banded eagle ray	5,6	20 - 100

continued

Table 1. (continued)

Family	Species	Common name	Area	Depth
Myliobatidae	<i>Myliobatis aquila</i>	Common eagle ray	5,6	20 - 50
Myliobatidae	<i>Rhionoptera javanica</i>	Flapnose ray	6	20 - 50
Nemichthyidae	<i>Nemichthys scolopaceus</i>	Slender snipe eel	4,6	300+
Nemipteridae	<i>Nemipterus bipunctatus</i>	Delagoa threadfin bream	1,6	20 - 100
Nemipteridae	<i>Nemipterus japonicus</i>	Japanese threadfin bream	1,2,3,4,5,6	20 - 250
Nemipteridae	<i>Nemipterus marginatus</i>	Red filament threadfin bream	1	150 - 200
Nemipteridae	<i>Nemipterus mesoprion</i>	Mauvelip threadfin bream	1	50 - 100
Nemipteridae	<i>Parascopopsis boesemani</i>	Redfin dwarf monocle bream	1,2,3,5,6	150 - 300+
Nemipteridae	<i>Scolopsis taeniatus</i>	Black-streaked monocle bream	6	20 - 50
Nettastomatidae	<i>Nettastoma parviceps</i>	_____	1,2,3,4,5,6	200 - 300+
Percophidae	<i>Bembrops caudimaculata</i>	_____	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Platycephalidae	<i>Platycephalus indicus</i>	Indian flathead	6	20 - 50
Polynemidae	<i>Polydactylus sextarius</i>	Blackspot threadfin	5	20 - 50
Pomatomidae	<i>Pomatomus saltator</i>	Bluefish	5,6	20 - 50
Priacanthidae	<i>Cookeolus boops</i>	_____	6	50 - 150
Priacanthidae	<i>Priacanthus hamrur</i>	Moontail bullseye	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Proscylliidae	<i>Eridacnis radcliffei</i>	Pygmy ribbontail catshark	1,3,4,5,6,7	150 - 300+
Psettodidae	<i>Psettodes erumei</i>	Indian spiny turbot	5	20 - 50
Rachycentridae	<i>Rachycentron canadum</i>	Cobia	4,5,6	20 - 100
Rajidae	<i>Raja alba</i>	White skate	5	150 - 200
Rhinobatidae	<i>Rhynchobatus djiddensis</i>	Whitespotted wedgefish	3,4,5,6	20 - 200
Rhinobatidae	<i>Rhinobatos granulatus</i>	Granulated guitarfish	2,3,4,5,6	20 - 200
Rhinochimaeridae	<i>Rhinochimaera atlantica</i>	Straightnose rabbitfish	6	300+
Sciaenidae	<i>Atractoscion aequidens</i>	Geelbeck croaker	6	100 - 150
Sciaenidae	<i>Atrobucca trewavasae</i>	_____	1	300+
Sciaenidae	<i>Otolithes ruber</i>	Tiger-toothed croaker	1,5,6	20 - 300+
Sciaenidae	<i>Umbriina canariensis</i>	Canary drum	5,6	20 - 150
Scombridae	<i>Rastrelliger brachysoma</i>	Short mackerel	1	150 - 200
Scombridae	<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>	Indian mackerel	1	20 - 50
Scombridae	<i>Sarda orientalis</i>	Striped bonito	2	50 - 100
Scombridae	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Chub mackerel	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Scombridae	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Narrow-barred spanish mackerel	1	150 - 200
Scorpaenidae	<i>Pterois russellii</i>	Plaintail turkeyfish	1,4,5,6	20 - 100
Scorpaenidae	<i>Scorpaena scrofa</i>	Red scorpionfish	3	100 - 150
Scyliorhinidae	<i>Halaelurus hispidus</i>	Bristly catshark	4,5,6,7	200 - 300+
Scyliorhinidae	<i>Halaelurus natalensis</i>	Tiger catshark	1,7	250 - 300+
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus albomarginatus</i>	White-edged grouper	6	100 - 150
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus areolatus</i>	Areolate grouper	3,5	20 - 150
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus chlorostigma</i>	Brownspeckled grouper	2,3,4,5,6	20 - 150
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus diacanthus</i>	Spinycheek grouper	1,4,5,6	20 - 300+
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus epistictus</i>	Dotted grouper	5	150 - 200
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus melanostigma</i>	One-blotch grouper	6	20 - 50
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus mormua</i>	Comet grouper	6	20 - 50
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus radiatus</i>	Oblique banded grouper	5	50 - 100
Serranidae	<i>Epinephelus tauvina</i>	Greasy grouper	1,5,6	20 - 300+
Siganidae	<i>Siganus canaliculatus</i>	White-spotted spinefoot	5,6	20 - 50
Siganidae	<i>Siganus spinus</i>	Little spinefoot	5,6	20 - 50
Siganidae	<i>Siganus sutor</i>	Shoemaker spinefoot	6	20 - 50
Sparidae	<i>Acanthopagrus bifasciatus</i>	Twobar bream	6	20 - 50
Sparidae	<i>Argyrops spinifer</i>	King soldierbream	4,5,6	20 - 300+
Sparidae	<i>Cheimerius nufar</i>	Santer seabream	4,5,6,7	20 - 300
Sparidae	<i>Chrysoblephus gibbiceps</i>	Red stumpnose seabream	6	20 - 50
Sparidae	<i>Pagellus affinis</i>	Arabian pandora	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300
Sphyracidae	<i>Sphyracna barracuda</i>	Great barracuda	1,2,4,5	20 - 150
Sphyracidae	<i>Sphyracna jello</i>	Pickhandle barracuda	1,4,5,6,7	20 - 200
Sphyracidae	<i>Sphyracna obtusata</i>	Gulper barracuda	1,4,5,6,7	20 - 300
Squalidae	<i>Centrophorus granulosus</i>	Gulper shark	1,3,4,5,6,7	150 - 300+
Squalidae	<i>Centrophorus tessellatus</i>	Mosaic gulper shark	1,2,3,5	200 - 300+

continued

Table 1. (continued)

Family	Species	Common name	Area	Depth
Squalidae	<i>Squalus megalops</i>	Shortnose spurdog	7	250 - 300
Synodontidae	<i>Saurida tumbil</i>	Greater lizardfish	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	50 - 300
Synodontidae	<i>Saurida undosquamis</i>	Brushtooth lizardfish	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Synodontidae	<i>Synodus indicus</i>	Indian lizardfish	3,4,5	100 - 300
Synodontidae	<i>Synodus macrops</i>	Triplecross lizardfish	3,4,5	100 - 200
Synodontidae	<i>Trachinocephalus myops</i>	Snakefish	4	20 - 50
Teraponidae	<i>Terapon jarbua</i>	Jarbua terapon	1,5,6	20 - 50
Torpedotidae	<i>Torpedo marmorata</i>	Marbled torpedo ray	6	50 - 100
Trachichthyidae	<i>Gephyroberyx darwinii</i>	Darwins' slimehead	5	300+
Trachichthyidae	<i>Hoplostethus mediterraneus</i>	Mediterranean slimehead	1,2,3,4,5,6	250 - 300+
Triakidae	<i>Mustelus griseus</i>	Spotless smooth hound	4,5	250 - 300+
Triakidae	<i>Mustelus mosis</i>	Sarabian smooth-hound	6	20 - 250
Trichiuridae	<i>Lepturacanthus savala</i>	Savalani haretail	3,4,5,6,7	150 - 300+
Trichiuridae	<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i>	Largehead haretail	3,4,5,6	20 - 300+
Triglidae	<i>Lepidotrigla bentuviai</i>	_____	1,2,3,4,5,6	20 - 300+
Triglidae	<i>Lepidotrigla multispinosa</i>	Spiny gumard	1,3	150 - 300
Triglidae	<i>Pterygotrigla hemisticta</i>	Blackspotted gumard	1,5,6,7	50 - 300+
Triglidae	<i>Satyrichthys adeni</i>	Searobin	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	20 - 300+
Uranoscopidae	<i>Uranoscopus japonicus</i>	_____	1	250 - 300
Zeidae	<i>Cyttopsis rosea</i>	Rosy dory	5	200 - 250
Zeidae	<i>Zenopsis conchifer</i>	Silvery John dory	3,5,6	100 - 300+



NTAFP News

Aquaculture in Millennium III

The Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), an intergovernmental organization based in Thailand, is organizing a world conference on Aquaculture in the Third Millennium scheduled on 11-17 January 2000 in Thailand. The main objective of the Conference is to envision the state of aquaculture in the next millennium and set the agenda for the required action to attain its potential. The conference will cover various aspects of small-scale and large-scale aquaculture in fresh, brackish and marine waters, includ-

ing cage farming and resource enhancement. It will be based on national/regional workshops or assessment reports, research implementation of projects and enterprises. The main program of the conference will be in plenary and discussions will be led by a group of panelists who will summarize all the contributions in order to stimulate free exchange of ideas and suggestions. Participation is open to those associated with aquaculture: scientists and technologists, planners and administrators, small and large-scale pro-

ducers, processing and marketing specialists, seedling and feed producers, teachers and extension workers, financing and aid agencies, and representatives of farmer organizations. For more information, contact: The Secretariat, Aquaculture in Millennium III, c/o NACA Headquarters Fisheries Compound, Kasetsart Campus, 10903 Jatujak, Bangkok, Thailand; Fax: (66-2) 561-1727; Tel: (66-2) 561-1728 to 29; Email: naca@mozart.inet.co.th; websites: <http://www.pop.bio.aau.dk/~naca> or <http://www.agri-aqua.ait.ac.th/naca>