

**NATIONAL BIORESOURCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Dept. of Biotechnology  
Government of India, New Delhi

For office use:

**MARINE BIORESOURCES**

FORMS DATA ENTRY: Form- 1(general) Ref. No.:  
(please answer only relevant fields; add additional fields if you require)

Fauna : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flora	Microorganisms
General Category : Vertebrata (Zooplankton), Fish larvae		
Scientific name & Authority : <i>Megalaspis cordyla</i> (Linnaeus) 1758 - Adult Common Name ( if available) : Torpedo trevally		
Synonyms:	Author(s)	Status
<i>Scomber cordyla</i>	Linnaeus	1758
<i>Scomber rottleri</i>	Shaw	1803
<i>Caranx rottleri</i>	Cantor	1850
<i>Megalaspis cordyla</i>	Weber de Beaufort	1931
Classification:		
Phylum: Vertebrata	Sub- Phylum	
Super Class : Pisces	Class : Osteichthyes	Sub- Class: Actinopterygii
Super Order: Teleostei	Order: Perciformes	Sub Order :Percoidei
Super Family:	Family : Carangidae	Sub-Family:
Genus : <i>Megalaspis</i>	Species : <i>cordyla</i>	
Authority: <i>Megalaspis cordyla</i> Linnaeus 1758		
Reference No. Linnaeus, S.C., 1758. Systema Naturae, ed. 10 p. 298		
Premalatha, P. 1988. Studies on the carangid fish larvae of the southwest coast of India. I. <i>Megalaspis cordyla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758). <i>J. mar. biol. Ass. India.</i> <b>30</b> (1 & 2): 83-92.		
Geographical Location: Warm waters of the Indo-Pacific. Commonly found along the east and west coasts of India.		
Latitude:	Place:	
Longitude:	State:	

Environment

Fresh water: Yes/ No

Habitat :

Salinity :

Brackish : Yes/ No

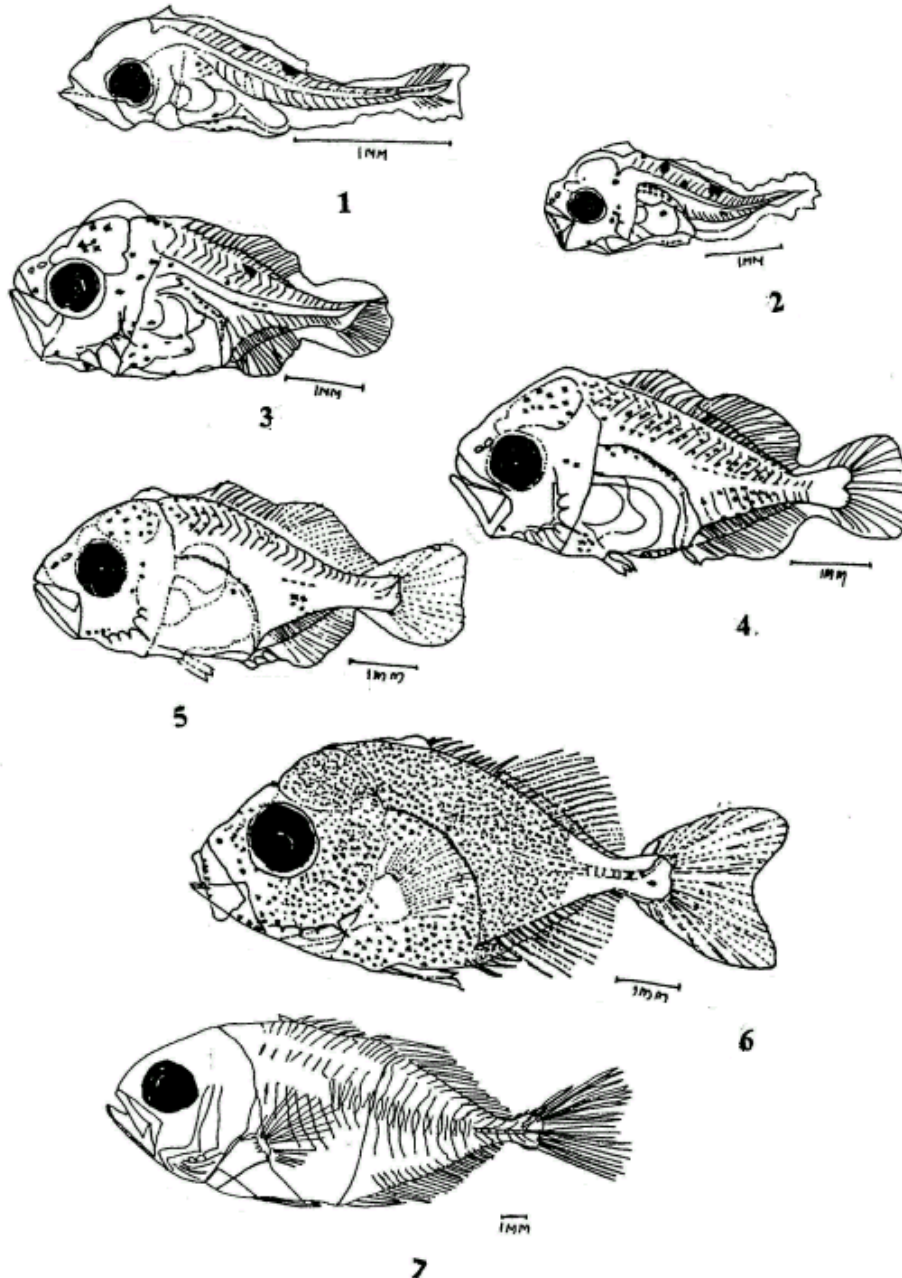
Migrations :

Temperature :

Salt water : Yes✓/ No

Depth range :

Picture (scanned images or photographs of adult / larval stages)



Figs. 1-7 Larvae of *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linnaeus)  
(Reproduced from Premalatha, 1988)

Fig. 1. - 2.2 mm stage; Fig.2. - 3.7 mm stage;  
Fig. 3 - 5.1 mm stage; Fig. 4. - 7.0 mm; Fig. 5. - 8.0 mm stage;  
Fig. 6. - 0.3 mm stage; Fig. 7. - 19.0 mm stage.

<p>DATA ENTRY FORM: Form- 2(Fish / shellfish / others ) Ref.No.:</p> <p>(please answer only relevant fields ; add additional fields if you require)</p> <p>Form -1 Ref.No.:</p>			
<p>IMPORTANCE</p> <p>Landing statistics (t/y) : from                      to                      Place :                      Ref . No.:</p> <p>Main source of landing: Yes/ No                      Coast: east/ west</p> <p>Importance to fisheries:</p> <p>Main catching method :</p> <p>Used for aquaculture : yes/ never/ rarely</p> <p>Used as bait : yes/no/ occasionally</p> <p>Aquarium fish : yes/ no/ rarely</p> <p>Game fish : yes/ no</p> <p>Dangerous fish : poisonous/ harmful/ harmless</p> <p>Bioactivity : locally known/ reported/ not known                      Details:</p> <p>Period of availability : Throughout the year – yes/ no                      If no, months:</p>			
<p>SALIENT FEATURES :</p> <p>Morphological:</p>  <p>Diagnostic characteristics:</p>			
<p>Sex attributes:</p>  <p>Descriptive characters:</p>			

Meristic characteristics:

Feeding habit:

Main food :

Feeding type :

Additional remarks:

Size and age:

Maximum length (cm) (male / female/ unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Average length (cm) (male / female / unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Maximum weight : (g) (male / female / unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Average weight :(g) (male / female / unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Longevity (y) (wild) : (captivity )

Ref. No.:

Length / weight relationships:

Eggs and larvae:	Ref. No.:
<p>Eggs: Pelagic, spherical, transparent eggs with yolk and single oil globule. Egg membrane is smooth and with narrow perivitelline space.</p> <p>Larvae: Larvae are deep-bodied and stubby with 24 myotomes. In early larvae of 2.2 mm length (Fig. 1) pigments are localised on mid dorsal and midlateral parts of the body. Upper jaw margin is serrated with distinct teeth. Branchieostegals are absent. Two rows of preopercular spines are visible, first row with minute spines and second with three moderately elongated spines, of which the middle one being the longest. Fin fold are present on the dorsal and ventral parts of the body. Supra occipital crest is present. Myotomes (10+14) are closely arranged towards the caudal end. Wide chromatophores are present in between the eleventh and twelfth myotomes on dorsal margin of the body. Pectoral fin buds are with flat bases. In the 3.7 mm stage (Fig. 2) the depth of body is increased to 1.2 mm and the diameter of eye to 0.4 mm. Supra occipital crest is serrated. Branchieostegals are seven in number. Urostyle is turned upwards. Slight notch is present on the head in front of the nostril. Two small spines at tip of cleithrum are present, the upper one being shorter than the other. Pigmentation as two blotches are seen on the dorsal side, and spread towards the lateral side. Pigmentation is very dense at the roof of the body cavity and ventral margin of stomach. Five rays are developed in 5.1 mm stage (Fig. 3). Spines and ray basals are differentiated. Urostyle is turned upwards. Preopercular spines are with double serration in stages between 7 mm and 10.3 mm (figs. 4, 5 &amp; 6). Depth of body is 3 mm and eye diameter, 0.9 mm. In 19 mm stage (Fig. 7) the fin counts are : D.I, VIII, I, 18. A II, I, 15-16, V.5, P.15-16.</p>	
Characteristics:	
Abundance:	
Biochemical aspects:	
Proximate analysis: moisture/ fat/ protein/ carbohydrate/ash	Ref. No.
Electrophoresis:	Ref. No.
<b>SPAWNING INFORMATION:</b>	
Locality:	Main Ref:
<p>Along the southwest coast of India. Just hatched larvae were more abundant in the Calicut region, especially during March to July with peak in June.</p>	
Season:	
Fecundity:	
Comment:	

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS (INDIAN):

(include review articles, monographs, books etc.)

Kuthalingam, M. D. K., 1959. A contribution to the life histories and feeding habits of Horse mackerels *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linn.) and *Caranx mate* (Cuv. and Val.) and notes on the development and feeding habits of larvae and post larvae of *Megalaspis cordyla*. *J. Madras. Univ.*, **29** (2) : 76-96.

Premalatha, P. 1986. Studies on the carangid larvae of the southwest coast of India. I. *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linnaeus) *J. mar. biol. Ass. India.* **30** (1 & 2): 83-92.

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