

# LOSS OF AQUATIC FAUNA DURING COLLECTION OF *Penaeus monodon* POST LARVAE IN COX'S BAZAR COASTS, BANGLADESH

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> > AUGUST 2022

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# CONTENTS

Title	Page No.
Title Page	i
Authorization	ii
Signature page	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
List of Abbreviations	vii
List of Figures	viii
List of Tables	ix
List of Appendices	ix
List of Plates	X
Abstract	xi
Chapter One: Introduction	1-4
1.1 Background	1-3
1.2 Objectives	4
1.3 Scope of the study	4
Chapter Two: Review of Literature	5-10
2.1 Giant tiger shrimp	5
2.2 Wild PL Collection in Bangladesh	5-6
2.3 Causes of Wild PL Collection	6-7
2.4Use of Gears for Wild PL Collection	7
2.5 Impact of Indiscriminate Wild PL Collection on Aquatic Biodiversity	7-8
2.6 Impact on Coastal and Marine Fish Stock	8-9
2.7 Abundance and Seasonal variation	10
Chapter three: Methodology	11-14

3.1 Study area		11
3.2 Sampling procedure		11
3.3 Sample Transportation		11
3.4 Sorting and grouping		12
3.5 Identification of Shrimp PL,	Crustacean, Finfish	12
3.6 Preservation		13
3.7 Analysis and visualization of	collected data	13-14
Chapter Four: Results		15-24
4.1 By-catch Composition		15
4.2 Relative abundance of different	rent catch groups	16
4.3 Destruction of other individ PL	uals during collection of <i>P. monodon</i>	18
4.4 Seasonal variation of different	ent catch groups	19
4.5 Temporal variation of differ stations	ent taxa in four different sampling	22
Chapter Five: Discussion		25-29
5.1 Catch composition of diffe	rent groups	25
5.2 Destruction of other individent PL	duals during collection of P. monodon	26-28
5.3 Monthly abundance and Se groups	asonal variation of different catch	28-29
Chapter Six: Conclusion		30
Chapter Seven: Recommendation an	d Future perspectives	31
References		32-38
Photo Gallery		39-42
Appendices		43-45

Acronym	Definition
PL	Postlarvae
MSBN	Marine Set Bag Net
Ft	Feet
Mm	Millimeter
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
Jan	January
Feb	February
Mar	March
Apr	April
May	May
Jun	June
Jul	July
Aug	August
Sep	September
Oct	October
Nov	November
Dec BFRI	December Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Figure	Title	Page No.
No.		
1	Map of study sites of Ukhiya-Teknaf Peninsula of Cox's Bazar	11
2	Morphological development of mysis, megalopa (I-III)	14
	and juvenile (IV-XII) of <i>P. monodon</i>	
3	Percentage of different groups in different sampling stations	17
4	Destruction of individuals per 100 <i>P. monodon</i> PL collection from four different sampling stations	19
5	Seasonal variation of catch composition (mean) in four	21
	different stations (A=Sonarpara, B=Rezukhal,	
	C=Rajarchora, D=Marishbuniya)	
6	Temporal variation of Different Groups (P. monodon,	23
	Crustacean and Finfish) at Sonarpara Staion	
7	Temporal variation of Different Groups (P. monodon,	23
	Crustacean and Finfish) at Rezukhal Staion	
8	Temporal variation of Different Groups (P. monodon,	24
	Crustacean and Finfish) at Rajarchora Station	
9	Temporal variation of Different Groups ( <i>P. monodon</i> , Crustacean and Finfish) at Marishbuniya Station	24

### LIST OF FIGURES

Table No.	Title	Page No.
1	Family composition of by-catch (Individual No.) during wild PL collection	15
2	Number of individuals of different groups destroyed for each 100 <i>P. monodon</i> PL collection	18
3	Abundance and seasonal distribution of different catch groups	20
4	Temporal distribution of different taxa in four sampling stations of Cox's Bazar coast	22

# LIST OF TABLES

# LIST OF APPENDICES

Sl. No.	Title	Page No.
1	Family composition of by-catch (Individual No.) during wild PL collection	43
2	One-way Analysis of Variance Examining mean destruction of different groups ( <i>P. monodon</i> , Crustacean, Finfish) from four different sampling stations	44
3	One-way Analysis of Variance Examining mean catch composition of <i>P. monodon</i> from different sampling stations	45

Plate No.	Title	Page No.
1	Sampling by Marine Set Bag Net	39
2	Collected sample in container	39
3	Sample Sorting and Grouping	39
4	Larvae Identification under stereo microscope	39
5	Identified samples were preserved with 90% ethanol	39
6	Labeling and Storage	39
7	Carangidae	40
8	Gerridae	40
9	Mugilidae	40
10	Haemulidae	40
11	Serranidae	40
12	Dacylopteridae	40
13	Engraulidae	40
14	Clupeidae	40
15	Gobiidae	40
16	Muraenesocidae	40
17	Terapontidae	40
18	Lutjanidae	40
19	Blenniidae	41
20	Leiognathidae	41
21	Megalopidae	41
22	Uranoscopidae	41
23	Ophichthidae	41
24	Myctophidae	41
25	Lactariidae	41
26	Siganidae	41
27	Mullidae	41
28	Penaeidae	42

### LIST OF PLATES

29	P. monodon	42
30	Portunidae	42
31	Portunidae	42
32	Palinuridae	42

#### Abstract

In Bangladesh, due to a lack of hatchery-produced post-larvae compared to demand, shrimp farming is dependent on wild post larvae (PL). The activity of indiscriminate wildPL fishing has a notorious impact on biodiversity in coastal ecosystems due to significant amounts of by- catch. To analyze the quantity of black tiger shrimp's (*Penaeus monodon*) post larvae (PL) and estimate the harm to various aquatic species during shrimp PL collection, samples were collected monthly (January to December 2021) from four different selected spots (Sonarpara, Rezukhal, Rajarchora, and Marishbuniya) on the Cox's Bazar coasts by using a small-sized marine set bag net (MSBN). The investigation revealed that at the time of collection of every 100 PL of *P. monodon* approximately 2,641 PL of crustacean, 186 fin fish larvae, 807 PL of crustacean, 145 fin fish larvae, 689 PL of crustacean, 84 fin fish larvae, and 614 PL of crustacean, 237 fin fish larvae were cruelly destroyed from Sonapara, Rezukhal, Rajarchora, Marishbuniya stations repectively. P. monodon larvae were found to occupy a small portion of the total annual catch composition, such as 3.42%, 9.50%, 11.45%, and 10.51% in Sonarpara, Rezukhal, Rajarchora, and Marishbuniya, respectively. The highest rate of P. monodon capture (10.44 %) was recorded at Rajarchora station, while the lowest rate was recorded at Sonarpara station (3.21%). Although *P. monodon* PL is available throughout the year, its density was high in Razarchora station. A higher number of *P. monodon* PL was found in the months of October and March in all stations. Data revealed that in the rainy season (July, August, September and October), larvae of *P. monodon* were found to be higher compared with the other seasons in all stations. Whereas, the abundance of *P. monodon* reduced during the winter season (November, December, January and February). The findings show that the current seed harvesting approaches are severely harming other valuable aquatic fauna, which will ultimately put negative impact on the faunal diversity, natural productivity and self- recruitment pattern of mother stock.

Keywords: P. monodon, post larvae, finfish, crustacean, catch composition