

The abundance and distribution of Sparidae in the north of Oman Sea (Sistan & Balouchistan)

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Abstract

Sparidae family has an important economic value in southern waters of Iran. This research was carried out to assess the amount of the biomass and Catch per Unit of Area (CPUA) and also to determine the distribution pattern of Sparidae family in the north of the Oman Sea (Sistan and Baluchistan Waters) based on trawl survey results in 2012 by R/V Ferdows-1. Samples were collected at a total 75 trawl stations selected a stratified random procedure. The area divided to four deep layers of 10-20 meters, 20-30 meters, 30-50 meters and 50-100 meters were determined. The biomass of Sparidae was estimated to be 477.3 tons. The highest biomass was recorded approximately 163.9 tons for depth layer of 50-100 m in Biahi, Meidani, Rabech and Galak area. The catch rates of CPUA were estimated to be approximately 205.0 kg/nm². The highest value of CPUA was recorded Biahi, Meidani, Rabech and Galak area, approximately 706.6 kg/nm², and for depth layer of 30-50 m with value of 304.9 kg/nm². The distribution map was drawn with Arc-GIS software.

Keywords: Oman Sea, Biomass, Catch per Unit of Area, Sparidae.