

RESEARCH ARTICLE

On Ova-diameter study in the horse mackerel, *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linnaeus, 1758) along the south-west coast of India

T.D. JADHAV AND S.A. MOHITE
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ABSTRACT..... Horse mackerel, *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linnaeus, 1758) is a migratory pelagic species, found in abundance along the south west coast of India. Monthly distribution of maturity stages showed that the spawning season of *M. cordyla* starts from May-August to January with peak spawning during May to October. Total 300 ovaries were studied using the ova diameter measurements for a period of one year. In present study, the ova-diameter ranged between 0.2 to 0.82 mm. with the largest ova recorded during May – October and the smallest during December. The peak spawning season was recorded during April – October for *M. cordyla*. The observations corresponded to the ovarian development in this fish.

KEY WORDS..... *Megalaspis cordyla*, Reproduction, Ova diameter, Maturity stages.

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Author for Correspondence -

S.A.MOHITE

Department of Fisheries Biology,
College of Fisheries Biology,
Ratnagiri (M.S.) INDIA

Email: sa_mohite@yahoo.co.in

See end of the article for **Coopted authors'**