Oceanography/Vol.5/No.19/Fall 2014/1/8-8

Ovary Development of Indian Halibut *Psettodes erumei* in Coastal Waters of the Northern Persian Gulf

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Received Date: October 26, 2013 **Corresponding Author* *Accepted Date: September 5, 2014*

Abstract

Ovary development, gonadosomatic index and frequency of gonad maturity stages were investigated in Indian halibut *Psettodes erumei* in coastal waters of the Persian Gulf in Hormozgan Province. Monthly samples of 30 specimens were taken from March 2012 to February 2013. Histological studies of gonads revealed five ovarian development stages as virgin, developing, maturing, ripe and spent. The fourth stage of ovary development showed the highest frequency during September and October, corresponding with the highest gonadosomatic index (1.80), which was recorded in October. Indian halibut is considered as a total spawner fish. In coastal waters of Hormozgan, its spawning period extends between September to December, with a peak recorded in October. The sex ratio was calculated as 2.11 female to 1 male, showing a significant difference from the standard ratio of 1:1 ($P<0.05$).

Keywords: *Gonadosomatic Index, Ovary Histology, Indian halibut (Psettodes erumei), Persian Gulf.*