

SOME REMARKS ON THE BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY IN TURKISH WATERS

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The bluefin tuna fishery in Turkey begins around the end of August and continues until the end of may.

The first catches are made in the Bay of Saroz (in the Northern Aegean Sea). As the tunas move southwards, they are caught around the islands of Gokceada and Bozcaada (Northern Aegean Sea) and in the bays of Ayvalik, Izmir and Gulluk. As the tunas move to the Eastern Mediterranean area, they are then caught in the Eastern Mediterranean in the bays of Antalya and Iskenderun. The bluefin tunas used to make their feeding migrations; passing from the Black Sea through the bosphorus, the Sea of Marmara to the Aegean Sea and then to the Mediterranean Sea. These bluefin tunas used to return back to the Black Sea.

According to Artuz (1956) 764 tm-40 tm of tuna fish were landed at the Istanbul Fish Market in 1944-46, which were caught by means of dalians (trap systems) in the Bosphorus in the spring-summer months. First trials to catch the bluefin tunas by purse-seiners began in 1957. Due to the big demand of the bluefin tunas by Japan the catch of 1 550 tons in 1988 increased to 2 809 tons in 1989.

In figure 1, the landings of the bluefin tunas at the Istanbul Fish Market in 1981-1987 are shown.

Nowadays all the catches of the bluefin tunas are made by purse seiners. Some small quantities are caught by handlines. In Figures 2 and 3, the weight and length frequencies in 1956 are illustrated (Akyuz and Artuz, 1957).

Literature cited

Akyuz, F. and I. Artuz, Türkiye Sularında Orkinozlar ve avcılığı Balık ve Balıkçılık, 1957

Artuz, I, Türkiye Sularında Orkinozlar ve Avcılığı (Kisim IV), Balık ve Balıkçılık, Cilt VII, Say 7 - 1959

SU ÜRÜNLERİ İMALİ MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ
ORKİNOZ BALIĞI (Ton) FİŞMARKET-İSTANBUL
Figure 1.

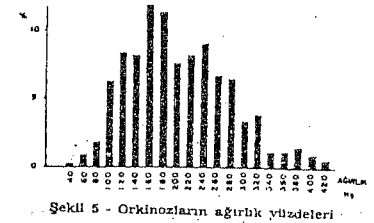
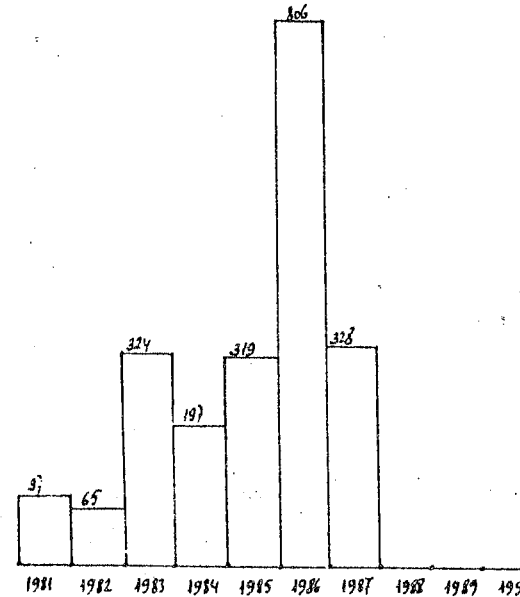


Figure 2.

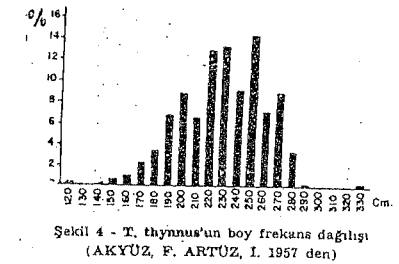


Figure 3.