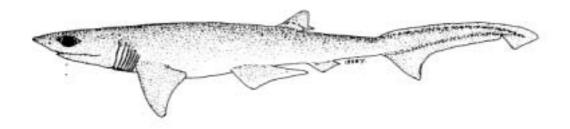
Hepiranchiasperlo (Bonnaterre, 1788)



English Name: Sharpnose sevengill shark Family: HEXANCHIDAE Local Name: Thundhigu madu miyaru Order: Hexanchiformes

Size: Max. 1.4m

Distinctive Characters: Head with 7 gill slits. Head and snout very narrow. Eyes very large. Single dorsal fin. Large comb-like lower teeth, their inner edges with a few short cusplets but no serrations.

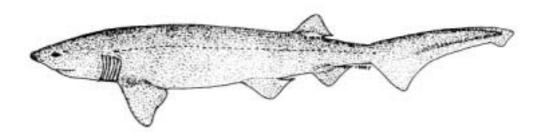
Colour: Dark. Black tips to dorsal and upper caudal, especially prominent in young ones.

Habitat and Biology: Benthic, on the continental and insular shelves and upper slopes. Depths usually between 27-720 m. But sometimes in shallower water close inshore and down to 1000 m. Ovoviviparous, number of young 9 to 20 per litter.

Distribution: Widespread in temperate and tropical waters.

Remarks: One specimen of *Heptranchiasperlo* (4.2 kg) was caught by bottom trawl in 240 m near A.Thoddo on 22.8.83 by the Norwegian research vessel Dr. 'FridtjofNansen'. Reported by Stromme (1983).

Hexanchus griseus (Bonnaterre, 1788)



English Name: Bluntnose sixgill shark Family: HEXANCHIDAE Local Name: Madu miyaru Order: Hexanchiformes

Size: Max. 4.8 m

Distinctive Characters: A large, heavy bodied shark with six gill slits. Small eyes. Broad head with rounded snout. Single dorsal fin. Six rows of comb-like teeth on each side of lowerjaw, each with inner edge serrated.

Colour: Usually dark grey.

Habitat and Biology: Benthic or pelagic, on the continental and insular shelves and upper slopes. Depths from surface to at least 1875 m. Young often close inshore. Adults in deeper water below 91 m. Feeds on a wide range of marine organisms including other sharks, rays, bony fishes and carrion. Ovoviviparous, liters very large, 22-108.

Distribution: Widespread in temperate and tropical waters.

Remarks: Hexanchus griscus is commonly 'caught in the fishery for deepwater spiny dogfish, 'kashimiyaru keyolhu kan'. The liver of 'Madu miyaru' was prized for making oil for treating wooden dhonis, so this species was in earlier times subject to a specialised fishery: 'madu miyaru keyolhu kan'. A photo of a Maldivian specimen is given in Anderson and Ahmed(1993, p.53).

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