

Bay of Bengal Programme

Development of Small-Scale Fisheries

FISH TRAP TRIALS
IN SRI LANKA

BOBP/WP/42



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME

BOBP/WP/42

Development of Small-Scale Fisheries

GCP/RAS/040/SWE

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based on the report of
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Executing Agency:

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Funding Agency:

Swedish International
Development Authority

Development of Small-Scale Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal.
Madras, India, January 1986.

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This paper documents the operations and findings of experimental fishing with various types of fish traps conducted in Sri Lanka for three months during 1982 (August - December). The fishing trials were carried out by the small-scale fisheries project of the Bay of Bengal Programme in cooperation with NARA (National Aquatic Resource Agency, Colombo).

The trials were part of a wider BOBP-NARA joint project to assess the magnitude and composition of the island's demersal resources and determine the best way to tap them. Three earlier papers (BOBP/WP/6, BOBP/WP/16 and BOBP/WP/40) described the findings of experiments with bottom-set longlines; a paper reviewing past demersal fish resource surveys and the present status of demersal fishery in Sri Lanka is under print, while another paper describing experiments with high-opening bottom trawls is awaited. The experiments with fish traps described in this paper yielded very low catches but documentation of the effort is considered important.

The small-scale fisheries project of the Bay of Bengal Programme began in 1979 and covers five countries bordering the Bay of Bengal -- Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Funded by SIDA (Swedish International Development Authority) and executed by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations), the project seeks to develop, demonstrate and promote appropriate technologies and methodologies to improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk in member countries.

This document is a working paper and has not been officially cleared by the Government concerned or by the FAO.

CONTENTS

	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Fish trapping techniques	1
3. Baiting	4
4. Fishing trials	4
5. Results	5
<u>Tables:</u>	
1. Types of fish traps and construction material used in fishing trials	3
2. Summary of catch results of fish trap trials	6
3. Size ranges of fishes caught in traps	7
<u>Fish trap trials in pictures</u>	8
<u>Publications of the Bay of Bengal Programme</u>	12