



LENGTH - WEIGHT RELATIONSHIPS OF FOUR PUFFERFISH SPECIES IN ANTALYA BAY

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Abstract

This study was carried out in Antalya Bay, eastern Mediterranean with the “R/V Akdeniz Su” (26 m length, 2x400 hp) within a framework of a research project (Project number: 2014.01.0111.001) supported by Akdeniz University. Samples were collected in May, August, October 2014 and February 2015 covering a period of a year. For each research surveys three transects have been studied in the region. There were 5 fixed (10-25-75-125-200 m) and 1 in-between (300 m) trawling stations at each transect. During the surveys, 69 specimens of *L. sceleratus*, 92 specimens of *L. spadiceus*, 747 specimens of *L. suezensis* and 48 specimens of *T. flavimaculosus* caught from the 68 successful hauls. Total lengths and total weights ranged between 5.4 - 62.5 cm and 2.0 – 3700 gr for *L. sceleratus*, 7 - 36.5 cm and 5.7 – 800 g for *L. spadiceus*, 4 - 18.5 cm and 1.1 – 92.4 gr for *L. suezensis* and 3.6 – 11.1 cm and 1.2 – 30.4 gr for *T. flavimaculosus*. A total of 760 specimens were measured to the nearest 0.01 mm and 0.001 g respectively. The length - weight relationships were described by the equation for *L. sceleratus*: $TW = 0.0172 \cdot TL^{2.8921}$, *L. spadiceus*: $TW = 0.0241 \cdot TL^{2.8684}$, *L. suezensis*: $TW = 0.0195 \cdot TL^{2.836}$ and *T. flavimaculosus*: $TW = 0.0326 \cdot TL^{2.7609}$.

Keywords: Tetraodontidae, pufferfish, length-weight relationship, Mediterranean, Antalya Bay.