



CATCH RATES OF TWO PUFFERFISH SPECIES IN ANGLING IN GÖKOVA BAY, TURKEY

Murat Çelik¹, Sercan Yapıcı^{1*}, Celal Ateş¹, Seiji Akiyama², Umut Uyan¹

¹ Faculty of Fisheries, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, 48000, Muğla, TURKEY

² Faculty of Marine Science, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Tokyo, JAPAN

*Corresponding author: sercanyapici@mu.edu.tr

Abstract

In order to determine the rate of catch composition of two pufferfishes in amateur fishing in Gökova Special Environmental Protection Area (GSEPA), total of 10 fish operations were carried out between September 2015 and July 2016. In total, 44 individuals of Pufferfish (*Lagocephalus suezensis* Clark & Gohar, 1953) and 5 Yellowspotted pufferfish (*Torquigener flavimaculosus* Hardy & Randall, 1983) species were caught by the method of angling. The total catch composition ratios of species captured were determined as 10.68% and 0.22% respectively. The obtained data was compared with the other species according to the habitat types. 25% of individuals was caught in grassy bottom and 75% of individuals was caught in rocky bottom accordingly. The increase of toxic species in angling compositions and the impact on CPUE have been discussed in this study.

Keywords: Catch composition, CPUE, Gökova Bay, southern Mediterranean Sea