

# Distribution, abundance and some biological aspects of Canary drum (*Umbrina canariensis* Valenciennes,1843) and the Longneck croaker (*Pseudotolithus typus* Bleeker,1863) off Angola

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## INTRODUCTION

*Umbrina canariensis* (Valenciennes, 1843), the Canary drum and *Pseudotolithus typus* (Bleeker, 1863), the Longneck croaker, are two commercially important species in the Angolan demersal fishery.

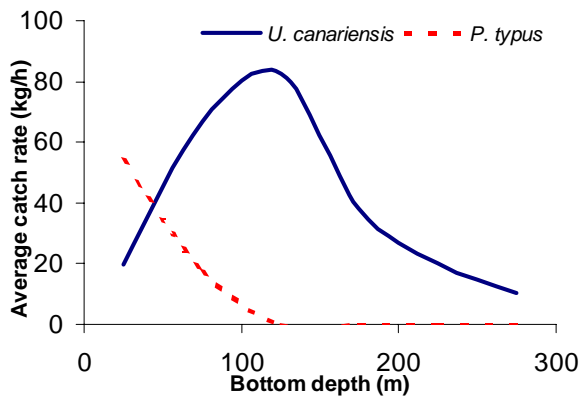
Both species may occasionally attain a reasonable size, reaching a rather high quotation in the market. These species are caught with bottom trawls, fixed bottom nets and line gear. The combined catch of Croakers reported from the area totaled ca. 9000 tons in 2001.

The data presented was collected in the R/V Dr. Fridtjof Nansen survey in March 2001.



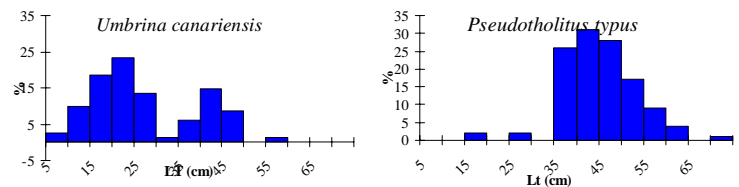
## DISTRIBUTION OF ABUNDANCES

*P. typus* occurs mostly at depths shallower than 100m, while *U. canariensis* is found down to 300 m. The catch rates indicate that *P. typus* is concentrated at depths around 40-50m, while *U. canariensis* has its highest densities around 100 m.



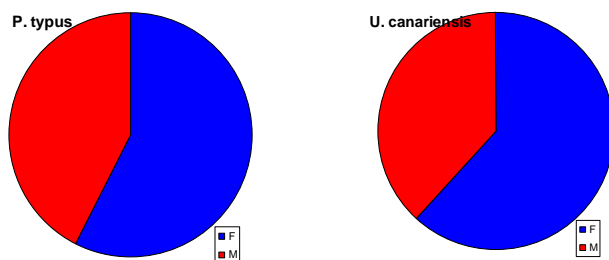
## SIZE-DISTRIBUTION

For *U. canariensis*, a bimodal length distribution is found, with both adults and juveniles. For *P. typus*, on the contrary, the length distribution sampled is truncated on the left, indicating that juveniles and small fish were not covered by the sampling.



## SEX-RATIO

Sex-ratios were biased in favour of females for both species, but slightly more for *Umbrina canariensis*



## MATURATION

Both species mature at a relatively small size. The lack of coverage of very small individuals of *P. typus*, however, does not allow to define precisely the size of maturation. In *U. canariensis*, all individuals larger than 20 cm are mature, while the same is true from 25 cm for *P. typus*.

