
Fin to carcass weight ratios for the silky shark, *Carcharhinus falciformis*, in the south-western Indian Ocean

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Abstract

The fin to carcass weight ratios were calculated on a sample of 53 complete sets of fins taken on dead specimens of silky sharks caught during the MADE program in the south-western Indian Ocean. The fins were dried with a food dehydrator until constant weight. The following ratios were calculated: wet weight of primary set of fins / total wet weight of the body and to the eviscerated wet weight of the carcass; wet weight of secondary set of fins / total wet weight of the body and to the eviscerated wet weight of the carcass. The results were compared to other published ratios obtained in other fisheries. The important differences sometimes observed, are mainly explained by the different methods of cutting the fins and the inclusion of the dorsal caudal lobe in the fin sets.

Keywords: shark fin body ratios, silky shark

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