

Growth characteristics of slender silver-biddies *Gerres oblongus* (Pisces: Perciformes) from the Jaffna lagoon, Srilanka

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Abstract

The present study was carried out to understand the growth parameters of the slender silver biddy *Gerres oblongus*. Growth parameters of *G. oblongus* such as asymptotic length (L_J), growth coefficient (K) and age at zero length ('t₀') were estimated through the appropriate routines of the FiSAT II software from the length frequency data. The optimized values for K and L_m obtained by the ELEFAN I routine was 1.0 year⁻¹ and 29.4 cm. The estimated 't₀' value was -0.151. The Powell-Wether all plot gave a Z/K value of 3.851. The estimated growth performance index (GPI) was 2.93. The von Bertalanffy's growth equation for *G. oblongus* can be expressed as $L_t = 29.4 [1 - \exp \{-1.0 (t + 0.159)\}]$. Estimated longevity for *G. oblongus* calculated from Pauly's equation was 2.84. The growth parameters obtained in the present study are useful fundamental indicators for the population dynamics studies of the *G. oblongus*.

Author keywords

Asymptotic length; *Gerres oblongus*; Growth coefficient; Population dynamics; Von bertalanffy's growth equation

Indexed keywords

GEOBASE Subject Index: body size; fish; growth modeling; growth rate; optimization; parameterization; population dynamics; von Bertalanffy equation

Regional Index: Jaffna Peninsula; Northern Province [Sri Lanka]; Sri Lanka

Species Index: Cordulegastridae; *Gerres oblongus*; Perciformes; Pisces