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Proximate composition of Bengal Corvina, *Daysciaena albida* (Cuvier 1830) from Vembanad lake

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ABSTRACT: The proximate analysis of *Daysciaena albida* in which protein, moisture, fat, ash, carbohydrate, and energy were present at the label of 19.90%, 79.13%, 3.46%, 1.43%, 0%, and 110.83 Kcal/100g respectively. Present findings demonstrate that the species has excellent macronutrient value. This fish has low-fat, high protein, and a good amount of energy. It was concluded that this fish can be used in value-added products as well as highly essential dietary supplements.

Key words: Croakers, *Daysciaena albida*, energy, proximate composition

Bengal Corvina / Two-bearded croaker *Daysciaena albida* (Cuvier 1830) belongs to the Family Sciaenidae is a benthopelagic amphidromous fish (Fricke *et al.*, 2022) that primarily inhabits brackish water. This fish is a commercially important food fish of Vembanad Lake on the west coast of India. Flesh and swim bladders of sciaenid are exported and regarded as a delicacy in other Asian countries (Ben-Hasan *et al.*, 2021). Bengal Corvina is valued for their high-quality protein content as well as their abundance of unsaturated fatty acids and essential amino acids. The ability to avoid diseases like cancer, cholesterol, and cardiovascular disease adds to this (Torriss *et al.*, 2018). A significant determinant of the fish's acceptability as quality food is its biochemical composition in the flesh (Abimbola, 2016). Consumers in this region favor *Daysciaena albida* because of its white meat. The primary goal of this study is to determine the proximate composition of this significant fish. Even though it is one of the most favored, prized, and heavily landed fish in this region, studies on this estuarine species are scarce, and its composition is undocumented. There are works on the proximate analysis of sciaenids from Indian waters but there is no works on the proximate composition of *Daysciaena albida* till date (Kuttyayappan, *et al.*, 1976; Bijukumar *et al.*, 2013); Mehta *et al.*, 2015)

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample collection

The fresh samples of Bengal Corvina were taken from local fishermen from Vembanad Lake (Fig 1), Kerala on the west coast of India. The samples collected were preserved in an ice box immediately to preserve the flesh quality. The sample was taken to the laboratory in iced condition. The mean length of the fish samples taken was

33cm and mean weight was 430 grams.

Proximate Composition

The proximate component analysis (Moisture, Total Ash, Fat, Protein, Carbohydrates, Energy) was done using the below given standard procedures. Moisture was tested using the standard procedure of AOAC (2019), 950.46. Total ash was tested using AOAC (2019), 938.08. Fat content was tested using AOAC (2019), 960.39. Protein Content using AOAC (2019) 928.08. Carbohydrate was done using IS 1656 (2007), (RA 2009). The energy was calculated following Kirk and Sawyer (1991). Standard deviation from the mean values are calculated by the formulae, $\sqrt{[\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2] / n - 1}$, where x_i is the value of the i^{th} point in the data set, \bar{x} is the mean value of the data set and n is the number of data points in the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proximate analysis of fish meat of *Daysciaena albida*

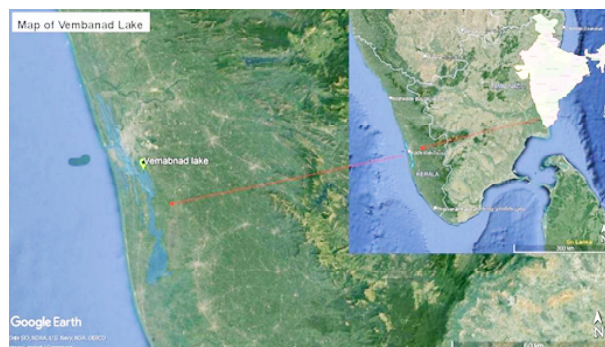


Fig 1: Map of Vembanad Lake

Source: Google Earth

is given in Table 1. In the present study, the Protein content in fish is found to be 19.90%. Which is a high amount of protein in fish as fish flesh is having water content of 66–81%, carbohydrates <0.5%, ash 1.2 to 1.5%, protein 16–21%, fat 0.2–25% (FAO, 1999). High protein content may be due to the carnivorous behavior of this fish which mainly include protein-rich organisms like shrimp, crab, other small fishes, other smaller crustaceans, etc (Kurup and Samuel, 1988). The protein content is reduced during the spawning season (Ando and Hatano, 1986). Marine fishes on the Indian coast are reported to have 60–80% of moisture content (Gopakumar, 1997). The moisture content in *D. albida* is about 79.13%. Intake of food and fat content in the body has a significant influence on moisture level (Maynard *et al.*, 1984). Ackman (1989) grouped fishes into four according to their fat content. Fishes with <2% fat are considered lean fishes those with 2 to 4% fat are low-fat fishes, 4 to 8% are medium-fat fishes and >8% fat is for high-fat fishes, he also described low values of lipid content are due to poor storage mechanisms and utilization of fat reserves during the spawning period. Fat content in present croaker species is 3.46% which includes this fish in low-fat fishes. The fat content depends on the food taken by the fish and also on the environment (Onyia *et al.*, 2010). The difference in the fat content can be due to sex, age, feeding behavior, spawning season, etc. According to FAO (1999) moisture and lipid are inversely related to the total composition of fish. The total ash content in this fish is 1.43%. Seasonal changes, Physicochemical parameters, and Biological factors including feeding, and reproductive characteristics influence the mineral and trace element concentration that contributes to total ash (Akande and Faturoti, 2005). The carbohydrate value in the present species shows a value

of zero. The carbohydrate value in fresh fish has a very low value or zero in many cases (Payne *et al.*, 1999; Anthony *et al.*, 2000). The energy value of this fish determined from present study is 110.83 Kcal/100g which is quite a good amount.

The comparison of the present study with the earlier studies from the Indian waters is given in Table 2. The protein and fat content of *D. albida* are more compared to the other species in the family Sciaenidae. The estuarine habitat which is nutrient rich, the protein rich carnivorous diet may be explained as reasons for the more protein and fat content in *D. albida*. The composition of fishes can vary according to Spatio-temporal differences, biological characteristics, and due to environmental factors (Lawson *et al.*, 1998; Saadettin *et al.*, 1998). This can be well defined from the present study.

CONCLUSION

This species has excellent macronutrient value compared to the other species from the same family. This fish is low-fat, high in protein, and has a good amount of energy. This fish can be used in value-added products as well as a highly essential dietary source. Fatty fishes have high levels of *n*-3 fatty acids and lean fish contains many nutrients which are efficient in the prevention of cardiovascular diseases (Torriss *et al.*, 2018). Fish can serve as ideal diet food as it has high nutritive values and can play an important part in human health (Abimbola, 2016). Present study recommends include this high protein-rich fish in the daily diet of human.

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Table 1: Proximate Composition of *Daysciaena albida*

Sl. No.	Parameter Tested	Results (Mean ± S.D)	Limit of Qualification (LOQ)
1	Moisture(%)	79.13±0.01	0.1
2	Total Ash(%)	1.43±0.02	0.1
3	Fat(%)	3.46±0.03	0.1
4	Protein(%)	19.90±0.02	0.1
5	Carbohydrates(%)	0±0	1.0
6	Energy(Kcal/100g)	110.83	10.0

Abbreviation: S.D is standard deviation.

Table 2: Comparison of Proximate Composition of Different Sciaenids in Indian Waters.

Sl.No.	Species	Moisture	Protein	Fat	Ash	Reference
1	<i>Daysciaena albida</i>	79.13±0.01	19.90±0.02	3.46±0.03	1.43±0.02	Present study
2	<i>Johnius dussumieri</i>	81.42±0.70	15.38±0.21	1.28±0.05	1.01±0.11	Mehta <i>et al.</i> (2015)
3	<i>Johnius belangerii</i>	75.9±2.46	15.83±1.83	2.5±0.35	1.85±0.38	Bijukumar <i>et al.</i> (2013)
4	<i>Otolithes cuvieri</i>	72.95±.08	19.69±1.94	1.35±0.34	2.18±0.43	Bijukumar <i>et al.</i> (2013)
5	<i>Pseudosciaena sp.</i>	78.08	16.77	2.3	3.2	Kuttyayappan, <i>et al.</i> (1976)

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