FAO SPECIES CATALOGUE

VOL. 10. GADIFORM FISHES OF THE WORLD
(Order GADIFORMES)

AN ANNOTATED AND ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE
OF CODS, HAKES, GRENADIERS AND OTHER
GADIFORM FISHES KNOWN TO DATE
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VOL.10 GADIFORM FISHES OF THE WORLD

(Order Gadiformes)

An Annotated and Illustrated Catalogue of Cods, Hakes,
Grenadiers and other Gadiform Fishes Known to Date

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 1990
Since the Gadiformes include some of the world’s most important commercial fish species, plans for the present catalogue were conceived many years ago. However, because of the confused state of the higher systematics of this complex and highly polymorphic group of fishes, the large number of poorly known species in some gadiform families, and the wealth of information on habitat and fisheries available on others, the original draft manuscript prepared in 1985 had to be substantially revised several times. Even in its present stage it does not reflect the latest findings in both the fields of taxonomy and fisheries. Nevertheless, it represents an up-to-date inventory of the species considered to be of present or potential interest to fisheries and is expected to become an important reference source for fishery workers throughout the world.

The 3 ichthyologists who have prepared the basic manuscript of the catalogue are internationally recognized experts in their respective fields and have been collaborating with the FAO Species Identification and Data Programme for many years.

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This is the tenth issue in the FAO series of worldwide annotated and illustrated catalogues (synopses) of major groups of organisms that enter marine fisheries. It includes all gadiform fishes (order GADIFORMES - cods, hakes, grenadiers, moras, moray cods, pelagic cods, codlets and eucla cods), comprising 8 families, 59 genera and more than 180 species, which contribute more than a quarter of the world’s marine fish catch. Keys are given to the families, subfamilies and genera, with a glossary of technical terms and measurements, and a review of major literature sources within each FAO fishing area. Genera and species are diagnosed, with drawings, scientific and vernacular names, information on habitat, biology, fisheries and distribution (with map); reference is also made to subspecies and to any taxonomic or other problems. The occurrence of the species within the FAO fishing areas is tabulated. All scientific names still applied to gadiform species are given in the synonymies, and these as well as the vernacular names are indexed; there is also a complete bibliography of all literature cited.