FAO SPECIES CATALOGUE

VOL. 3 CEPHALOPODS OF THE WORLD

An Annotated and Illustrated Catalogue
of Species of Interest to Fisheries

prepared by

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

The present publication, prepared under the UNDP/FAO Project for the Survey and Identification of World-Marine Fish Resources (GLO/82/001), is the third worldwide species catalogue issued within the FAO Fisheries Synopses series.

The catalogue has been based, to a large extent, on previous FAO publications on this subject, in particular the FAO Species Identification Sheets for Fishery Purposes (Fishing Areas 37, 31 and 34/47), and on field experience acquired by the first two authors in the course of a two-months long UNDP/FAO mission through the Indo-Pacific area carried out in 1979. Information on habitat, biology and fisheries was mostly gathered from literature by the third author.

The indexes of scientific and common international FAO species names and of local species names were prepared in collaboration with FAO's Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Service.

Illustrations were adapted and redrawn by a wide variety of sources, especially from Okutani (1980).


FAO Family and Species names: French: J.-C. Quéro, Institut Scientifique et Technique des Pêches Maritimes, La Rochelle, France; Spanish: A. Guerra and G. Pérez-Gandaras, Instituto de Investigaciones Pesqueras, Vigo, Spain.

Technical Editors: W. Fischer and C.E. Nauen, Fishery Resources and Environment Division, FAO.

ABSTRACT

This is the third in the FAO series of worldwide annotated and illustrated catalogues of major groups of organisms that enter marine fisheries. The present volume includes 173 cephalopod species of actual or potential fishery interest, belonging to the Nautiloidea (nautiluses), Sepioidea (cuttlefishes), Teuthoidea (squids) and Octopoda (octopuses). It provides a comprehensive and illustrated key to all the 43 cephalopod families, with a glossary of technical terms and measurements. Within each family are given individual accounts of species, which include drawings, scientific and vernacular names, information on habitat, biology and fisheries, and a distribution map; for most families there is also a key to genera. The work is fully indexed and there is ample reference to pertinent literature.

Distribution:
Authors
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and Commissions
Selector SM

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FOREWORD

This publication is the third in a series of worldwide species catalogues that FAO is producing with financial support from UNDP. The series was initiated in 1980 with the publication of “Shrimps and Prawns of the World”, by L.B. Holthuis, and will continue periodically with similar catalogues for other groups of major interest to fisheries.

The present catalogue represents FAO's first attempt toward a worldwide annotated and illustrated inventory of the cephalopod species presently utilized or believed to be of potential interest to mankind. It is aimed primarily at individual workers and institutions concerned with cephalopod fisheries. It is a source of wide-ranging basic information by species relevant to aspects of identification, biology, fisheries, and marketing, as well as representing a coded system of scientific and standardized vernacular names.

The recent development of new cephalopod fisheries, based to a large extent on species that traditionally have not been exploited, poses new problems of species resources identification and management. At the same time, such development results in an increasing amount of new information and data, much of which are unpublished or confined to reports of restricted distribution and hence are difficult to access. Because of this, the present version of this catalogue should be viewed as a working document capable of improvement and expansion as additional information and data are accumulated from our continuing efforts, as well as from the users.

In an effort to alleviate this situation, a computer-based, subject classifier or indexed bibliography of cephalopod literature is being built at the Smithsonian Institution in collaboration with FAO and the US National Marine Fisheries Service.

Furthermore, an international group of cephalopod experts has been established for the purpose of providing information and services to fishery agencies and other organizations and groups interested in cephalopods. The Cephalopod International Advisory Council (CIAC) answers queries concerning systematics, biology, fisheries, etc., sponsors workshops and training courses and serves as a source of information exchange through a newsletter and pamphlets. For further information contact the first author of this catalogue.

As an outgrowth of this catalogue, FAO will consider the development of a computerized species data base on cephalopods to be progressively further expanded as new information becomes available.

In order to strengthen the usefulness of this information service, we strongly encourage users of this catalogue to share in keeping it up-to-date, thus rendering it more useful by providing us with new information to be used in publishing future editions. All suggestions, corrections, and additional information should be sent to the editors or the authors. Problems concerning species identifications should be addressed to the authors. Also, copies of publications of any sort that deal with cephalopod biology and fisheries will be of great value to and much appreciated by the authors.

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