Species Fact Sheets

*Hippoglossoides elassodon* (Jordan & Gilbert, 1880)

**Synonyms**
- *Hippoglossoides (Cynopsetta) elassodon* Hubbs, 1918: 373.

**FAO Names**
En - Flathead sole, Fr - Balai du Japon, Sp - Platija japonesa.
3Alpha Code: FTS   Taxonomic Code: 1830201404

**Diagnostic Features**
Body ovate or rather elongate, compressed. Snout as long as or shorter than eye; anterior margins of eyes about level. Maxillary extending to below middle of eye or beyond; lower jaw a little projecting; outline of upper jaw evenly curved. Gillrakers (14) 15 to 18 (19) on lower part of anterior arch. Scales rather strongly ctenoid on ocular side, mostly cycloid on blind side; 87 to 94 in lateral line. Dorsal finrays (76) 79 to 86; origin above anterior margin of eye. Anal finrays 60 to 67 (69). Pectoral of ocular side with 10 to 12 rays, length about twice in that of head. Caudal with 18 rays (12 branched), rounded or double-truncate; caudal peduncle as long as deep or a little deeper than long. Colour brownish with or without darker spots; fins greyish, spotted and blotched with darker.

**Geographical Distribution**
Launch the Aquatic Species Distribution map viewer

Pacific coast of North America, from the Bering Sea to Cape Flattery (California); Okhotsk Sea.

Habitat and Biology
On soft bottoms at 6 to 549 m; adults usually below 180 m. Feeds on annelids, crustaceans, and molluscs.

Size
Attains 50 cm; common about 25-30 cm.

Interest to Fisheries
Comercial fisheries and gamefish. Caught with bottom trawls and line gear. The most common fishing techniques are "demersal bottom trawling" and "small flatfish (flounders, soles) bottom trawling". The total catch reported for this species to FAO for 1999 was 14 318 t. The countries with the largest catches were USA (14 318 t).
Global Capture Production for species (tonnes)

Source: FAO FishStat

Local Names

Japanese: Umagarei.
Polish: Plaskoglów.

Bibliography

