**Species Fact Sheets**

*Limanda limanda* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Synonyms**

- *Pleuronectes platessoides* Faber, 1829
- *Pleuronectes limanda* Linnaeus, 1758, (original description).
- *Pleuronectes limandula* Bonnaterre, 1788: 75.
- *Platessa limanda* Cuvier, 1817: 221.
- *Pleuronectes (Limanda) limanda* Danois, 1913: 100.

**FAO Names**

En - Common dab, Fr - Limande, Sp - Lenguadina.

3Alpha Code: DAB  Taxonomic Code: 1830202405

**Diagnostic Features**

Body rather deep, its depth 2 to 2.5 times in standard length. Mout rather small, reaching only to just in front of lower eye. Ctenoid scales on eyed side, cycloid scales on blind side. Dorsal finrays 65 to 81. Anal finrays 50 to 64. Lateral line scales 73 to 90. Coloration usually warm sandy-brown, varying from light brown to grey-brown with small darker freckles on the eyed side; on the blind side white.

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

Eastern Atlantic, from Bay of Biscay to White Sea, also Iceland.

**Habitat and Biology**
Benthic, lives mainly on sandy bottoms, from a few meters to about 150 m. Feeds mainly on crustaceans, molluscs, worms and small fishes. Spawns from January to August; larvae settle at depths of 10-20 m.

**Size**
To 42 cm, seldom more than 30 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries**
Moderately important to the fishing industry and is caught mainly in trawls and Danish seines. It is also popular with anglers, despite its small size, for it is common in inshore waters and takes a bait eagerly. The total catch reported for this species to FAO for 1999 was 20,943 t. The countries with the largest catches were Netherlands (8,656 t) and Iceland (3,981 t). Marketed fresh, dried/salted, smoked and frozen; eaten steamed, fried, broiled, boiled, microwaved and baked.
Local Names

Catalan: Limanda.
Danish: Ising, Slette.
Dutch: Schar.
English: Common dab, Dab, Garve, Garve fluke, Sand dab.
Finnish: Hietakampela.
French: Limande, Limande commune.
German: Kliesche, Scharbe.
Greek: Chromatida.
Icelandic: Sandkoli.
Italian: Limanda.
Japanese: Karei.
Norwegian: Sandflyndre.
Polish: Zimnica.
Portuguese: Solha escura do mar do norte.
Serbo-Croat: Iverak.
Spanish: Lengua, Limanda, Limanda nordica.
Swedish: Sandskädda.
Turkish: Pisi baligi.

Bibliography

