

FECUNDITY AND OOCYTE SIZE IN THE FLYINGFISH
Cheilopogon arcticeps FROM LANUZA BAY, SURIGAO DEL SUR

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ABSTRACT

The relationship of fecundity and oocyte diameter to body size and other reproductive aspects of the flyingfish *Cheilopogon arcticeps* in Lanuza Bay were investigated in this study. Gravimetric method or weight method was used in order to estimate the fecundity of 35 mature female *C.arcticeps* ranging from 17.8-23.6 cm standard length. Total fecundity of *C.arcticeps* ranged from 1,126 – 41,684 while its oocyte diameter ranged from 0.8 -3.6 mm. The relationship of fecundity to standard length (SL) showed variable results and poor correlation. This may be indicative of a unique reproductive strategy of this species. Egg size to standard length showed an increasing trend but a weak correlation. In general smaller egg diameters were observed in smaller size class SL and bigger egg diameters appear in larger SL. The relationship of fecundity to gonad weight showed a positive linear correlation and increasing data .Thus as gonad weight increases, fecundity increases too. The correlation between fecundity and total length shows a weak relationship, however the correlation between fecundity and gonad weight show a stronger relationship. The present study aim to exhibit additional information on the rare documentation of flyingfish in the country.