

Length-girth relationships for 4 commercially important fish species in coastal waters of Bandar Abbas

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This study reports the estimated relationships between fork length (FL) and girths at gills behind the gill-cover (OP), in front of the first dorsal fin (D_1) and in front of the second dorsal fin (D_2) for 4 commercially important marine fish species such as *Scomberomorus commerson*, *Scomberomorus guttatus*, *Thunnus tonggol* and *Euthynnus affinis* sampled from gillnets in coastal waters of Bandar Abbas. Three transverse morphometric parameters including OP, D_1 and D_2 increased linearly with FL for each species. All r^2 values were statistically significant (>0.94 , $P < 0.05$). Analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) showed that the relationship between transverse measures of each species and length is significant at 0.05 level, so that for both *S. commerson* and *S. guttatus* D_2 , for *E. affinis* D_1 and for *T. tonggol* D_1 and Op similarly are considered as maximum girth. The implications of girth measurements for selectivity estimates are also discussed.

Keywords: Transverse morphometric parameters, length-girth relationship, size selectivity.