

THE STATUS OF THE BEACH SEINE FISHERY FROM
MORATUWA TO BERUWALA (SEPT. 1983 TO APRIL 1986)

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Beach Seine fishery is carried out at 17 centres in the area between Moratuwa and Beruwala, which covers 24 miles of the Southern coast line of Sri Lanka. There are altogether 62 registered Beach Seine crafts in this area.

This fishery is carried out only during the calm non monsoonal months of September/October to March/April.

The operation of a beach seine requires around sixty active men.

Around 470 MT fish are produced annually in this area by this fishery which catch a variety of fishes that include Engraulids Leiognathids, Clupeids etc. Catches towards Beruwala consist mostly of Engraulids which contribute around 33.9 percent while the catches towards Moratuwa consist mostly of Leiognathids which contribute around 46.7 percent to the total small pelagic fish production.

The mean catch per haul towards Beruwala is around 336.1 kg while that towards Moratuwa is around 177.4 kg.