

БИОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ РЕСУРСЫ

УДК 597.5

А.М.Орлов, А.М.Токранов
(ВНИРО, г. Москва; КФТИГ ДВО РАН,
г. Петропавловск-Камчатский)

МОРСКОЙ МОНАХ *ERILEPIS ZONIFER*
(АНОПЛОРОМАТИДАЕ): ИСТОРИЯ ИЗУЧЕНИЯ И НОВЫЕ
ДАННЫЕ ПО РАСПРЕДЕЛЕНИЮ И БИОЛОГИИ

На основании анализа всех доступных литературных источников и неопубликованных данных по 600 поимкам в северной части Тихого океана в период с 1956 по 2001 г. рассматриваются номенклатура и этимология, особенности морфологии, распространение и некоторые черты биологии морского монаха *Erilepis zonifer*, результаты аквариальных наблюдений, а также приводятся несколько ранее неопубликованных фотографий эрилеписа из прикурильских вод.

Orlov A.M., Tokranov A.M. Skilfish *Erilepis zonifer* (Anoplopomatidae): history of study and new data on distribution and biology // Izv. TINRO. — 2003. — Vol. 135. — P. 3–29.

On the basis of analysis of all the available literature sources and unpublished data on 600 captures in the North Pacific Ocean during 1956–2001, the nomenclature and etymology, morphological peculiarities, distribution and some biological features of skilfish *Erilepis zonifer* are discussed, results of observation in captivity are considered, some new photographs from Kuril Islands waters are provided.

Skilfish is a rather rare representative of sablefish family (Anoplopomatidae) that inhabits the North Pacific Ocean from Honshu and California coastal waters in the south to the Aleutian Islands in the north. This species does not support commercial fishery but constitutes a rather common by-catch during bottom trawl, long-line, and gill net fishery. Skilfish meat is very fat and therefore is very popular in Japan, where it is a source for cooking of traditional Japanese dishes “sashimi” and “miso”.

There was few published information on skilfish captures till present. Their number in the North Pacific during the 1990-s increased considerably. However, most of authors provided only capture localities and depths, fish lengths, and occasionally some morphological peculiarities.

Comparison of 54 morphometrics and meristics of 12 specimens from coastal waters off Japan, Kuril Islands, the United States, and Canada did not reveal any considerable distinctions between Asian and American individuals except for head length (24.5–25.2 % SL of Asian and 30.0–36.6 % SL of American specimens). With body predorsal length increasing, head length and maxillae length increase, while length of first dorsal fin base, pelvic fin length, and pectoral fin length contrarily decrease that is associated with transition from pelagic to benthic life pattern.

Small fry of skilfish inhabits surface drifting seaweed in the coastal areas. With length increasing skilfish starts to be widely distributed in the high sea, and is often caught by surface gill nets. Adults inhabit near bottom layers and are caught over continental slope mostly at the depths of 200–400 m. Most of pelagic juveniles have