REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY OF GREATER LIZARDFISH  
(*Saurida tumbil* BLOCH, 1795) IN THE TONKIN GULF DURING  
2015 – 2016 PERIOD  

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**Summary**

Biological characteristics of the Greater lizardfish (*Saurida tumbil* Bloch, 1795) were analyzed using data collected by “Vietnam - China Cooperation Survey Project for the Marine Fisheries Resources Assessment in the Common Fishing Zone in the Gulf of Tonkin” and “Comprehensive Survey of the Status and Variations of Marine Fisheries Resources in Vietnam” in 2015-2016 period. Biological samples were monthly and randomly collected from the catches of trawl fishery in key fishing ports from Hai Phong city and Thanh Hoa province. There were a total of 6,683 individuals lizard fish collected in period 2015 – 2016. Results showed that the folk length of fish varied in range 76-305 mm with the common size varied from 161 to 198 mm. The length-weight relationship in Lizard fish expressed as:

\[ W_{\text{male}} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \times L^{2.992} \quad (R = 0.96) \]
\[ W_{\text{female}} = 9 \times 10^{-4} \times L^{2.992} \quad (R = 0.93) \]

The slope of the regression line suggested an allometric growth. The spawning season of Greater lizardfish extended from January to December, and got a peak in May and August. The estimated length at first maturity (Lm50) was 160.03 mm for male and 198.01 mm for female. Sex ratios was not steady throughout the year, and the ratio of males to females were given as 1:1.53 and 1:1.13 in non-spawning and spawning season, respectively.

**Key words:** *Saurida tumbil*, Lizardfish, Tonkin gulf, length frequency, spawning season.