



Research Article

Proximate Body Composition of Talang Queenfish (*Scomberoides commersonnianus* Lacépède, 1801) from Pakistan

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Abstract | Proximate body composition implies composition of water, ash, protein and lipids. Basic purpose of the present work was to avow nutritious status of *Scomberoides commersonnianus*. Therefore, current study analysis was performed to analyze body composition of the studied fish. A total of 73 specimens of *S. commersonnianus* having different size, ranged 94.5 to 1183g of body weight and 20.5 to 56.9 cm in total length were randomly chosen from Arabian Sea Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan for analysis of proximate study. The mean percent values of different constituents were 73.95% water, 3.58% ash, 3.98% fat, 18.48% protein and 22.46% organic contents in wet weight of the fish. The relationships of percent H₂O with other constituents in wet body weight were found to be highly significant (P<0.001), however the relation with percent ash, fat, organic contents and protein in dry body weight were non-significant (P>0.05). Highly significant relationships were also observed for fish size (weight and total length) with all other body constituents in log-transformed data. Condition factor had highly significant relationships with percent ash, water, protein, organic contents while significant relation was observed with percent fat.

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Keywords | *Scomberoides commersonnianus*, Proximate body composition, Lipids, Ash, Protein, Marine fish

Introduction

Flesh of fish is considered as more valuable with high proteinous contents to be consume in comparison with various form of animal meat of different species (Louka *et al.*, 2004). Proximate body composition of fish has recently in consideration for health and nutritional purpose (Tobin *et al.*, 2006). On relation by growing interest in quality and safety of various items of fishes (Dumas *et al.*, 2010). It is consider as very important aspect among nutritional concern (Breck, 2014) that influence the nutrition values and its consumption for fish quality (Azam *et al.*, 2004). It is suggested that with evaluation for content of moisture for relative water, fat and protein in fish (Naeem

and Ishtiaq, 2011). To report the differences among individual sizes between different fishes proximate composition is generally illustrate percent dry and wet body weight. Relationship between proximate body composition of animals and their sizes is also observed (Rivera-Torres *et al.*, 2011). Comparable fish relationships reveals that percentage of various body composition as ash, water, protein and fat in fish depend upon their sizes (Naeem and Ishtiaq, 2011).

Fish contains water, protein, fat and small amount of minerals and carbohydrates (Haruna, 2003). The estimation of fish nutritive value that relies on it's proximate body composition (Prado *et al.*, 2009). Particular calculation of proximate composition is performed

in economically viable species that are cultured with specific weight of body for food, and for the enhancement in efficiency as well as profitability. Many studies can be conducted to predict the proximate composition from its body weight of fish (Naem *et al.*, 2016). Analysis of proximate body composition on a large scale, is usually utilized by scientist for screening of condition and health of fish (Aberoumad and Pourshafi, 2010).

The aim of present study was to evaluate proximate body composition of a marine fish, *Scomberoides commersonnianus* from Pakistan.

Materials and Methods

Total 73 specimens of a marine fish, *Scomberoides commersonnianus*, having different sizes ranges from 94.5 to 1183g of body weight and 20.5 to 56.9 cm in total length were randomly chosen from Arabian Sea Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan for analysis of proximate composition. Samples were transported within ice containing plastic packing to Fisheries Research Laboratory in the IP & AB (Zoology Division), BZU Multan, Pakistan. Samples were cleaned by removing from box with a towels. Fish wet weight of each specimen was measured by using digital electric balance (MP3000; Cho, Japan) and total length by wooden measuring board. For water content estimation, each of the fish sample was put in pre-weighted aluminum foil and kept in oven (Memmert) on 60-70°C for drying purpose until constant weight. Dried samples were grinded to make homogenized powder. For calculation of content of ash contents in each specimen, 1g powder sample of fish was taken in pre-weighted china crucible and placed in muffle furnace at 450-500°C for 24 hours and was weighed again.

For estimation of fat content, mixture of chemicals with 2:1 ratio of chloroform and methyl alcohol was applied (Salam and Davies, 1994). By taking 1g of dry powder tissue in test tube, 10ml of methyl alcohol and chloroform mixture was mixed with glass stirrer. These mixtures were kept overnight, then shifted in pre weighed glass bottles and placed in oven at 40-50°C till the dry mass of lipid left behind. Protein contents were calculated by using difference method, by subtracting fat and ash content from dry fish mass (Salam and Davies, 1994; Naem *et al.*, 2016). Condition factor was assessed by techniques of Wooton (1990).

To assess effect of total length, weight and condition factor on the fish proximate composition, regression

analysis was performed by using following equation: based on various body content to examine these association with studied parameters by using following formula:

$$Y = a + b X$$

Results and Discussion

The percent mean and standard deviation were 73.95 ± 3.02% for water, 3.58 ± 0.75% for ash (wet weight), 13.72 ± 2.19% for ash (dry body weight), 3.98 ± 1.12%, 15.30 ± 4.01% for fat (wet and dry weight of body), 18.48 ± 2.42% for protein (wet body weight), 70.97 ± 4.78% protein content (dry body weight) and 22.46 ± 2.59% for organic content (Wet body weight), 86.28 ± 2.19% for organic content (dry weight of body) (Table 1).

Table 1: Mean value and ranges of various body constituents of *Scomberoides commersonnianus*. (n = 73).

Body constituents	Mean ± SD	Ranges
Water content (%)	73.95 ± 3.02	69.39-81.83
Ash content (%Wet wt.)	3.58 ± 0.75	2.13- 5.30
Ash content (%dry wt.)	13.72 ± 2.19	8.00- 19.00
Fat content (%wet wt.)	3.98 ± 1.12	2.03- 6.30
Fat content (% dry wt.)	15.30 ± 4.01	7.99- 24.00
Protein contents (%wet wt.)	18.48 ± 2.42	12.18- 21.97
Protein contents (%dry wt.)	70.97 ± 4.78	60.00- 82.02
Organic contents (%wet wt.)	22.46 ± 2.59	16.00- 26.49
Organic contents (%dry wt.)	86.28 ± 2.19	81.00- 92.00

SD = Standard deviation

The relationship of percent H₂O with different body constituent (wet weight of body) were found to be highly significant (P<0.001) except their relation with % organic contents, fat protein and ash (dry weight of body) were non significant (P>0.05). Percent water showed inverse relation with all constituents except %protein, %fat and %organic constituents in dry weight (Table 2).

By studying the each variable total values of proximate body composition by log transformation on water, fat, ash and protein constituent and by regression analysis against log wet body weight of body and with log total length highly significant correlation was observed. Log body weight shown positive relationship with all studied components (Table 3), similarly positive trend of log total length with all other constituents was also found (Table 4).

Table 2: Statistical analysis of percent water content with percent body constituent of *S. commersonnianus* (n = 73).

Relationship	r	a	b	SE(b)	T Value b=0
% Water - %Ash wet wt.	-0.650***	15.581	-0.162	0.023	-7.150
% Water - %Ash dry wt.	0.141 ^{n.s}	21.280	-0.102	0.086	-1.191
% Water - %Fat wet wt.	0.392***	14.726	-0.145	0.041	-3.564
% Water - %Fat dry wt.	0.044 ^{n.s}	10.931	0.059	0.159	0.372
% Water - %Protein wet wt.	0.862***	69.693	-0.692	0.049	-14.256
% Water - %Protein dry wt.	0.027 ^{n.s}	67.789	0.043	0.189	0.228
% Water - %Organic Content wet wt.	0.975***	84.419	-0.838	0.023	-36.925
% Water - %Organic Content dry wt.	0.141 ^{n.s}	78.720	0.102	0.086	1.191

r = Correlation Coefficient; a = Intercept; b = Slope; S.E= Standard Error; ***= P<0.001; n.s = P > 0.005

Table 3: Statistical analysis of log wet body weight (Wt.) with various % log body constituent of *S. commersonnianus* (n = 73).

Relationship	r	a	b	S.E(b)	T Value b=1
Log Body wt. - Log Water	0.999***	-0.060	0.973	0.004	-230.01
Log Body wt. -Log Ash	0.981***	-1.723	1.101	0.026	-36.96
Log Body wt. - Log Fat	0.971***	-1.850	1.163	0.034	-27.97
Log Body wt. - Log Protein	0.991***	-0.905	1.063	0.017	-58.05
Log Body wt. - Log Organic contents	0.995***	-0.861	1.079	0.013	-75.00

For abbreviations and statistical details, see Table 2.

Table 4: Statistical analysis of log TL with % log body constituent in *S. commersonnianus*.

Relationship	r	a	b	SE(b)	T Value b=3
Log TL-Log Water	0.996***	-1.388	2.466	0.028	-106.51
Log TL-Log Ash	0.980***	-3.236	2.796	0.069	-40.96
Log TL- Log Fat	0.964***	-3.421	2.937	0.097	-28.14
Log TL- Log Protein	0.989***	-2.362	2.698	0.049	-59.14
Log TL- Log Organic contents	0.992***	-2.335	2.735	0.042	-68.09

For abbreviations and statistical details, see Table 2.

Table 5: Statistical analysis of condition factor with various % body constituent in *S. commersonnianus*.

Relationship	r	a	b	S.E(b)	T value b=0
Condition Factor - %Water	0.548***	65.386	10.697	1.950	5.485
Condition Factor -%Ash	-0.411***	5.190	-2.005	2.125	-0.943
Condition Factor - %Fat	-0.352**	6.020	-2.547	2.182	-1.167
Condition Factor - %Protein	-0.392***	23.404	-6.145	2.145	-2.865
Condition Factor - %Organic contents	-0.519***	29.424	-8.692	1.994	-4.360

For abbreviations and statistical details, see Table 2.

Condition factor showed inverse correlation with percent fat, organic contents, ash and protein while has positive with percent water. Condition factor showed highly significant relationship with percent water, ash, protein, organic contents while significant relation (P<0.01) with percent fat was observed (Table 5).

Results of current study were in agreement with the findings of Lal and Naeem (2021) in *Terapon jerbua* 73.22% and in *Clarias gariepinus* (74.3%) studied by Osibona et al. (2009). But the results deviated in fish *Ctenopharyngodon idella* 77.34% by Scherer et al. (2006); *Perca fluviatilis* 80.2% by Urban et al. (2007) and Osibona et al. (2009) in *Tilapia zillii*

80.4%. Present method of body composition analysis with its relationships to other body components is used as a predictor for fish composition. Moreover, it is less expensive within short timeframe (Hartman and Margraf, 2008). Inverse correlation between fat (wet weight) and protein (wet weight) with percent water may provide cost effective and quick index by mean of their energy contents to measure the content of water (Hislop *et al.*, 1991). Present study found in agreement with this study. Similarly, different investigators have been observed same trend in whole fish (Elliott, 1976; Osibona *et al.*, 2009). Ash represents in smaller proportion in composition of fish. In present study the ash content was found 3.58%. Ash content was found contradictory from the findings of Kamal *et al.* (2007) in *Clarias batrachus* 3.74% and *Anabas testudineus* (3.31%) are in general agreement. Hossain *et al.* (1999) reported that the content of fat of different fish species ranges from 1.87-9.55%. In present study, fat content was found 3.98% in wet weight of *S. commersonianus*. Fishes having less than 5% lipid content are considered lean (Ackman, 1989). Protein content (wet weight) was estimated as 18.48% in present study. Similar findings of protein contents are presented in *Chanda garipepinus* (18.8%), *Amblyp-haryngodon mola* (18.46%) and *C. nama* (18.26%) by Mazumder *et al.* (2008).

Analysis of proximate body composition by log transformation on water, fat, ash and protein constituents and regression analysis against log wet body weight of body and with log total length highly significant positive correlation were observed. Similar significant positive correlation by log regressions were also reported by Khalid and Naem (2018) in *C. idella*.

Although different research studies (Naem *et al.*, 2016) using condition factor for estimation of fish body composition, but other research studied (Naem and Ishtiaq, 2011) remained unsuccessful for reporting significant relation between body constituent and condition factor. The variation can be because of proximate body composition may varies with feed, condition factor or body size (Ishtiaq and Naem, 2019). Pradhan *et al.* (2014) reported a significant correlation among different body constituents (lipid, ash, moisture and protein) and condition factor in *Catla catla*. Present study should also revealed significant relationship between condition factors and various body constituents.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Results of study reveal that different proximate body composition constituents (fat, protein, water, organic content and ash) not only be varies with changing in species, but also by changing body size and condition factor of a fish species. The results indicated high proteinaceous value (18.48% of wet body weight); so, it should also promoted as very useful for fishing industries for processing of food for nutritionists and marketers and to increase the consumption of meat. Moreover, little work have done, more work on this fish species will have to be done to coup with per capita meat consumption.

Novelty Statement

This study provides nutrition insight of a low cost and valuable marine fish (*Scomberoides commersonianus*), found in coastal areas of Pakistan.

Author's Contribution

Sheikh Muhammad Azam: Conduction of experimentation, data collection, did statistical analysis and wrote manuscript.

Muhammad Naem: Has provided guideline for completion of research experimentation and resources for completion of research.

Conflict of interest

Authors have declared no conflict of interest.

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