A preliminary study on growth parameters of hake (*Merluccius merluccius* L.) in the Sea of Marmara, Turkey

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**Abstract**

Age and growth of hake (*Merluccius merluccius* L.) were determined from 150 specimens collected seasonally during August, 2009. Total length ranged from 9.4 to 27.4 cm while weight varied between 4.49 and 150.63 g. The von Bertalanffy growth equation was fitted on the basis of mean length-at-age data resulting in parameters values of $L_\infty = 29.75$ cm $K = 0.20$ $t_\infty = -1.42$. Length-Weight relationship was estimated as $W = 0.0025L^{3.34}$, increasing allometrically for both sexes. The oldest male and female were estimated to be 2 years old. The sex ratio was skewed in favour of females (1:0.68).

Key words: hake, *Merluccius merluccius*, The Sea of Marmara, age, growth

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