

**FOOD AND FEEDING HABITS OF OXYURICHTHYS TENTACULARIS,  
GOBIIDAE (VALENCIENNES, 1837) FROM ASHTAMUDI LAKE- KERALA**

**REMYA MOHAN & SHERLY WILLIAMS, E**

*Environmental Science, Aquaculture & Fish Biotechnology Lab,  
Department of Zoology, Fatima Mata National College, Kollam, Kerala, India*

**ABSTRACT**

*The food and feeding habits of *Oxyurichthys tentacularis* was studied from Ashtamudi Lake in Kollam district. *Oxyurichthys tentacularis* locally known as koozhali commercially one of the important food fish of Ashtamudi Lake. The fish is a member of Gobiidae family, and particularly a bottom feeder. The Dietary analysis showed that *Oxyurichthys tentacularis* is an omnivore. The study revealed that fish does not prefer any specific food items. Feeding was mainly depends upon the availability of food items. Detritus and Crustaceans constituted the major food items.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Oxyurichthys tentacularis, Ashtamudi Estuary, Food and Feeding Habits*

**Received:** Aug 08, 2016; **Accepted:** Sep 09, 2016; **Published:** Sep 19, 2016; **Paper Id.:** JZRDEC20161

Original Article