

ASPECTS ON THE BIOLOGY OF BLACKSPOT SEABREAM, *PAGELLUS BOGARAVEO* (BRUNNICH, 1768) IN THE NORTHERN AEGEAN SEA (GREECE)

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Pagellus bogaraveo is a demersal fish, common in the western coast of the Atlantic Ocean and the Western Mediterranean, but quite rare in the Eastern Mediterranean or absent from the Black Sea (FISHER *et al.*, 1987). Although some works on the biology

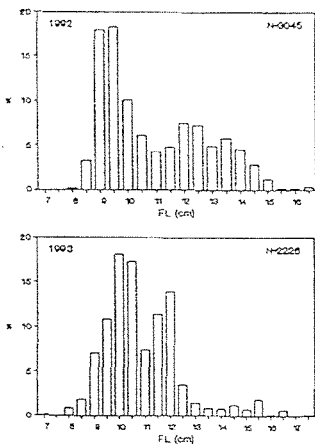


Fig. 1 Length-frequency distribution of *P. bogaraveo*

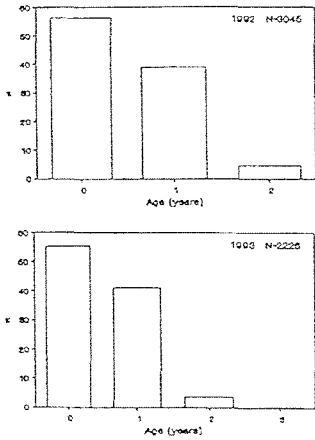


Fig. 2. Age composition of *P. bogaraveo*

(Floo = 251.2 mm, $k = 0.186$ and to -2.72), found from the observed lengths of 385 individuals, could not be considered as the growth parameters of the species, since old individuals (> 4 yrs) were not present in the samples. Fork length - Weight relationship was found to be: $\log W = 0.000025 + 2.926 \log FL$ ($N = 694$, $r = 0.92$)

All fished individuals were found immature. Since blackspot seabream is a protandrous hermaphrodite species, it could be assumed that the sampled individuals will mainly function as males. Comparing the results of the present work with those found in the literature, we could suggest that all the above estimations could be attributed to the young blackspot seabreams.

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Length classes	0	1	2	3	N
70 - 80	1	0	0	0	1
80 - 90	7	0	0	0	7
90 - 100	55	0	0	0	55
100 - 110	64	10	0	0	74
110 - 120	13	52	0	0	65
120 - 130	0	71	0	0	71
130 - 140	0	53	1	0	54
140 - 150	0	27	23	0	50
150 - 160	0	1	5	0	6
160 - 170	0	0	1	0	1
170 - 180	0	0	0	1	1
N	140	214	30	1	385
Mean FL	100.2	126	146	175	

Table 1. Length-age key of *P. bogaraveo* in the North Aegean Sea

Age group	N	Mean obs. FL	Age 1	Age 2	Age 3
1	214	126	111.7		
2	30	146	114.1		142.7
3	1	175	118.9	152.8	175
Mean FL			112.0	143.1	175
Annual increment			112.0	31.1	31.9

Table 2. Mean backcalculated lengths of *P. bogaraveo* in the North Aegean Sea

