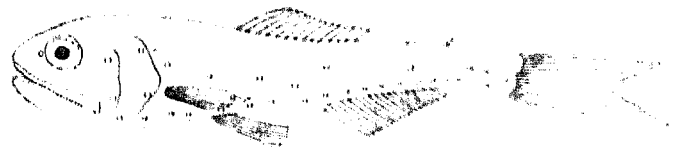


OCCURRENCE OF *MYCTOPHIUM* SP. IN BOMBAY HARBOUR*

Two post-larval forms of *Myctophum* sp. were found in a plankton sample from the Bombay Harbour on the 15th September 1944. One of the specimens measured 6.5 mm. and the other 14 mm. They had distinct photophores on the body arranged in rows (Fig. 1).



Myctophum sp. 3 & 6

This luminous fish, to our knowledge, has not been described or reported previously from Bombay Waters. It is noteworthy that it was found only once in our plankton collections during the last ten or twelve years; it appears to visit the coast rarely, being perhaps a deep sea form.

Our specimens differ from *Scopelus indicus*, a single specimen of which was collected by Sir Walter Elliot at Vizagapatam and recorded by Day.¹ The publication of this note was postponed with a view to securing more material for the final identification of this species. Unfortunately identification has to be deferred as the forms did not occur for the second time in our collection.

Department of Zoology,
The Royal Institute of
Science Bombay,
March 17, 1947.

D. V. BAIL,
L. B. PRADHAN.

1. Day, "The Fauna of British India, Fishes," 1889, I.

* Specimens occurred in the material collected for the research scheme carried out under the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, and the Government of Bombay.