

**TURSIOPS ADUNCUS BOTTLE NOSED DOLPHIN : A NEW
RECORD FOR ARAB GULF ; WITH NOTES ON CETACEA OF
THE REGION .**

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One dolphin was collected on 15 January 1974 from Ras Al -- Mataf , Arab Gulf by a fishing boat . Mr : Bashir Zahroon of the Iraqi National Fisheries Company has presented the specimen to the Museum :

The dead dolphin was black on the back and light gray on the belly . The black around the eye extended anteriorly (see Plate 1) . The specimen has been identified as a male *Tursiops aduncus* (Ehrenburg , 1832) . The measurements are given below:

Total length 2 m .

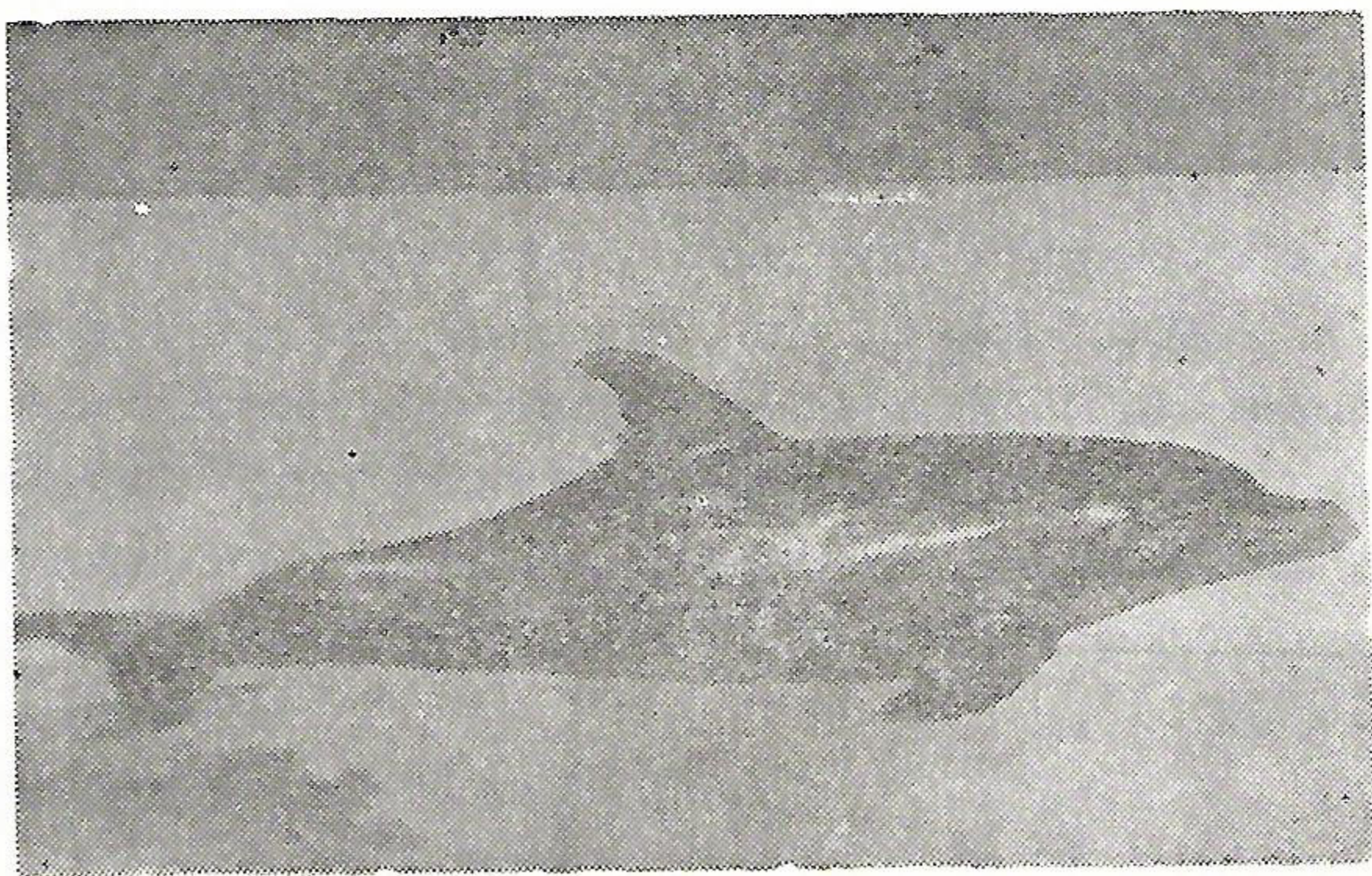
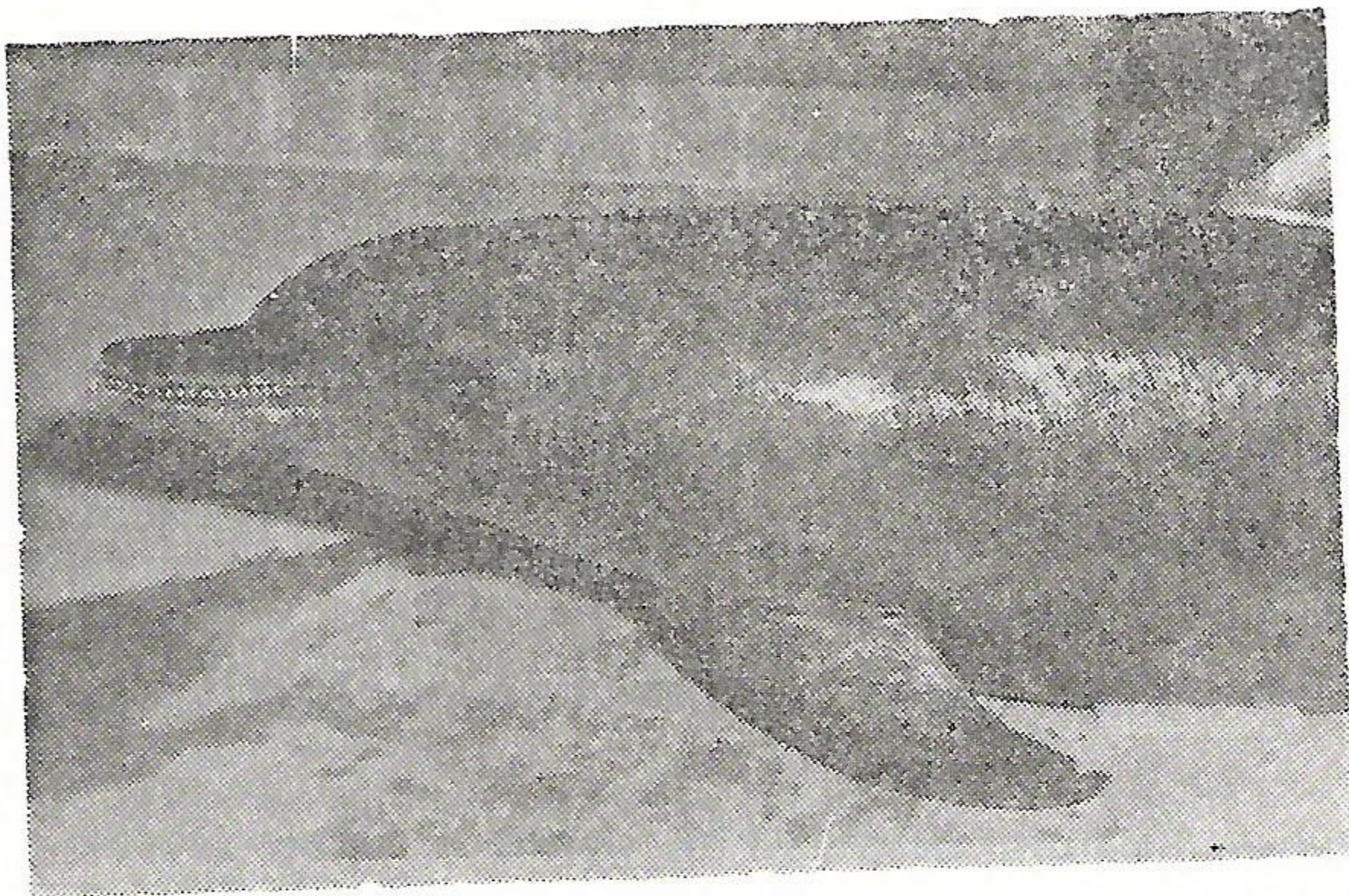
Pectoral fin 35 cm .

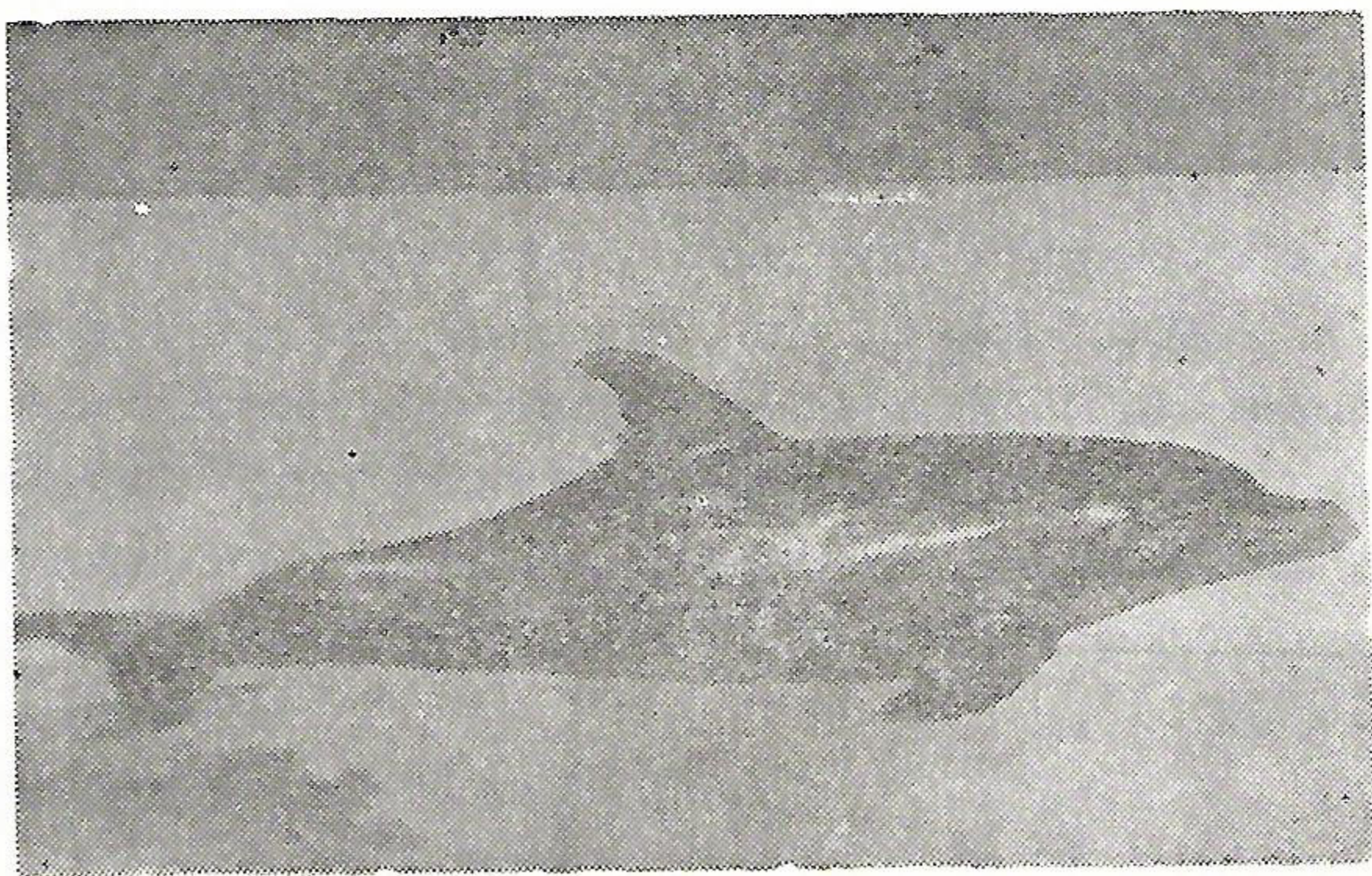
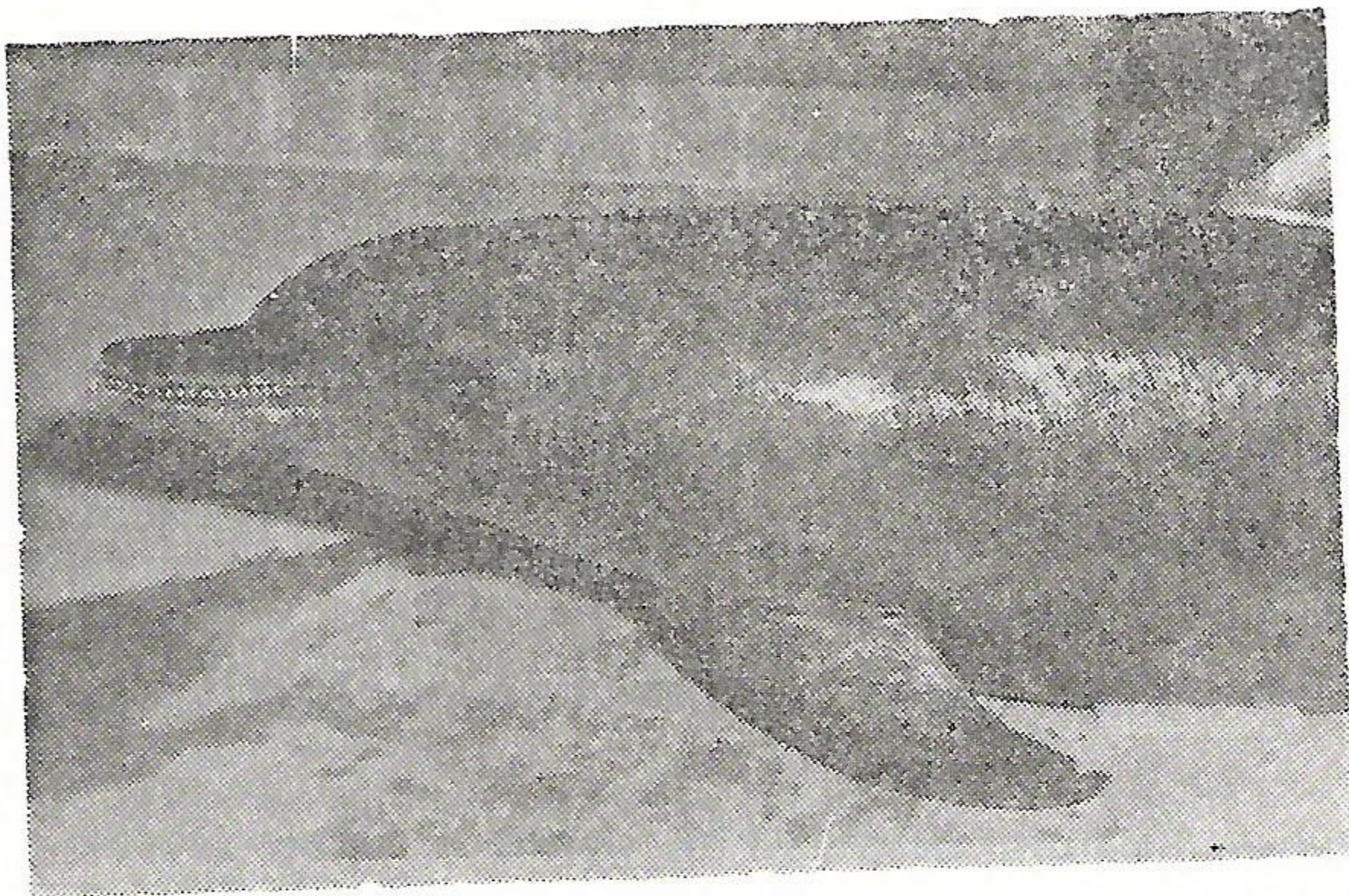
Height of dorsal fin 21 cm .

Width of the flukes 54 cm .

The lower jaw contained 26 teeth on each side while the upper jaw had only 25 teeth on each side ; each tooth measured about one centimeter in diameter :

The present collection of *T . aduncus* from the Arab Gulf forms the first record of this species from this region . The distribution of this species as given by (Hershkovitz 1966) is as follows :





Distribution .

Indian Ocean : from the Red Sea and South Africa to Bay of Bengal and Australia Pacific : from New Zealand , Australia , Indonesia , and China Seas , on the west to American waters from Baja California to Chile , on the east ; Atlantic Ocean ; from Gulf of San Matias , Rio Negro , Argentina to Rio de la Plata and in the Rio Uruguay to Paysandu , Uruguay , and off Rio Grande do Sul , Brazil :

The Fauna of Cetacea From Arabian Gulf

Several species of Whales and Dolphins have been recorded from the Arabian Gulf by different authors .

The latest information available to me is given below .

The Dolphins are locally known by the name " Dughos " in Arabic and the Whales as " Hoodt " .

1 — *Sotalia lentigenosa* (Owen 1866) Steno (Souse) *lentigenosa* , Gray 1866 ; proc zool . Soc . London , 1866 .

A male Dolphin was caught in a branch of Khor - Al - Zubair (Arab Gulf -- Iraqi Waters) by fisherman on 25 July 1967 , is the second record of this species . The specimen (length 220 cm) has been preserved in the Mammalia Section in the Natural History Museum in Basrah .

Recorded by (Al -- Robaae , 1970) .

2 — *Sotalia plumbea* -- (G : Cuvier , 1856) .

Delphinus plumbeus G . Cuvier 1826 *Regeanima* , ed . 2 , 1 .
228 ftn . Pucheran 1959 *Rev . Mag . Zool* (2) , 8:145 , 449 .
(Characters) Bruyns 1960 , *Malayan Nat . Journ* : 14 : 159
Fig . pp . 164 — 5 (animal) (Indian -- Arabian Sea , Arabian
Gulf , Gulf of Aden , Red Sea , Suez Canal) . Local name
“ Dorfeel ” (Kuwait) .

One specimen was recorded by Bruyns in 1960 from the
Kuwait Coast (Hershkovitz , 1966) .

Recorded by (Bruyns , 1960) .

3 — *Sotalia fergosoni* Lydeker 1903 .

Lydeker 1903, *Journ . , Bombay Nat . Hist . Soc . , 15* :
411 . Plate D (Animal) .

A female was caught by fishermen on the coast of Shauikh
Secondary School -- Kuwait (Arab Gulf) in spring 1962 (length
178 cm . , teeth 36/33) : The animal is preserved in the Audio
-- visual aids Department -- Kuwait . The animal was described and
figured as a new record from Arabian Gulf by the Author and his
personal communication with Dr . P. C. Fraser (British Museum
-- Natural History) .

Recorded by (Al -- Robaae) .

4 — *Stenella malayana* (Lesson 1826 a) . *Delphinus malay--*
anus .

Voyage autour du monde sur la Corvette -- La Coquille ,
Zoology , I (1) : 184 Atlas , pl . 9 .

Seen by the author in the Fao area , swimming with the
dolphin *Sotollia lentigenosa* . It is gray in colour .

Distinguished from *S. lentigenosa* by its colour and its dorsal fin . The animal was described and figured as new record for Arabian Gulf by the author .

Recorded by (Al -- Robaae) .

5 — *Pseudorea crassidens* (Owen 1846) .

False killer whale , El -- Hoodt El -- Kattil (Arab) .

Pseudorea crassidens -- Owen 1846 .

A history of British fossil mammals and birds , P . 518 , Fig . 213 (Skull) .

One specimen was found in 1964 in Dowha at 40 Km . South of Kuwait (Arab -- Gulf -- Kuwaiti Waters) in muddy area . The skeleton of this specimen is displayed in the Natural History Museum -- Kuwait . The skeleton was mounted in Audio -- Visual Department -- Kuwait .

6 — *Balaenoptera musculus* -- (Linnaeus 1758) .

Great Blue Whale , El -- Hoodt El -- Azrak (Arabic) .

(Balana) *musculus* Linnaeus 1758 . Syst . Nat . ed . 10 . 1 : 76 . True 1898 , Proc . U. S. Nat . Mus . , 21629 .

Type History : -- Thoma 1911 Proc . Zool . Soc . London , 1911 , 2 : 156 (Type History) .

A dead whale was found entangled in the submarine telegraph cable , and for years a large whale haunted the harbour of Masket in Arabia . Another whale was found in " Kadguma " on the Kuwaiti Coast on June 6 , 1963 in muddy area . Its skeleton was mounted by the Natural History Museum in Shuaikh Secondary School , Kuwait .

Recorded by . (Blanford) dead specimen .

(Al -- Robaae , 1969) an skeleton .

7 — *Balaenoptera edeni* -- Anderson (Bryde's Whale) .

Balaenoptera edeni -- Anderson . Anatomical and Zoological Research comprising an account of zoological results of two expeditions to Western Greece 1868 and 1875 . London , pp . 551--564 .

One whale has been identified as male . Bryde's whale which was stranded on the Island in front of Um Qasr (Arab Gulf -- Iraqi Waters) .

Recorded by : (N . Mahdi , 1967) .

(Al -- Robaae , 1969) .

8 — *Megaptera novaeangliae* (Borowski 1781) .

Humpback Whale : El -- Hoodt El -- Ahdab (Arabic) .

Balaena novaeangliae -- Borowski , Gemmein . Naturgesch , des Tierreichs Berlin 2 , 1 -- (1781) 21 .

A vertebra and a rib of a whale that are said to have been found about 1954 during the construction of a wall near Fao are now in the Iraqi Natural History Museum (Bashir Allous in litt) . There is an old report that a Turkish gunboat killed this whale about a century ago in the Shatt -- Al -- Arab .

Recorded by : (R . Hatt , 1959) :

S U M M A R Y

The first record of *Tursiops aduncus* (Ehrenberg , 1832) from Arab Gulf is reported together with the status of the Cetacean Fauna of this region .

يتناول هذا البحث تسجيل نوع من الدولفينات (عنق الزجاج) للمرة الاولى من الخليج العربي وكذلك يشمل مسحاً أولياً لجميع الحيتان والدولفينات المسجلة لحد الآن في الخليج العربي .

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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