Review of: "Sex Ratio, Spawning Cycle, and Size at Maturity of Bluespotted Seabream (Pagrus Caeruleostictus, Val 1987) From the Coast of Ghana"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Major comments

This study investigated sex ratio, spawning cycle, and initial maturity size in order to understand the reproductive aspects of Pagrus caeruleostictus. The sex differentiation process of the target fish species is not shown, and the methods used to determine sex ratio and maturity stages are not scientific. The presentation of the data is also problematic. Because of the problems with the reliability of sex ratio and maturity stages as critical information in this study, this paper does not meet the requirements of a scientific paper.

Minor comments

Introduction

The process of sexual differentiation in the Sparidae, including P. caeruleostictus, should be described here. The process of sexual differentiation in the Sparidae varies from fish species to fish species. The sex differentiation process of Pagrus major, which is a juvenile hermaphrodite, has a significant effect on the sex ratio. It is meaningless to discuss the sex ratio of the Sparidae without showing the sex differentiation process.

Materials and Methods

Sex determination should be made by observation of for hematoxylin-eosin stained i.e., tissue sections and not by direct observation of the gonad with the naked eye or microscope. Also, Holden & Raitt 1975 is not in the list of references.

Results

Table 1 and Figure 4 are not written in the main text. For Figures 5 and 6, only the means are illustrated, which is inadequate. At least the standard deviation should be shown.

Discussion

Rewriting based on scientific data.