

**POSSIBLE SPAWNING BY THE JAPANESE COMMON SQUID, *TODARODES PACIFICUS*
AT YAMATO RISE, SEA OF JAPAN**

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ABSTRACT: *Todarodes pacificus* is a commercially important squid in Japan and Korea. Its main spawning area is located in north East China Sea during fall. However, in the present study, we found out that spawning can also occur much further north in the Sea of Japan based on squid-maturity and paralarval-distribution data. Mature squids were collected at 13 stations with automatic jigging machines and hand jigging. Paralarvae were collected at 12 stations with paired-Bongo nets (70cm diameter). One 15-min double-oblique tow was conducted at each station to about 100m depth. Post-spawning females were collected at the rise, shelf and slope. At positive stations, temperatures at 50m depth were more than 15°C. Post-spawning (spent) females were mainly collected near Yamato Rise. The mantle length of paralarvae ranged from 1.0 to 6.5 mm. Since smaller paralarvae were more abundant at and adjacent to Yamato Rise than in the other areas, the present study suggests that spawning occurs near Yamato Rise during fall.
