PROXIMATE COMPOSITION IN COBIA *Rachyncentron canadum* JUVENILES AND ADULTS OF WILD

Carolina N. Costa-Bomfim*, Fúlvio V. S. Teixeira de Melo, Jaff Ribeiro da Silva, Leandro Portz and Janice I. Druzian

Laboratory of Marine Fish Farming
Departament of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Federal Rural University of Pernambuco – UFRPE
Recife, Brazil.
carolncosta@yahoo.com.br

Cobia, *Rachycentron canadum*, is a pelagic fish, migratory, carnivorous, are distributed worldwide, with the exception of the eastern Pacific Ocean, in tropical, subtropical and temperate waters (Briggs, 1960; SHAFFER & NAKAMURA, 1998). In the western Atlantic, they occur from Scotia Shelf (Canada) to Argentina. Cobia are widely distributed in Brazil coast, especially in northeast area. This specie is important marine specie, has success with production, high market value, due to rapid growth and high weigh gain. Fishes has high content of protein and unsaturated fatty acids, this is very important to humans. Due to the high content of fatty acids n-3, the intake of fish is important to optimal health, such as prevention of cardiovascular pathologies (MÉNDEZ, 1996; HU et al., 1999; SISCOVICK et al., 2000; SHACK, 2000). The aim of this present study was to determine and compare the proximate composition of cobia juveniles and adults wild were captured in Bahia costal.

Wild cobia samples, juveniles and adults were collected in coast of Bahia, Santo Amaro, BA. Muscles of fish were sampled and stored frozen (-18ºC) for chemical analysis. Moisture, crude protein (Kjeldahl procedure), total lipid (Bligh-Dyer, 1959) and ash contents were determined following AOAC (1980). Proximate composition data were subjected to analysis of variance, by Tukey's test ($P< 0.05$), using Sisvar 4.0.

Protein and lipid content have significant different results between wild juveniles and adults of cobia ($P < 0.05$), table 1.Wild adults of cobia reported more content of protein and lipid than wild juveniles.

Table 1. Proximate composition of wild cobia juveniles and adults

(%)	Juveniles	Adults
Moisture	78.82[a]	77.69[a]
Ash	0.78[a]	0.84[a]
Crude protein	13.53[a]	17.03[b]
Crude lipid	1.45[a]	5.17[b]

Values in the same line with different letters are significantly different ($P<0.05$).