

THE FIRST MEDITERRANEAN RECORD OF EGGS AND YOLK-SAC LARVAE OF INDO-PACIFIC *Chirocentrus dorab* (FORSSKÅL, 1775), (TELEOSTEI: (CHIROCENTRIDAE)

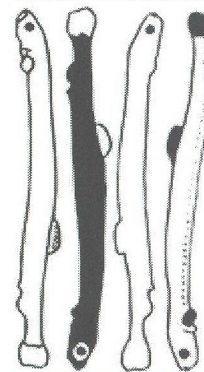
AK OREK, Y., Middle East Technical University, Institute of Marine Sciences, P.O. Box. 28, 33731 Erdemli, Mersin/ Turkey, yesimak@ims.metu.edu.tr; Uysal, Z., uysal@ims.metu.edu.tr

Chirocentrus dorab (Forsskål, 1775) has a geographical distribution from the Arab Gulf, Red Sea, east African coast south to Durban, eastward to Japan, the Philippines and south to northern Australia in the warm coastal waters. This study represents the first records of the egg and larvae of *Chirocentrus dorab* in the Mediterranean Sea. The larval samples were taken weekly during 1999 at three stations in the continental shelf of eastern Mediterranean (with Nansen net of 200 µm mesh) and seasonally at 50 stations in the Cilician Basin in 2007 (with Hensen net with 300 µm mesh). The very first finding of the yolk-sac larvae (6.35 mm) of the species was in May 1999, at 100m depth. Myomere was counted as 71 (53 preanal), body form is similar to Clupeidae. Four each eggs and yolk-sac larvae were found at three stations, respectively during March and June 2007. The egg diameter was measured as 1.34-1.44 mm with 0.07-0.12 mm oil drop diameter. The egg of species was spherical, capsule was smooth, vitellus was segmented, perivitelline space was narrow and had one small oil drop. The standard length of yolk sac larvae were measured between 4.2 and 5.65 mm during 2007.

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