CHANGES IN FATTY ACID PROFILE OF TENUALOSA ILISHA TOWARDS POLYUNSATURATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF TASTE DURING UPSTREAM MIGRATION

SUBRATO GHOSH*

The conception of superiority of taste of the highly-preferred foodfish Tenualosa ilisha which are caught from rivers in comparison to those caught from marine waters has been reviewed in this communication. High fat content in flesh of T. ilisha, relaxation of its musculatory system during its anadromous migratory route in riverine waters and conversion of saturated fatty acids in muscle to mono- and further to poly-unsaturated fatty acids have been attributed to improvement in taste of T. ilisha, which has established itself as one of the most important commercial fishes of the Indo-West Pacific region. Towards the end of this communication, the beneficial effect of T. ilisha to human health and nutrition has been discussed.

Postal address: 122/1V, Monohar Pukur Road, P. O. Kalighat,

Kolkata - 700026, West Bengal

e-mail: subratoghosh2007@rediffmail.com

^{*} Fishery Field Assistant (Government of West Bengal), Kushmandi Development Block, Kushmandi, Dist. Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal