



Martínez Aguilar, S., J.A. de Anda Montañez, F. **Arreguín Sánchez** & M.A. Cisneros Mara (2009). Constant harvest rate for the Pacific sardine (*Sardinops caeruleus*) fishery in the Gulf of California based on catchability-at-length estimations. Fisheries Research, 99(2): 74-82. DOI: 10.1016/j.fishres.2009.05.002

Constant harvest rate for the Pacific sardine (*Sardinops caeruleus*) fishery in the Gulf of California based on catchability-at-length estimations

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Constant harvest rate as a management strategy for the Pacific sardine (*Sardinops caeruleus*) fishery in the Gulf of California is supported by an analysis of variations in the catchability coefficient (q), stock abundance and commercial catch. Catchability was analyzed based on population length-structured data standard length (SL), expressed as CPUE, for 26 fishing seasons (1972-1973 to 1997-1998). We used a deterministic model of catchability to estimate the catchability-at-length assuming catchability depends on length and sardine behavior. Results demonstrated that catchability increases with sardine length, with low values for older sardines (sizes greater than 20.5

Palabras clave: Hyperstability, catchability, Management strategy, Pacific sardine fishery (*Sardinops caeruleus*)

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