

Table S1: Timeline (1794–2022) of sawfish landings obtained through a review of published and grey literature. All conversions from INR to USD were calculated on 13th April 2023, where 1 USD = 81.98 INR, as per www.xe.com, a currency converter website. Estimated lengths and weights are denoted by an asterisk.

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1794	Malabar, Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	M		81	3.24*		MNHN (National Museum of Natural History, Paris): 1250; neotype of <i>P. cuspidata</i>	Deynat 2005
1794	Malabar, Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	M		64	1.58*		MNHN 1236	Deynat 2005
1794	Malabar, Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	F		71	2.17*		MNHN A7909	Deynat 2005
1794	Pondichery, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	F		64.2	1.60*		MNHN 1234	Deynat 2005
1794	Pondichery, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	M		66	1.74*		MNHN 1234	Deynat 2005
1803	Visakhapatnam, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Russell 1803
1822	The Ganges, Bay of Bengal	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1947
1841	India	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>						BMNH (Natural History Museum, London formerly British Museum)	Faria 2007

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
								of Natural History) 1841.12.2 2.2	
1845	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						BMNH 18457317 4	Fearing 2020
1845	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			117	9.96*		BMNH 1845.7.3.1 74	Faria 2007
1846	Kolkata, West Bengal	<i>Pristis clavata</i>	M		92	4.78*		BMNH 1846.10.1 3.40	Faria 2007
1860	Kolkata, West Bengal	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1947
1865	Malabar	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1870	Kolkata, West Bengal	Pristidae							Misra 1947
1878	Odisha	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			457	635.24*			Day 1878
1878	Calicut, Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>			426.7	515.31*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Day 1878
1878	Mahanadi River, Odisha	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			122	11.31*			Day 1878
1878	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>			86.4	3.95*			Day 1878
1887	Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>			558.6	1171.80*			Thurston 1890
	Mumbai, Indian Ocean	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	M	12.59	56	1.05*	Academ y of Natural		Nicole Phillips pers.

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
							Sciences of Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA		comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23
	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		30.7	153.5*	22.79*	National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C., USA	Catalogued on 12 Feb 1906; Smithsonian	Nicole Phillips pers. comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23
	Bay of Bengal or mouth of the Ganges River (most likely from the Sundarbans)	<i>Pristis pristis</i>		58	252.17*	103.61*	Private collection		Nicole Phillips pers. comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23
1888	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1889	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1889	Mahanadi River, Odisha	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1947
1909	Odisha	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	F		309.7	193.90*	Trawl surveys	Mentioned as	Annandale 1909

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
							from vessel Golden Crown	common, deposited at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)	
1909	Odisha	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	M		245	94.88*	Trawl surveys from vessel Golden Crown	Mentioned as common, deposited at ZSI	Annandale 1909
1909	Odisha	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	F		561	1187.22*	Trawl surveys from vessel Golden Crown		Annandale 1909
1909	India	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>			456	631.01*	Trawl surveys from vessel Golden Crown	Several specimens collected	Annandale 1909
1909	India	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>			462	656.68*	Trawl surveys from vessel Golden Crown		Annandale 1909
1913	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1913	India	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>							Misra 1947

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1914		<i>Pristis pristis</i>			657	1922.08*		ZSI collection	Flower 1914
1922	Chilika lake, Odisha	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1947
1921-22	North west coast, Mumbai and Gujarat	Pristidae					Trawl surveys from vessel William Carrick	49 sawfish; locally called <i>kandere</i>	Hefford 1923
1928	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>			61.5	1.40*			Fowler 1928
1929	Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1929	Kerala	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1947
1929	Kerala	<i>Pristis zjisron</i>							Misra 1969
1933	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1947
1938	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			600	1457.33*		Currently in the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya museum, Mumbai	Akhilesh pers. obs.
1939	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			609.6	1529.62*	Fishing net		Prater 1939

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1940	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						BZG AMF123	Fearing 2020
1940	Mumbai	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1947
1941	Andaman Islands	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1947
1942	Mumbai	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1947
1943	South India	Pristidae	F		609.6	1529.62*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1943	South India	Pristidae	F		457.2	636.09*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1943	South India	Pristidae			441.96	573.61*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1943	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	F		249	62		Gravid with six embryos	Setna and Sarangdhar 1949
1944	South India	Pristidae	F		160.02	25.88*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	F		213.36	62.23*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1944	South India	Pristidae	M		289.56	157.94*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	M		365.76	322.07*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	M		396.24	411.12*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	F		510.54	890.61*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	F		457.2	636.09*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	M		213.36	62.23*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae	F		609.6	1529.62*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1944	South India	Pristidae			365.76	322.07*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1944	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	F		282	182		Gravid with embryos	Setna and Sarangdhar 1949
<1945	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		19.3	96.5*	5.53*	TCWC (Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection at Texas A&M, College Station, Texas)	Purchased in India circa 1945	Nicole Phillips pers. comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23
1945	South India	Pristidae	F		762	3021.06*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1945	South India	Pristidae	F		548.64	1109.23*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1945	South India	Pristidae	F		548.64	1109.23*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947
1945	South India	Pristidae	F		601.98	1472.05*		Marketed to produce liver oil	Kini and Chidambaram 1947

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1949	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1969
1949	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1969
1949	India	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1969
1949	India	<i>Pristis zjisron</i>							Misra 1969
1952	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1969
1952	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1969
1952	India	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1969
1952	India	<i>Pristis zjisron</i>							Misra 1969
1958	India	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>							Misra 1969
1958	Andhra Pradesh/Odisha	Pristidae			450	606.03*	Survey, common in fishery		Nagabhu shanam 1966
1958	India	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Misra 1969
1958	India	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>							Misra 1969
1958	India	<i>Pristis zjisron</i>							Misra 1969
1959	North Bay of Bengal, off Mahanadi river	<i>Pristis</i> spp.			481.3*	744.00	Trawl surveys		Anon, 1961
1960	North Bay of Bengal	<i>Pristis</i> spp.			263.16*	118.00			Anon, 1961

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
1959-60	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Pristidae			135	15.41*	Trawl		James 1973
1960-61	Calcutta, West Bengal	Pristidae			263.16*	118.00	Trawl		James 1973
1961-65	India	Pristidae			575	1279.92*			Rao 1969
1963	Ross Island, Andaman	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	M		431	531.31*			James 1973
1966	Mandapam, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	M		305.1	150	Trawl net		James 1973
1967	Ross Island, Andaman	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	F		513	903.76*			Marichamy 1969
1972	Crangannore, Kerala	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Pillai and Ramachandran 1972
1972	Surat, Gujarat, River Tapti	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	F		594	800		The flesh was filleted, salted and dried for marketing	Karbhari 1973
1973 or 1974	Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			312	198.32*			Devados et al. 1978
1974	Kerala, Arabian Sea	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		12.6	63*	1.51*	Canadian Museum of Nature - Fish Collection	Juvenile	Nicole Phillips pers. comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23

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1974	Trivandrum, Kerala	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		11.5	57.5*	1.14*	Canadian Museum of Nature - Fish Collection	Juvenile	Nicole Phillips pers. comm with Akhilesh on 25.7.23
1982	Cochin, Kerala	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			598	960			CMFRI 1982
1988	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	F		705	2383.27*	Trawl net		Devados et al. 1989
1989	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				2500/year			Raje 2006
1991	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				3200/year			Raje 2006
1992	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				2700/year			Raje 2006
1992	Digha, West Bengal	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			540	600	Gillnet		Burman 1994
1992-93	Kakadwip, West Bengal	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				550/year	Gillnet		Burman 1994
1994	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				1700/year			Raje 2006
1995	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				300/year			Raje 2006
1996	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				1700/year			Raje 2006
1996	Kanyakumar, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	F		363	280	Bottom-set gillnet	The caudal and two dorsal fins were sold	Joel and Ebenezer 1999

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
								for USD 67.44. The remaining body fetched USD 115.86	
2000	Thikkodi, Kerala	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	M		592	1200	Bottom-set gillnet	Sawfish had an oil content of 75kg. The fins were sold for USD 36.57. The meat, weighing 590 kg, was sold at a wholesale rate of USD 0.48 per kg. The total amount including the sale of oil was USD 341.41	Manojkumar et al. 2002
2001	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis</i> spp.				2800/year			Raje 2006
2001–2003	Veraval, Gujarat	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>			434	375.68*		Two individuals	Borrell et al. 2011

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
								' misidentified <i>P. zijsron</i>	
2003–2013	Khanderi Island, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						A total of 33 rostra observed in the Khanderi temple	
2003	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			575	750			Josekutt y and Thakurd as, 2004
2003	Khanderi Island, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						Sawfish rostrum offered to a Hindu temple	
2003	Khanderi Island, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						Sawfish rostrum offered to a Hindu temple	
2005	Mangalore, Karnataka	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	F		520	600	Trawl net	Auctioned for USD 292.7	Dineshb abu et al. 2005
2007	Khanderi Island, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						Sawfish rostrum offered to a Hindu temple	

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
2009	Okha, Gujarat	Pristidae				25000/ year			Harrison and Dulvy 2014
2011	Karwar, Karnataka	<i>Pristis</i> spp.			558.8	350		Locally called Thinski. Sold for USD 573.21	News article
2012	Malpe, Karnataka	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			492.89*	800.00	Trawl net		CMFRI 2013
2012	Daman	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Social media
2013	Khanderi Island, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>						Sawfish rostrum offered to a Hindu temple	
2013	Malpe, Karnataka	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			492.89*	800.00	Trawl net	Along the Karnataka coast, sawfish is not a targeted species and fishers try to avoid it to avoid damage to their nets. Fishers also have	News article

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								a belief that catching a sawfish is a bad omen.	
2013	Malpe, Karnataka	Pristidae					Fishing net	Unaware that species was legally protected	News article
2014	Satpati, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							CMFRI 2015
2017	Sindhudurg, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			610	700	Fishing net	Sold for USD 1829.4 in the domestic market; Another fisher said sawfish was considered sacred	News article
2017	Kakdwip, West Bengal	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							Social media post
2017	Digha, West Bengal	<i>Pristis pristis</i>					Fishing net	Sold in the local market	CMFRI 2018
2017	Panaji, Goa	Pristidae						Three sawfish	News article

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
								were caught	
2018	Uppada, Andhra Pradesh	Pristidae			210.82*	60.00	Fishing net	Sold for USD 243.92; Sawfish cut the nets with their special noses	News article
2018	Veraval, Gujarat	<i>Pristis pristis</i>					Trawl net	Sold in the local market	News article
2019	Semmenchery, Tamil Nadu	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			231.67*	80.00	Ray fishing net	Sold for USD 60.98 for meat; unaware that species was legally protected	CMFRI 2019
2019	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							CMFRI 2019
2019	West Bengal	<i>Pristis pristis</i>							CMFRI 2019
2020	Puri, Odisha	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			242	91.38*			Roul et al. 2021
2022	Malpe, Karnataka	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			304.8	250	Fishing net		News article
2022	Digha, West Bengal	<i>Pristis pristis</i>			422.5*	500.00	Trawl net	140 kg (pers. comm.)	News article

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
								from traders), sold for USD 1219.60	
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		41.2	206*	55.91*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		33.6	168*	30.02*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>		21	87.5*	4.11*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		38.1	190.5*	44.04*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		45.5	227.5*	75.68*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>		51.5	223.91*	72.10*			Rostra collection from a

Year	Location	Species	Sex	Standard rostrum length (cm)	Total length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fishing gear / Name of survey	Additional remarks	Data source
									university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>		39.2	196*	48.04*			Rostra collection from a university
	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<i>Pristis pristis</i>		15.1	65.65*	1.71*			Rostra collection from a university

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