Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center **Aquaculture Department**

SEAFDEC/AQD Institutional Repository **http://repository.seafdec.org.ph**

Journals/Magazines Aqua Farm News

1993

Restricted fishing methods

Aquaculture Department, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Aquaculture Department (1993). Restricted fishing methods. Aqua Farm News, 11(4-5), 6-7.

http://hdl.handle.net/10862/2567

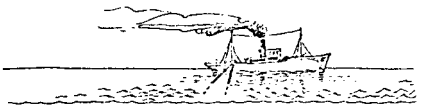
Downloaded from https://repository.seafdec.org.ph, SEAFDEC/AQD's Institutional Repository

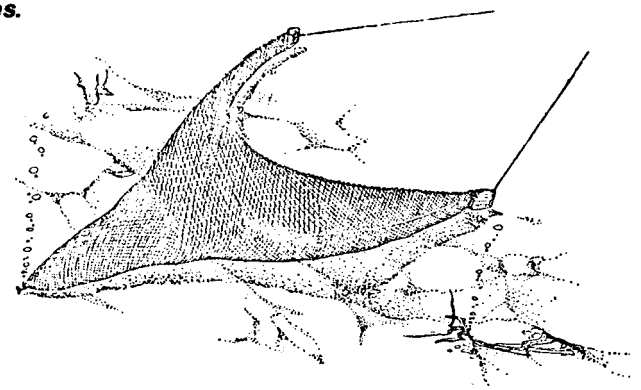
Restricted fishing methods

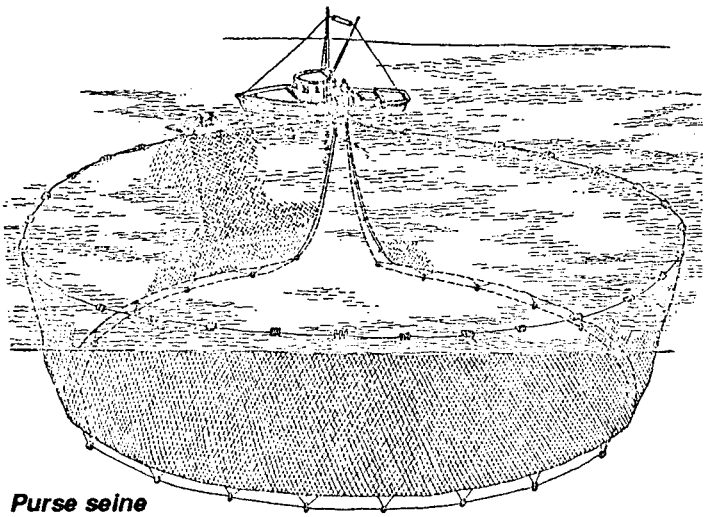
Trawl and purse seine

Commercial trawl and purse seine are prohibited in marine waters within 15 km from the shore. This provides small-scale fishermen a wider area to operate their fishing boats 3 gross tons or less. In coastal areas 7 fathoms or deeper where sustenance fishermen do not operate, commercial trawl and purse seine may be allowed on a yearly or seasonal basis.

Trawl is destructive when operated in shallow areas where fishes breed and feed. The massive scraping action removes algae and seagrasses that are the refuge of fishes.







Purse seine

- FAO 156, Series of 1986; DA-BFAR. 1988. Primer on illegal fishing. Manila, Philippines. 11 p.; 1992 Local Government Code

Hulbot-Hulbot

It is unlawful to operate hulbot-hulbot using fine-meshed net (less than 3 cm) and fishing boats more than 3 gross tons within 15 km from the shoreline. Hulbot-hulbot (pahulbot-hulbot, palisot, patangko bira-bira, or hula-hoop) is a fishing gear consisting of a conical net with a pair of wings and two ropes with buri, plastic strips or similar materials for scaring or herding fish. ***- FAO 164, Series of 1987; 1992 Local Government Code***

Nor should hulbot-hulbot or buli-buli be used in the waters off Quezon, specifically Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay during the five-year closed season (1989-1994). ***- FAO 165, Series of 1989***

Fine-mesh nets

It is unlawful to fish in Philippine waters with the use of fine-mesh nets (all nets or webbings made of natural, synthetic or other fibers that have mesh sizes of less than 3 cm) except when catching the following:

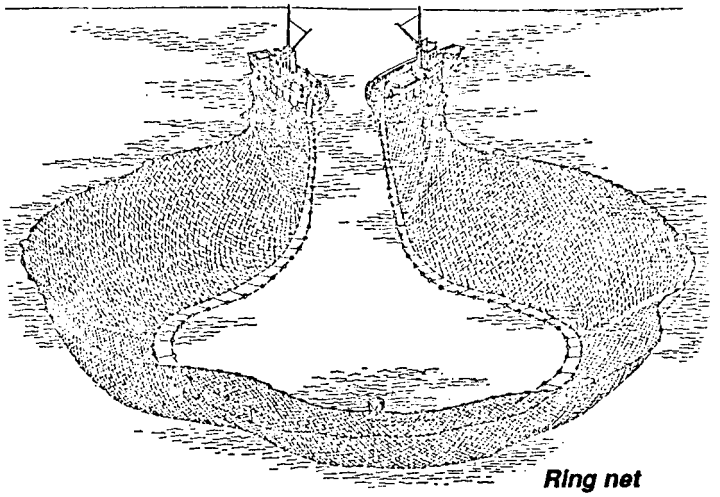
- rabbitfish fry (Siganidae), milkfish fry (*Chanos chanos*), shrimp fry (Penaeidae), mullet fry (Mugilidae), eel fry (Anguillidae), and goby fry (Gobiidae);
- marine aquarium or ornamental fishes; and
- other species that are small when mature, abundant, and not endangered.

- FAO 155, Series of 1986

Ring net (sinsoro, likum-likum, or kubkub)

It is unlawful to operate a ring net using a fishing boat more than 3 gross tons within 15 km from the shoreline of Camiguin Province during the 5-year closed season beginning March 1991. Special permits may be granted for research purposes.

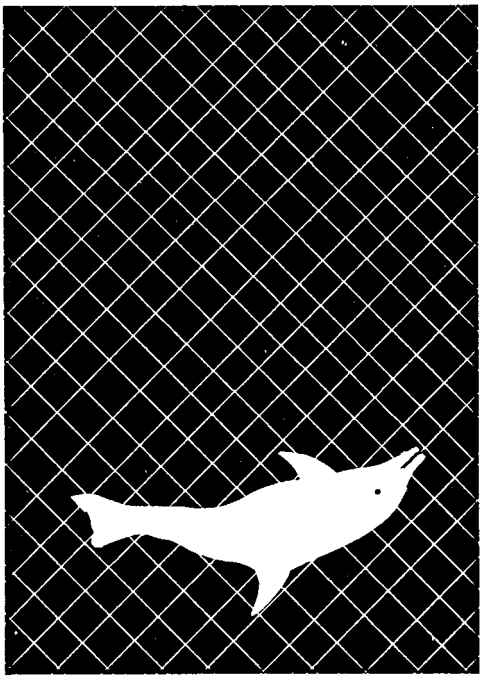
- ***FAO 174, Series of 1991; 1992 Local Government Code***



Ring net

Illustrations from: AF Umali. 1950. ***Guide to the classification of fishing gears in the Philippines.*** US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Research Report 17.

The Wall of Death



Driftnets are walls of plastic netting 10 m high and 50 km long kept afloat from the water surface. Although squid, cuttlefish, tuna and salmon are the primary targets, driftnets indiscriminately catches every living creature in the ocean including turtles, seabirds, and dolphins. The London- and Washington-based Environmental Investigation Agency says that at least half a million dolphins, porpoises, and small whales are killed annually worldwide. Hence, ecologists call driftnets the "walls of death."

The United Nations has banned driftnets in the Pacific Ocean since December 1989.

A new driftnet

Japan, which has been denounced as using the "wall of death" together with Korea and Taiwan, has developed a driftnet that reduces the number of dolphins killed from an average of 2 per haul to 1 per 10 hauls. The new driftnet can be kept 1-3 m below the water surface, allowing dolphins to swim above the nets. Turtles and seabirds are not netted.

The new method was developed to meet the U.N. regulation.

Sources: ***Manila Standard***, 23 Aug 1990; ***Philippines Journal,*** 5 Oct 1989; ***The Manila Chronicle***, 8-14 Feb 1992.