

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Aquaculture Department

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Journals/Magazines

Aqua Farm News

1993

Tuna fishermen: How they fish

Aquaculture Department, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Aquaculture Department (1993). Tuna fishermen: How they fish. Aqua Farm News, 11(4-5), 25-26.

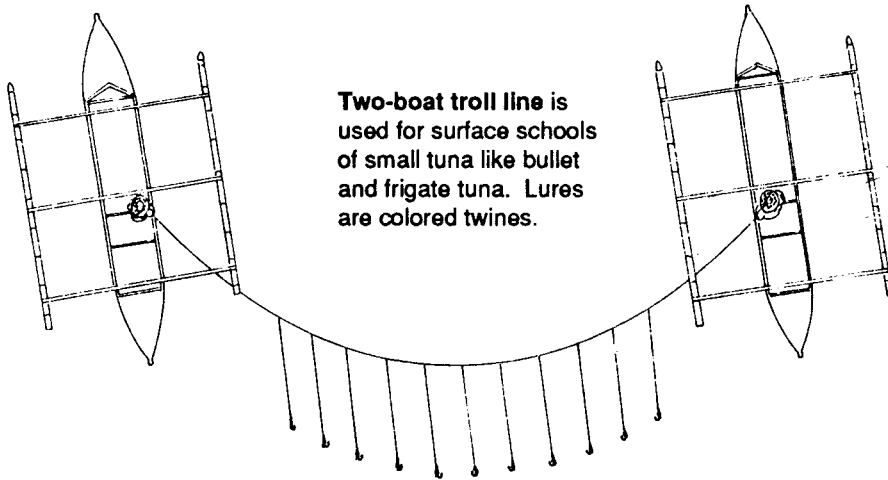
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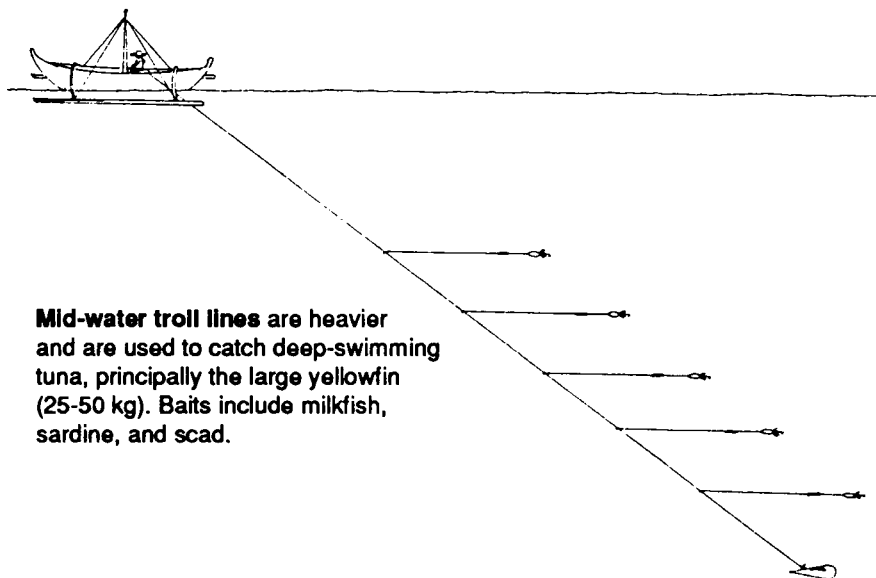
The tuna fishermen: *how they fish*

The tuna fishery is the most important (in terms of volume and value of landings) of all marine fisheries in the Philippines. There are eight commercial fishing gears and twelve municipal fishing gears for tuna. The most

productive (% landings) are: hook and line, 30% (see three examples below); purse seine, 22%; ring net, 19%; bagnet, 12%; gill net, 9%; beach seine, 4%; fish corral, 2%; trawl, 1%; and longline, 1%.

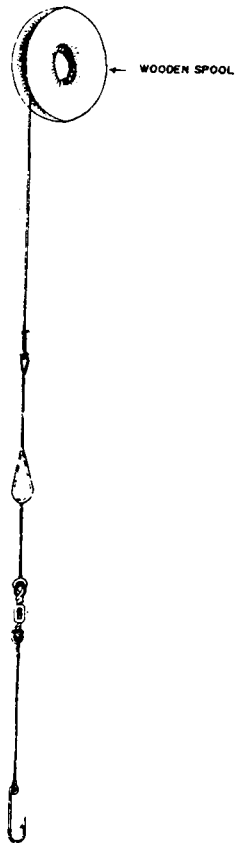


Two-boat troll line is used for surface schools of small tuna like bullet and frigate tuna. Lures are colored twines.

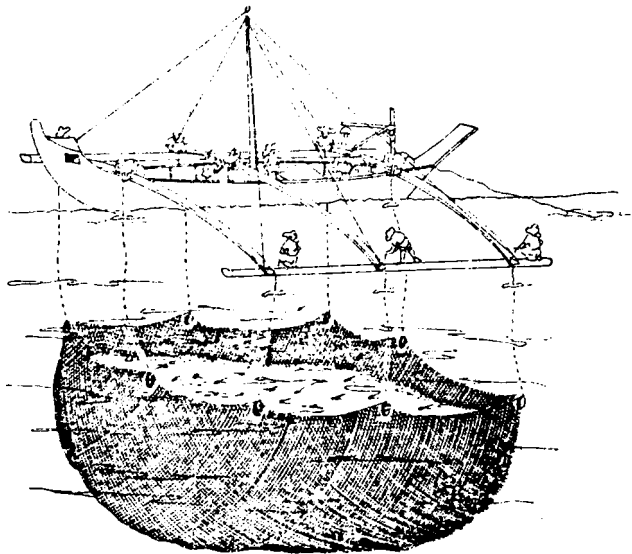


Mid-water troll lines are heavier and are used to catch deep-swimming tuna, principally the large yellowfin (25-50 kg). Baits include milkfish, sardine, and scad.

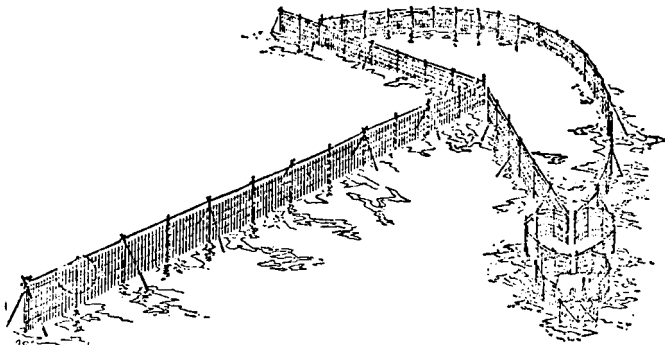
Handlines can capture deep-swimming tuna like the yellowfin and big-eye. They are dangled from outrigger bancas and baited with scad and squid.



Bagnets are used for anchovy, sardine, mackerel, scads, and squids. Juveniles of surface-swimming tuna such as frigate, bullet, and eastern little tuna are captured incidentally. The bagnet banca is anchored in a suitable location at night. It is equipped with lights to attract fishes and squids.



Fish corrals act as barriers to migratory surface-swimming fishes particularly tunas and jacks. The fish that are impounded are then caught with a surrounding net.



Sources: (1) A de Jesus. 1982. *Tuna fishing gears in the Philippines*. Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and Management Programme (INT/81/034). Colombo, Sri Lanka. 13 p. (2) 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.

What the figures show

Fisheries Production	1980	1988	1989
Production			
(x 1000 metric tons)	1 672.3	2 269.7	2 366.6
Commercial	488.5	600.0	624.7
Municipal	894.6	1 070.2	1 104.6
Aquaculture	289.2	599.6	637.3
Exports			
Quantity (x 1000 mt)	70.2	112.6	130.4
Value (F.O.B. US\$ M)	138.1	406.7	409.3

Per capita consumption in the country: 33.7 kg

Actual need: 2 005 453.3 mt of fish

Sources: National Statistics Office. 1990. *The Philippines in Figures*. Manila; International Centre for Ocean Development. 1991. *World fisheries* (map).

