

REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY OF (*SCHIZOTHORAX NIGER*) SNOW TROUT IN NIGEEN LAKE KASHMIR

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ABSTRACT : Reproductive biology of *Schizothorax niger* in the Nigeen Lake was conducted from December 2013- November 2014, the data was collected with the help of Cast nets that unloaded their catch at Nigeen Lake Kashmir. The sex ratio was obtained for male: female at 1:2.44. The spawning occurred once in a year with peak during March to mid-May. The size at first maturity was observed to be 14.82 cm. Absolute fecundity was estimated as 11709 ± 8016 and relative fecundity was obtained at 4645 ± 1804 . The mean estimated size of ova during spawning was 2.5 mm. Gonado somatic index was recorded highest during February for females (15.75) and males (12.5) indicating that the fish fully matures during this month and spawns during March-May with the peak in March resulting in abrupt decrease in GSI values of the fish. Only one peak of GSI during February suggested that the fish is an annual breeder.

Key words : *Schizothorax niger*, reproductive biology.