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A REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS AND NEWS OF THE FISHERY INDUSTRIES PREPARED IN THE BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

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THE FISH LIVER OIL INDUSTRY

Fish livers, especially those from cod, halibut, the tunas, and other gadoid and percomorph fishes, were for many years one of the principal sources of the vitamins D for human and animal nutrition. In recent years, however, with the advent of the synthetic vitamins D derived from activated ergosterol and activated 7-dehydro-cholesterol, these sources of natural vitamin D have become less important. There is still a demand in the pharmaceutical trade for cod liver oil and percomorph liver oil. Many purchasers of fish livers and fish liver oils do not, at present, pay a premium for the vitamin D content since they are primarily interested in the vitamin A content and will pay only on the basis of vitamin A activity per gram of oil. If a specified vitamin D content is required in subsequent uses of the vitamin oils, the synthetic product, usually derived from animal sources, is blended into the oil in the desired amount.

—Fishery Leaflet 233
FISHERY MARKET NEWS makes possible:

- Increased Income
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REEF FISHING IN THE PHILIPPINES

REEF Fishing, Fishery Leaflet 354, surveys and describes fully the many types of reef fishing used in the Philippines. This 28-page illustrated publication contains data on landings of reef species, fishing methods employed, and a list of the commercial reef fish. It describes the use of explosives and poisons, diving and spearing, fish pots, lines, reef drag seines, trap nets, Bohol trap nets, and Japanese trap nets. Detailed specifications for most of the gear used are given.

REEF DRAG SEINE

The Philippine reefs have long produced marine products of considerable value to the Philippine national economy. Chief among these are the fish which include some of the most highly-prized foods available from local sources. The important methods of fishing used in the Philippines to catch coral reef fish vary from the illegal methods of fishing with explosives and fish poison to the expensive commercial muro-ami (Japanese drive-in-net).

In the summary, the authors suggested that lines and pots be more extensively employed and pointed out that there are modifications of line and net fishing that could be developed, such as, trawl lines and mechanized scare-lines. The trammel net is also suggested as a type of gear that might be used in reef fishing and this gear is briefly described.

Fishery Leaflet 354 may be obtained free from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.