



**UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
JABATAN PERIKANAN MALAYSIA
BERITA PERIKANAN HARI INI**

**03 Oktober 2023
17 Rabiulawal 1445H**

SENARAI AKHBAR	TAJUK
Utusan Malaysia	•
Berita Harian	•
Harian Metro	•
Kosmo !	•
Sinar Harian	•
The Star	• Rare fish caught with rod and line
New Straits Time	• Nestle' Malaysia makes waves in fight against plastic waste
Nanyang Siang Pau	•
Malaysia Gazette	•
Harakah	•
Malaysiakini	•
Bernamea	•
Borneo Post (KK)	•
Guan Ming Daily	•
Sabah Media	•

UTUSAN MALAYSIA	KOSMO!	THE STAR	✓	NANYANG SIANG PAU	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH	
BERITA HARIAN	SINAR HARIAN	THE SUN		ORIENTAL DAILY			
HARIAN METRO	NEW STRAITS TIMES	THE MALAY MAIL		PELBAGAI			
KATEGORI LIPUTAN: POSITIF		NEGATIF		NEUTRAL	✓	3	3/10/2023

Rare fish caught with rod and line

Veteran fisherman in Balik Pulau awed by 'never-seen-before' catch

By **ARNOLD LOH**
arnold.loh@thestar.com.my

BALIK PULAU: With just a rod and line, an angler has managed to reel in a cusk eel, a fish that is supposed to be found many kilometres below the sea.

Even marine researchers are surprised by the catch, claiming that it could be possible due to undersea earthquakes that had spooked such deep-sea fish to rise from the depths.

An ichthyologist (fish expert) from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) is now trying to convince the fisherman to surrender the fish to science to be preserved in USM's fish collection.

The oddity was that fisherman Mohamad Hafiz Mohd Ariffin, 37, caught the cusk eel at a depth of 42m, 16 nautical miles southwest of Penang island.

"I was using light fishing tackle to catch baitfish. My sonar reading showed there was just a featureless rocky bottom down below. When I retrieved my line and brought the fish up, I knew it was different.

"I've been a fisherman for 18 years and I have never seen such a fish," he said, adding that when he returned to shore and showed the fish to other fishermen, no one recognised it either.

He said he caught the 30cm-long fish at about 10am last Saturday, and he had been keeping it on ice.

Its pointed tail resembles that of an eeltail catfish (sembilang),



Unusual find: Mohamad Hafiz (right) displaying the Cusk Eel caught in Balik Pulau. Looking on is Dr Khaironizam. — KT Goh/The Star

and its head is shaped like that of a common croaker (gelama), with two fat barbels extending from its pelvic fin.

Fish living in deep seas, where there is little light, rely on barbels to "taste" the water in their search for food.

Beyond 1,000m, sunlight cannot reach down, and fish there typically have underdeveloped eyes and rely purely on tactile sensation and taste.

When Dr. Khaironizam Md Zain, an ichthyologist at USM, showed pictures of the cusk eel, he

said that it was the first time he had seen an actual specimen of this fish.

"Most cusk eels are deep-sea fish. More interestingly, most of the members' distribution is in the Atlantic and eastern Pacific regions.

"Few are known from the western Pacific and Indian oceans. I suspected this species has a distribution in the Indo-Pacific region," he said.

Khaironizam said there were abyssal zones (4,000 to 6,000m) in the ocean near west Sumatra and

Cusk Eel

- About 200 species exist throughout temperate and tropical oceans.
- Little is known about them because most are deep-sea fish, living in depths beyond 1,000m where it is permanently pitch dark because sunlight cannot penetrate so deep into the sea.
- In the pitch black depths, some cusk eels evolved to a point in which they no longer have eyes, relying on sensory barbels to taste the water in search of food.

Merdeka 118
679m

30cm - 60cm

- Most cusk eels are 30cm to 60cm long, though two species can grow to 1.5m and are prized as high quality food fish.

The Star graphics 8.37km

the Philippines where cusk eel would thrive.

"It is possible that they occasionally migrate to shallow areas, maybe due to foraging and maybe also due to seismic activity somewhere in the Indian Ocean and western Pacific region," he said.

There is a centuries-old notion, especially in Japan, that the appearance of deep-sea fish within reach of fishermen's nets and

hooks heralds earthquakes.

One theory was that escaping gases, electro-magnetic disturbances, and temperature changes due to seismic activity might drive deep-sea fish to seek refuge in the shallows.

But a comparative analysis published in 2019 of over 300 deep-sea fish sightings and earthquakes in Japan between 1928 and 2011 yielded no correlation.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA	KOSMO!	THE STAR	NANYANG SIANG PAU	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
BERITA HARIAN	SINAR HARIAN	THE SUN	ORIENTAL DAILY		
HARIAN METRO	NEW STRAITS TIMES	THE MALAY MAIL	PELBAGAI		
KATEGORI LIPUTAN: POSITIF		/	NEGATIF	NEUTRAL	9
					3/10/2023

Nestlé Malaysia makes waves in fight against plastic waste

NSFMS9

KUALA LUMPUR: Nestlé Malaysia continues to take bold strides to protect the environment and make further progress towards net-zero emissions and plastic neutrality.

Recently, the company rallied the efforts of 400 dedicated Nestlé Cares volunteers for its annual nationwide beach and ocean clean-up.

The clean-up this year involved eight beaches nationwide, amassing a total of two tonnes of waste.

Nestlé also once again extended its efforts beneath the waves with underwater clean-ups at Perhentian Island in Terengganu and Mabul Island in Sabah, where the planting of corals also took place.

Nestlé (Malaysia) Bhd chief executive officer Juan Aranols said: "Nestlé Malaysia's annual beach and underwater clean-ups are a great platform for civic engagement and environmental awareness among our employees.

"Advancing our actions to fight against plastic pollution and spearhead plastic neutrality goes in parallel with continued virgin plastic reduction in our products and our



Nestlé Cares volunteers making a positive impact on beach cleanliness across six beach locations.

efforts to promote responsible waste management in Malaysia through the collection, separation and recycling of materials.

"It is heartening to see our Nestlé Cares volunteers once again coming together across the nation. We were honoured by the involvement of representatives from the Malaysia External Trade Development

Corporation, as well as from the Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Ministry.

"Collective action is key to overcoming environmental challenges and spearheading meaningful changes towards a more sustainable Malaysia. We hope this initiative inspires more action from the public and we invite Malaysians to join us in taking better



Nestlé (Malaysia) Bhd chief executive officer Juan Aranols alongside his aquatic ally, leading the charge in marine conservation.

care of our planet and oceans by ensuring the responsible disposal of waste."

The plastic collected through these activities is just the tip of the iceberg of the company's extensive waste collection efforts.

Its main programme, Project SAVE, focuses on plastic neutrality through five voluntary Extended Producer Responsibility initiatives, namely Kita Recycle targeting rural areas, Klang River Plastic Collection Programme, CARETon Project, Strata Recycling Programme and Door-to-Door Collection & Recycling Programme.

This year, these programmes will result in the collection of 12,000 tonnes of waste by the end of December and nearly 20,000 tonnes of waste since

their launch in 2020, with two-thirds of this volume being plastics.

On the frontlines of the fight against climate change, Nestlé Malaysia also achieved a significant milestone earlier this year with the completion of the first million trees planted in its ambitious reforestation programme, Project RELeaf.

Slated to plant a total of three million trees, Project RELeaf aims to remove 700,000 tonnes of carbon over the course of a decade once completed, aligning with Nestlé's global pledge to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

With all these endeavours, Nestlé stands as a beacon of sustainability, championing a greener, cleaner, and more eco-conscious future for Malaysia.