



Scientific name : *Pseudorca crassidens*
Family : Odontocetes
Length : 3,5 to 6 meters
Weight : 1 to 2 tons
Dive duration : around 10 minutes
Average diving depth : at least 200 meters
Life span : around 60 years



Distinctive characteristics

They are dark in color and they have a small sickle-shaped dorsal fin. Pectoral fins are small with a distinctive bulge on the leading edge. They have a rounded overhanging melon, and no discernible beak.

Diet

They feed on big fishes and cephalopod like squid. They can attack small cetaceans too.

Behaviour

They live mainly in groups of 15 to 100 individuals (300 max). They have solid social ties and unfortunately they are susceptible to mass stranding.

Example in Guadeloupe

They are more and more observable on the leeward coast where the water is around 1000 metres deep.

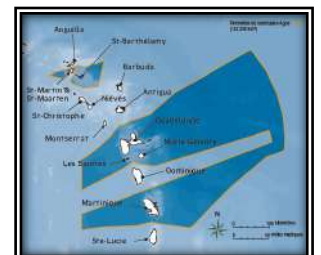


Reproduction

We have little information about this species. They reach sexual maturity between the age of 8 and 12. They breed throughout the year. Cases of hybridization with Bottlenose dolphins have been observed.

Threats and protection

As they live off the coast they are less exposed to human activities. However they can get accidentally caught by longliners while hunting big fishes. They are considered as protected species within the Agoa Sanctuary.



Did you know ?

Their melon plays an important role during the echolocation process, as it allows them to navigate easily even in the dark.