

Table 1 Morphometric (mm) and meristic characteristics of the two red mullets, *Mullus barbatus* from the Bay of Izmir, NE Aegean Sea

Characteristics	Normal specimen	Abnormal specimen
Total length (TL)	145	127
Standard length (SL)	131	99
Fork length (FL)	133	109
Head length (HL)	31	35
Preorbital length	11	13
Eye diameter	10	10
Iris diameter	4	4
Interorbital length	9	10
Maximal body depth	29	36
Body width	18	21
1 st predorsal length	36	39
2 nd predorsal length	65	60
Prepectoral length	35	31
Preanal length	79	60
Prepelvic length	37	31
Pectoral fin length	26	26
Left barbell length	19	18
Right barbell length	19	18
1 st dorsal fin	VIII	VIII
2 nd dorsal fin	9	8
Anal fin	7	7
Pectoral fin	16	16
Pelvic fin	I+5	I+5