

Fish-families-fishermen

Mystic Seaport Museum - Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom



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Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

The fish in question was caught at Avana with raw chicken thrown off a wharf.

Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

There is not much of a commercial market for longtom, which may be difficult to sell given their bones are green.

Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

Richard Story, Aitutaki-based fisheries officer at the Ministry of Marine Resources, contacted Cook Islands News yesterday with the information and said though the fish was common on the eastern coast of Rarotonga, it was not known for often coming into shore like the one caught.

Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

The case of the mean-looking Avana mystery fish has been solved, with the unknown species being identified as a suitably-named crocodile longtom.

Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

Fishermen in Australia say that at night, a light on the water attracts schooling longtom so much that they leap at it.

Mystery fish is a crocodile longtom

The fisherman, Wayne Ralph, said the fish was about 60 centimetres in length.

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He said the fish went by a number of Maori names, including kaku and papa at Rarotonga.

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