

Title:

Giant Squid Finally Captured On Film

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Summary:

On 27 September 2005, the greatest zoological discovery of the century was announced. For the

The Animal

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Keywords:

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Article Body:

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What's in a Name?

The scientific name for the genus containing the giant squid is: Architeuthis, which translates

How big?

The largest giant squid on record was a female that washed ashore on a New Zealand beach in 18

Elusive Monster

Despite knowledge of the existence of this beast for the past 127 years, scientists have never

Depth ~ Most large squid prefer depths of several hundred, to one thousand meters. This makes it very hard to place fishing nets and bait.

Time ~ Suggested by their gargantuan eyes, and verified by observations of other species, large squid prefer to hunt in areas of the water column, which remain very dark. They usually

Pressure ~ Water pressure increases by one atmosphere for every 9.8 meters (32ft) in depth. Giant squid appear to favor depths between 600-900 meters (1,968 ~ 2,952 ft). At 900 me

Seeking Help

One telltale way to find giant squid, is to follow one of their primary predators: the sperm w

Minor Success

In February of 2001, Dr. Steve O'Shea, along with the Discovery Channel, caught the first ever

Patience is Key

Japanese researchers: Tsunemi Kubodera, and Kyoichi Mori, set out to capture film of an adult

Finally, on 30 September 2004, Kubodera, Mori and their crew struck gold. A large, 8 meter (26

The Battle

At 9:15 AM, the squid attacked the bait. The camera captured the attack on film. During the in

Unexpected Souvenir

The struggle to break free was so violent, that the animal actually ripped off the tentacle th

Truth is Stranger than Fiction

Prior to these observations, scientists had assumed that giant squid were sluggish creatures t

Not Over with Yet

With the announcement of this discovery, a renewed interest in the giant squid has begun. Many

There's Always a Bigger Mollusc?

With all of this renewed hubbub over the giant squid, it should be pointed out that it is not

Enter the colossal squid (*Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni*). Though this animal has been known to so

Who knows what else awaits discovery down in the murky depths of the ocean.

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