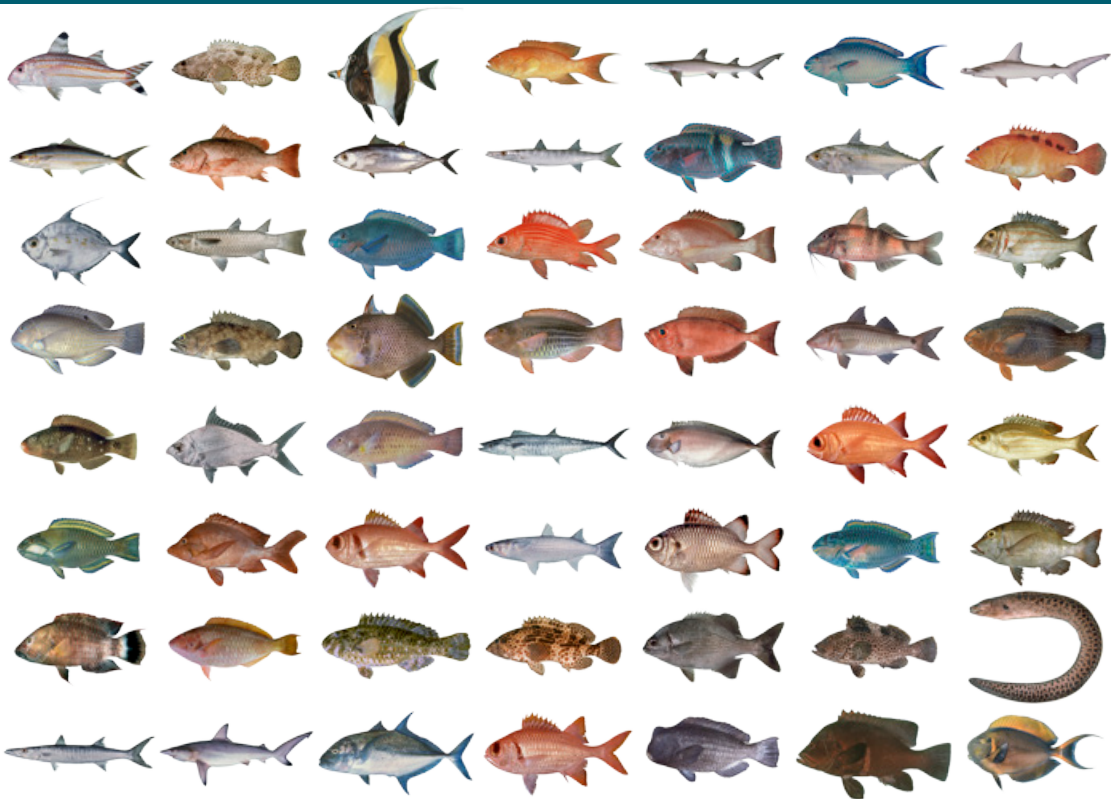

Identification guide to the common coastal food fishes of the Pacific Islands region

Brad Moore and Boris Colas



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du Pacifique



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Brad Moore and Boris Colas
Coastal Fisheries Programme
Pacific Community (SPC), Noumea, New Caledonia



EUROPEAN UNION

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Introduction

The accurate identification of harvested species is essential for effective fisheries management. This guide has been developed to assist in the identification of the most commonly encountered species of coastal sharks, rays and bony fishes in artisanal and subsistence fisheries catches and domestic fish markets in the Pacific Islands region. While this guide has primarily been designed for Pacific Island fisheries and environmental officers tasked with undertaking surveys of catches or fish sold at market stalls, it will likely be useful for university students, non-governmental partners, fishers, and members of the public with a general interest in fish. This guide is intended to help fish surveyors working in the Pacific to more accurately identify the individual species they encounter, thereby resulting in more highly skilled surveyors, improved fisheries data collection and improved management of the region's coastal fisheries resources.

The Pacific Islands region is home to many thousands of fish species, many of which support important commercial, artisanal and subsistence fisheries, and of course, many of which do not. In this guide, we present approximately 320 of the most commonly observed coastal and nearshore finfish species encountered in catches, or sold at market stalls throughout the region. We must stress that the list of species included here is not exhaustive, and other species are likely to be observed. Moreover, with some exceptions, this guide does not cover those species targeted in oceanic purse-seine, longline or deep-bottom snapper fisheries, nor does it cover invertebrate fisheries. The Pacific Community (SPC) has produced excellent identification guides for species captured in those fisheries, and these are listed in the Further reading section on pages 132–133.

Fisheries officers should use this guide in conjunction with the approaches described in the SPC manual 'Creel and market surveys: A manual for Pacific Island fisheries officers'. Using these resources together will help to ensure the standardisation of survey approaches and species identification across the region.

The information provided in this guide is based on the best-available data at the time of writing. Greater research and survey effort in the region will undoubtedly uncover additional species of interest, expand species' distributions, or alter species taxonomy. SPC intends to keep this reference guide current. The authors invite readers to suggest updates to any of the information contained in the guide, by writing to cfpinfo@spc.int.

How to use this guide

Species included in this guide are grouped under their taxonomic family. Individuals are first grouped into either ‘Elasmobranchs’ (sharks and rays) or ‘Teleosts’ (bony fishes). Within these broad groupings, individual families are presented alphabetically by the family’s scientific name. Each family is colour-coded, allowing for quick and easy visual orientation among families. An identification guide to the families included in this book can be found on pages 8–9. This includes a line drawing of a typical representative of each family included; the family, scientific, and common names; and the page numbers that individual species of the family can be found on.

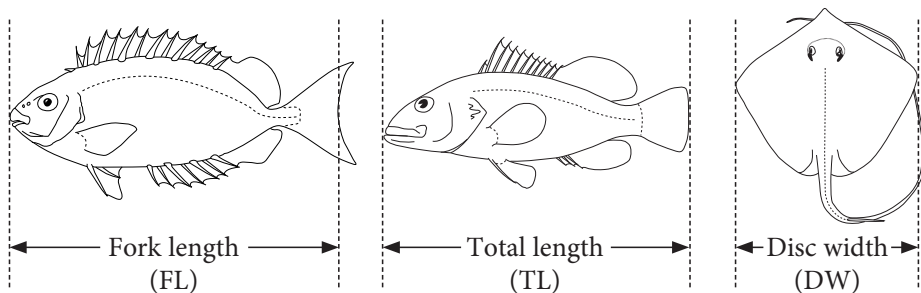
Within each family, individual species are arranged alphabetically by scientific name. The use of scientific names helps ensure standardisation across the region and globally. The first part of the scientific name refers to the genus, and the second part refers to the species.

Information for each species begins with the scientific name, family name (both scientific and common English names) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) code. Where available, the species-specific FAO code is used. However, in some instances no such code is available, so codes relating to the genus (e.g. *Acanthurus*) or family (e.g. Acanthuridae) are used. The most frequently used common names, beginning with the FAO-nominated common English name, are provided underneath the scientific name.

A photograph of the species is provided underneath the name information, accompanied by a set of key anatomical identifiers that are linked to a brief description of the species in the boxed text. With a few exceptions, we have chosen to display dead fish because these are in the states and colours that surveyors will encounter during a creel or market survey. However, in several instances, photos of dead fish were not available, in which case photos of live fish taken in-water have been included. In some instances, drawings are used to illustrate key features. Typically, a single individual is presented for each species, although multiple images are provided for those species where considerable variation in appearance occurs among sexes, life-cycle stages, phases or variants. Species descriptions have been kept simple, focusing on the key reliable field characters to distinguish them from other similar species. To maintain consistency, the terminology used to describe the species is generally

similar to that used in other published reference guides. Diagrammatic examples of the various identifying features referred to in the species descriptions can be found on pages 6–7.

Below the species description, the maximum length (in cm) is provided to help guide identifications. It will be rare to observe a specimen that is greater than the maximum reported length, and in such cases this may indicate a species identification error. For species with rounded or truncate caudal fins (see descriptions on page 6), and for sharks, the total length (TL – generally measured from the anterior-most point of the fish [typically the tip of the lips or snout] to the end of the caudal fin) is presented. For species with emarginate, lunate or forked caudal fins, the ‘fork length’ (FL – measured from the anterior-most point of the fish to the middle or ‘V’ of the caudal fin) is presented, because the tips of these types of caudal fins are frequently damaged, thus preventing an accurate measurement of their total length. For rays, the width of the disc (DW) is given.



Information on whether the species is present in a particular Pacific Island country or territory is included below the maximum length. This information has been obtained from online databases, recent species checklists, scientific papers and selected technical reports. Here, Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) are represented by their two-letter International Organization for Standardization country or territory code:

AS	American Samoa	PF	French Polynesia
CK	Cook Islands	PG	Papua New Guinea
FJ	Fiji	PN	Pitcairn
FM	Micronesia, Federated States of	PW	Palau
GU	Guam	SB	Solomon Islands
KI	Kiribati	TK	Tokelau
MH	Marshall Islands	TO	Tonga
MP	Northern Mariana Islands	TV	Tuvalu
NC	New Caledonia	VU	Vanuatu
NR	Nauru	WF	Wallis and Futuna
NU	Niue	WS	Samoa

A three-shade colour code is then used to indicate whether the species has been recorded (dark shade), is potentially present (lighter shade), or is likely to be absent (white with coloured border), in each PICT.

FJ = species has been previously recorded in that PICT (in this case, Fiji)

MP = species has not been previously recorded in that PICT (in this case Northern Mariana Islands), but may occur due to the presence of suitable habitat and its reported occurrence in neighbouring PICTs

CK = species has not been previously reported in that PICT (in this case Cook Islands), and is unlikely to occur there, due to absence of suitable habitat and/or absence in neighbouring PICTs

Below certain photographs are comments on similar-looking species (where relevant), and the key identifying features that distinguish these.

A list of recommended further reading follows the individual species accounts, to assist in the identification of species in groups beyond the scope of this guide, such as ornamental species. An index is provided at the back of the guide to help the reader locate a particular grouping, family or species quickly and easily.

Family common name

Family scientific name

Common English name(s)

Scientific name

FAO code

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Lutjanus vitta

LUJ

Brownstripe red snapper, brownstripe snapper

Pinkish-grey to yellowish-grey upper body, turning to silvery-white on belly, with 1 a brown stripe from eyes to caudal fin. 2 Narrower diagonal brown lines above lateral line and 3 horizontal brown lines below lateral line. 4 Large yellow blotch below soft dorsal fin and on base of caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	CU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Maximum length

Distribution

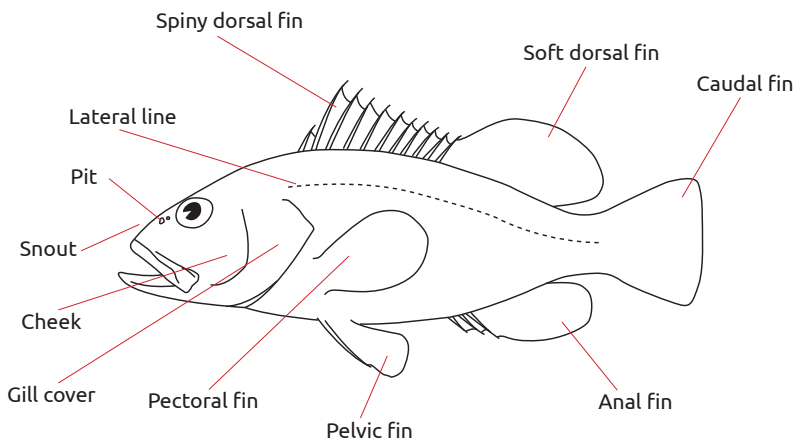
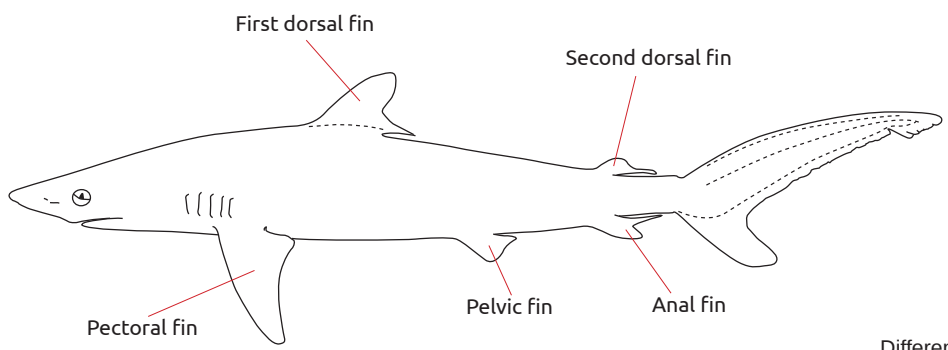
Similar species

Identifiers

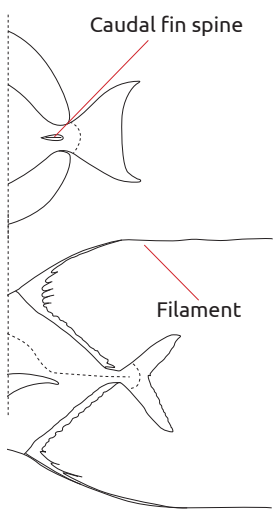
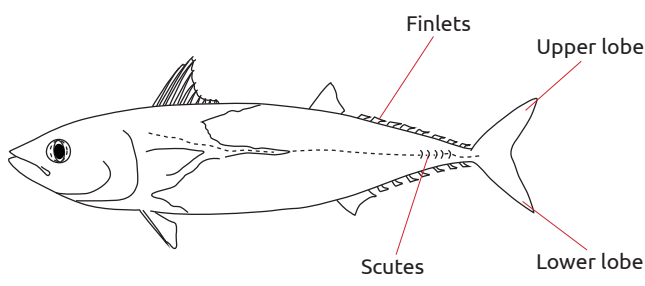
Similar to *Lutjanus lutjanus* but with a brown stripe and lines instead of yellow, and space between eye and upper jaw is larger.

5

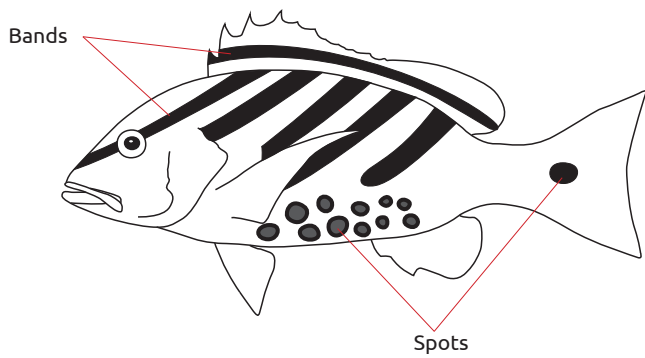
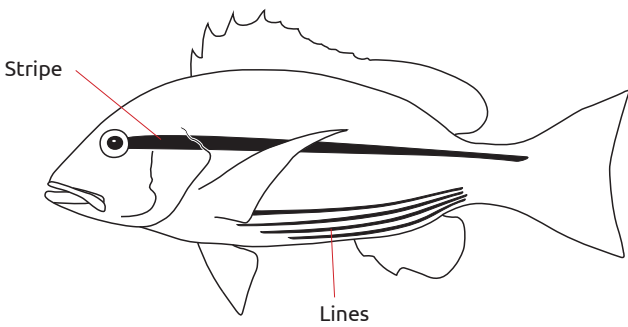
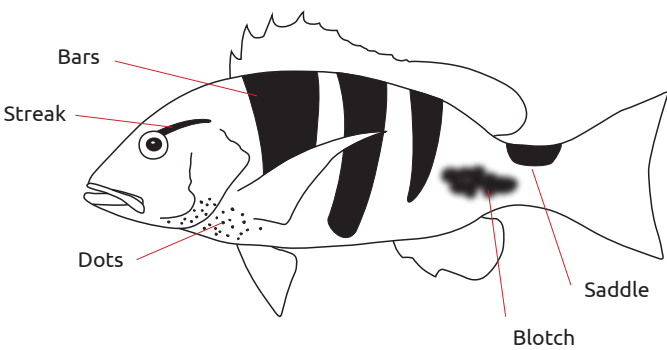
External features



Different caudal fin types

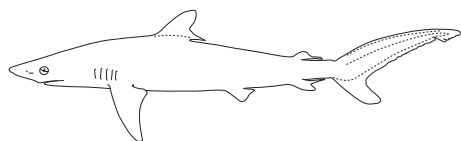


Markings

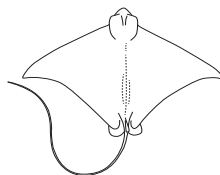


Families included in this guide

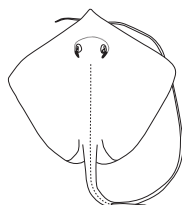
Elasmobranchs (sharks and rays)



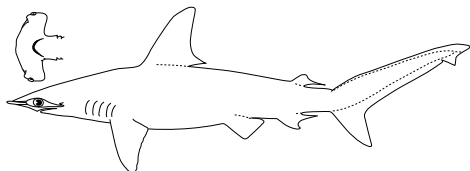
Carcharhinidae
(Requiem sharks)
p. 10–11



Aetobatidae
(Pelagic eagle rays)
p. 13



Dasyatidae
(Stingrays)
p. 14

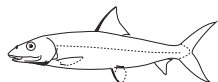


Sphyrnidae
(Hammerhead sharks)
p. 12

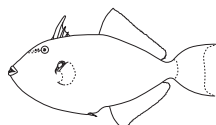
Teleosts (bony fishes)



Acanthuridae
(Surgeonfish)
p. 15–24



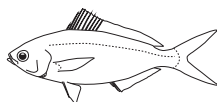
Albulidae
(Bonefish)
p. 25



Balistidae
(Triggerfish)
p. 26



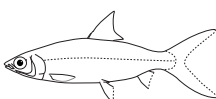
Belonidae
(Needlefish)
p. 27



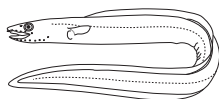
Caesionidae
(Fusiliers)
p. 28–29



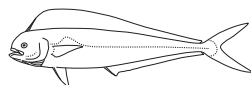
Carangidae
(Jacks)
p. 30–37



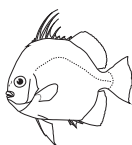
Channidae
(Milkfish)
p. 38



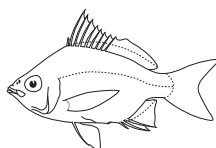
Congridae
(Conger eels)
p. 39



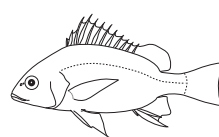
Coryphaenidae
(Dolphinfish)
p. 40



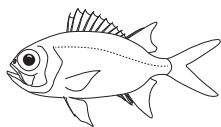
Ephippidae
(Spadefish)
p. 41



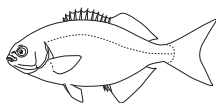
Gerreidae
(Mojarra)
p. 42–43



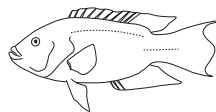
Haemulidae
(Grunts)
p. 44–47



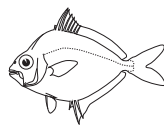
Holocentridae
(Soldierfish and Squirrelfish)
p. 48–53



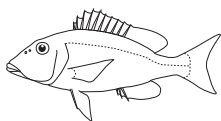
Kyphosidae
(Sea chubs)
p. 54



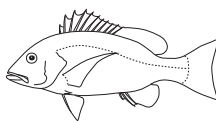
Labridae
(Wrasses)
p. 55–58



Leiognathidae
(Ponyfish)
p. 59



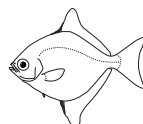
Lethrinidae
(Emperors)
p. 60–67



Lutjanidae
(Snappers)
p. 68–77



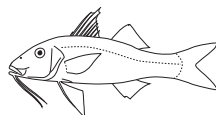
Megalopidae
(Tarpons)
p. 78



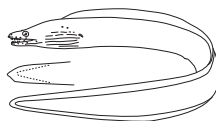
Monodactylidae
(Moonyfish)
p. 79



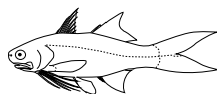
Mugilidae
(Mulletts)
p. 80–81



Mullidae
(Goatfish)
p. 82–86



Muraenidae
(Moray eels)
p. 87



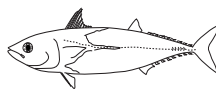
Polynemidae
(Threadfins)
p. 88



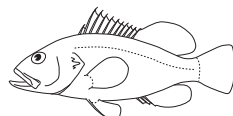
Priacanthidae
(Bigeyes)
p. 89



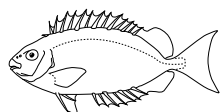
Scaridae
(Parrotfish)
p. 90–104



Scombridae
(Mackerels, tunas)
p. 105–107



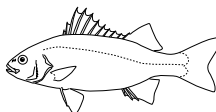
Serranidae
(Groupers)
p. 108–122



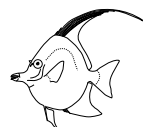
Siganidae
(Rabbitfish)
p. 123–127



Sphyraenidae
(Barracudas)
p. 128–129



Therapontidae
(Grunters)
p. 130

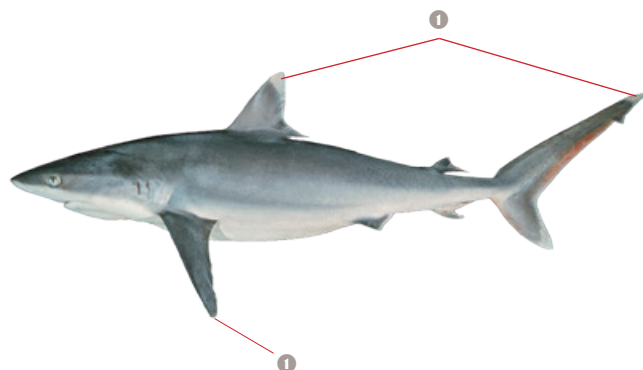


Zanclidae
(Moorish idol)
p. 131

ALS *Carcharhinus albimarginatus*

Carcharhinidae / Requiem sharks

Silvertip shark



Upper body grey, lower body white. ❶ White tips on lobes of first dorsal, pectoral and caudal fins.

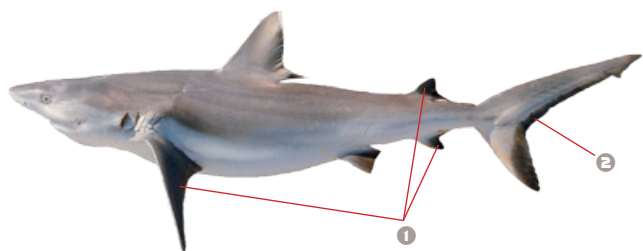
Max length: 300 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AML *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*

Carcharhinidae / Requiem sharks

Grey reef shark



Upper body grey, lower body white. ❶ Second dorsal, anal and underside of pectoral fins black. ❷ Broad black margin on caudal fin.

Max length: 240 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

CCE *Carcharhinus leucas*

Carcharhinidae / Requiem sharks

Bull shark



Large stout body with ❶ short blunt snout and small eyes. Upper body grey, lower body white. No distinctive markings on fins.

Max length: 400 cm TL

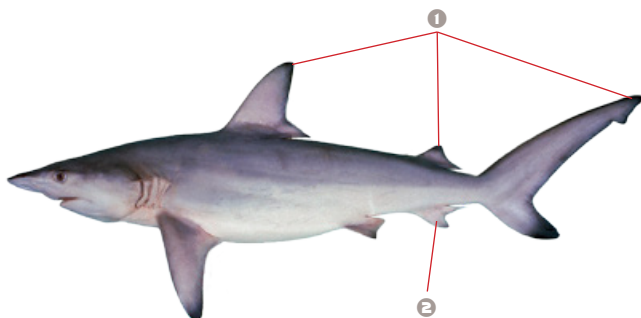
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Blacktip shark

Upper body grey, lower body white. ❶ Black tips or edges usually present on pectoral, dorsal, pelvic and caudal fins. ❷ Anal fin pale to white.

Max length: 275 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



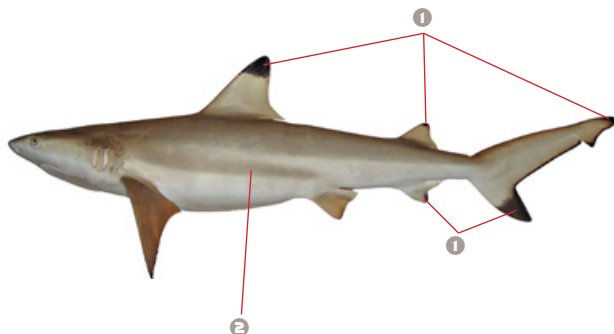
Blacktip reef shark

Upper body brownish-grey to yellowish-brown, lower body white. ❶ A distinctive black tip on first and second dorsal fins, and on pectoral, anal and caudal fins. ❷ Conspicuous dark band on flanks extending to pelvic fins.

Max length: 200 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

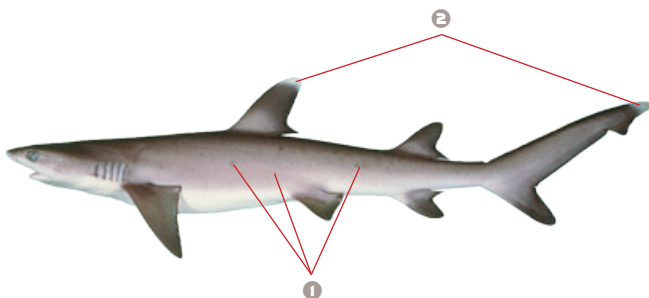


Whitetip reef shark

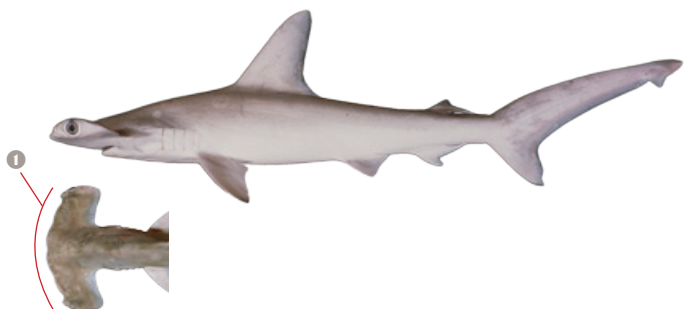
Upper body brownish-grey, lower body white, usually with ❶ a few dark grey spots on body. ❷ Distinctive white tip on first dorsal and upper caudal fins.

Max length: 210 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Scalloped hammerhead



Upper body brownish-grey, lower body white. ❶ Anterior margin of head curved with a prominent indentation in middle, and two lesser indentations on either side.

Max length: 400 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Sphyrna mokarran* (not shown) but anterior margin of head is much more curved (anterior margin of head is almost straight in *S. mokarran*).



Silvertip shark, *Carcharhinus albimarginatus*,
at Tanjung Luar Fish Market, Lombok, Indonesia.

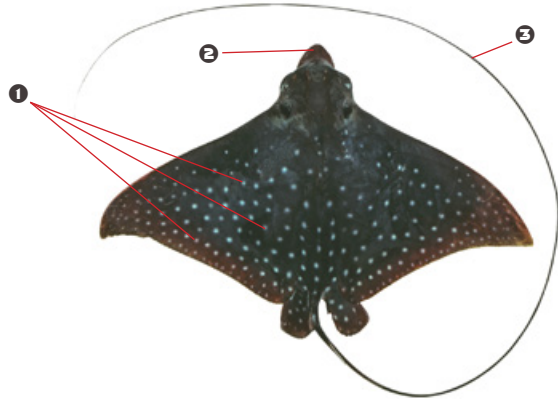
Photo: Will White,
CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Dorsal side dark greenish-grey with ❶ numerous white spots; ventral side pale. ❷ Flattened duckbill-like snout. ❸ Long whip-like tail with venomous spines near base.

Max width: 300 cm DW

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



Part of a complex of similar-looking species previously considered globally as *Aetobatus narinari*. *Aetobatus ocellatus* is likely widely distributed in the western and central Pacific, with records of *A. narinari* potentially referring to *A. ocellatus*. More work is needed to confirm its Pacific distribution.



Ocellated eagle ray, *Aetobatus ocellatus*, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Photo: Zachary Bass, Flickr

DHF *Himantura fai*

Dasyatidae / Stingrays

Pink whipray

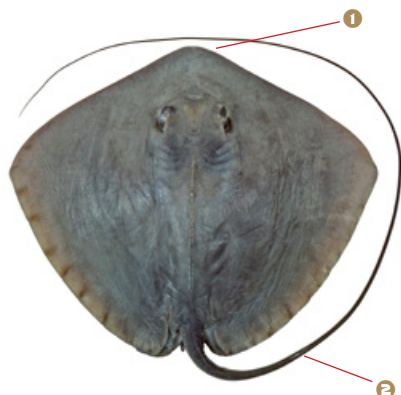


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Rhomboid-shaped disc. Dorsal side light grey to pinkish-brown.

1 Snout bluntly pointed. 2 Tail long and slender, usually with a single venomous spine about two spine lengths from base of tail.

Max width: 185 cm DW

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

RDK *Neotrygon kuhlii*

Dasyatidae / Stingrays

Blue-spotted stingray

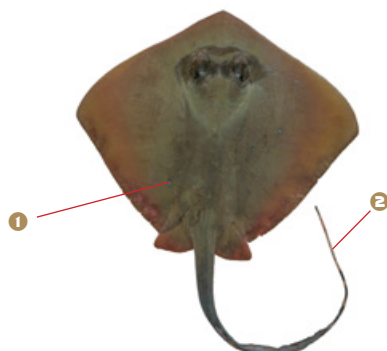


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Rhomboid-shaped disc. Dorsal side yellowish- to reddish-brown with

1 scattered dark-edged blue spots of variable size. 2 Tail with alternating white and black bands near end and two venomous spines.

Max width: 47 cm DW

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Part of a complex of similar-looking species that includes *N. australiae* (southern PG and northern Australia) and *N. trigonoides* (east coast of Australia and NC). To date, *N. kuhlii* presence confirmed in SB only; more work is needed to set its Pacific distribution.

RTY *Taeniura lymma*

Dasyatidae / Stingrays

Ribbontail stingray

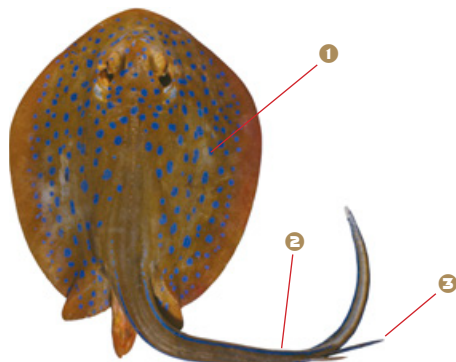


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Oval-shaped disc. Dorsal side yellowish-brown with 1 numerous large bright blue spots.

2 Flattened ribbon-like tail with blue stripe down each side and 3 two spines near end.

Max width: 35 cm DW

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Taeniura lessoni* (not shown) but with a pair of blue stripes on tail (stripes are absent in *T. lessoni*). *Taeniura lessoni* appears restricted to Melanesia.

Achilles tang

Navy-blue to black with **1** distinctive teardrop-shaped orange patch at rear of body that covers caudal fin spines. **2** White margin on gill covers and **3** narrow whitish-blue and orange bands at base of dorsal and anal fins. **4** Caudal fin has wide orange band.

Max length: 20 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Orange-socket surgeonfish

Orange-brown to brown head and body, no spots on head. **1** Dark band behind upper gill covers. **2** Orange ring around eyes and **3** orange border around caudal fin spines. **4** White ring around base of caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

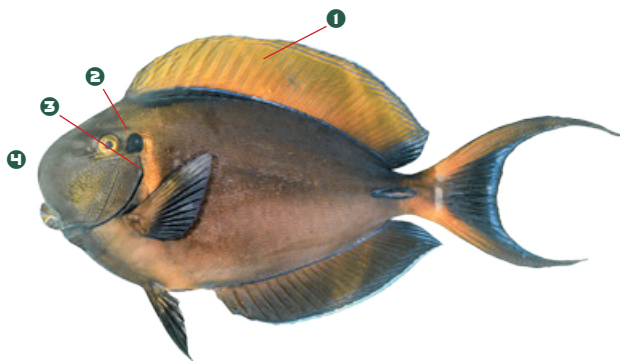


Black-spot surgeonfish

Yellowish-brown to brown with **1** yellow dorsal fin. **2** Black spot behind eyes and **3** yellow bar behind gill covers. **4** Adults have distinctive rounded snout.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



DGV *Acanthurus blochii*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Ringtail surgeonfish

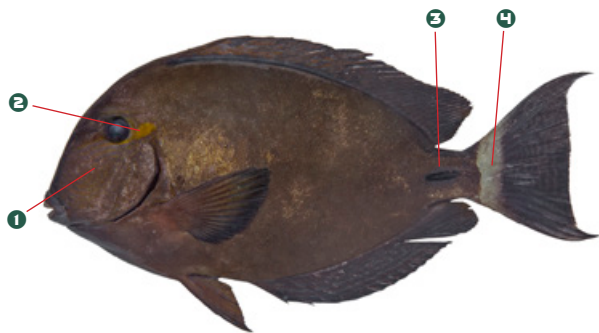


Photo: Biodiversity Institute of Onatrio

Dark blue to bluish-brown with **1** numerous wavy lines on head and forebody. **2** Small yellowish-orange spot behind eyes. **3** A blue-black margin around caudal fin spines. Caudal fin lacks spots and often has a **4** white ring around base.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AXQ *Acanthurus dussumieri*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Eyestripe surgeonfish

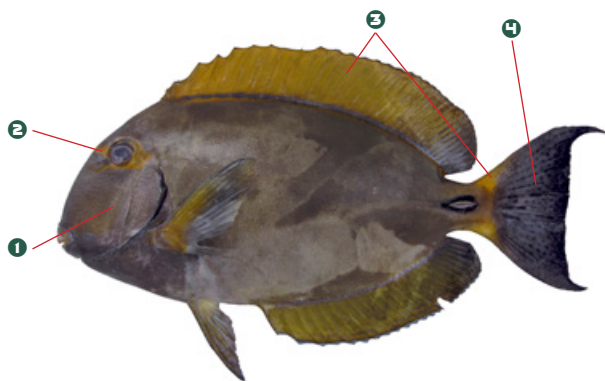


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Bluish-brown to yellowish-brown body with **1** irregular lines on head and body and **2** yellow stripe through eyes. **3** Dorsal and anal fins mostly yellow with blue line at base. **4** Bluish caudal fin with numerous dark spots.

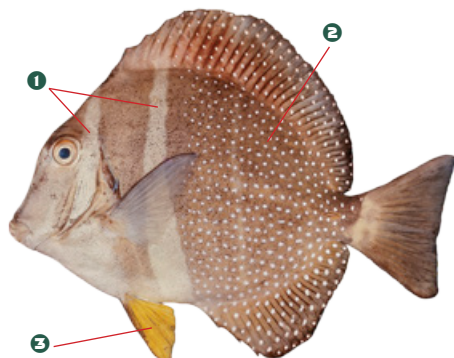
Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AXQ *Acanthurus guttatus*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Whitespotted surgeonfish



Brownish-grey to grey with **1** white bar on head, another bar on forebody. **2** Numerous spots on rear two-thirds of body. **3** Distinctive yellow pelvic fins. Base of caudal fin whitish-yellow, outer margin black.

Max length: 26 cm FL

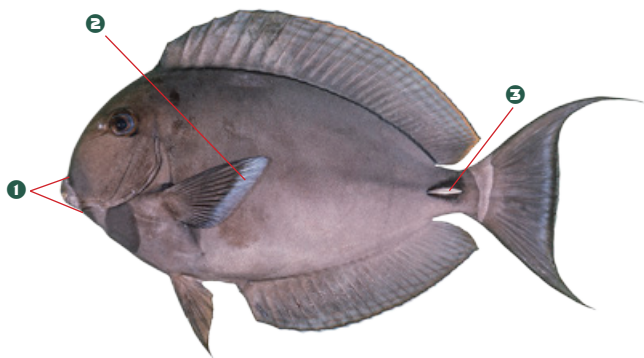
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Palelipped surgeonfish

Brown with ❶ black shading above and behind lips. ❷ White to yellow submargin on pectoral fin. ❸ Distinctive white caudal fin spines.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Lined surgeonfish

Upper three-fourths of body with yellow undercolour and

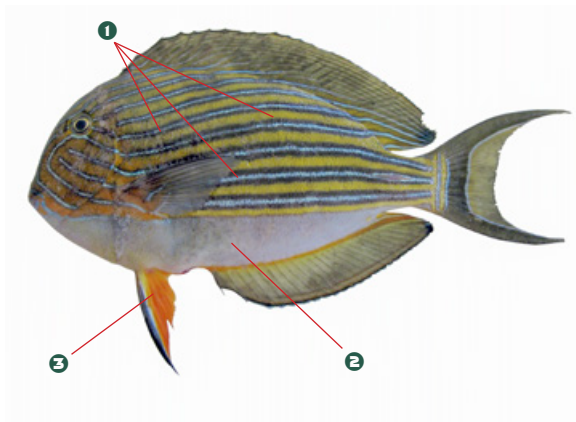
❶ numerous distinctive black-edged horizontal blue stripes.

❷ Belly pale greyish-blue without stripes. ❸ Yellow pelvic fins and bright blue margins on most fins.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



White-freckled surgeonfish

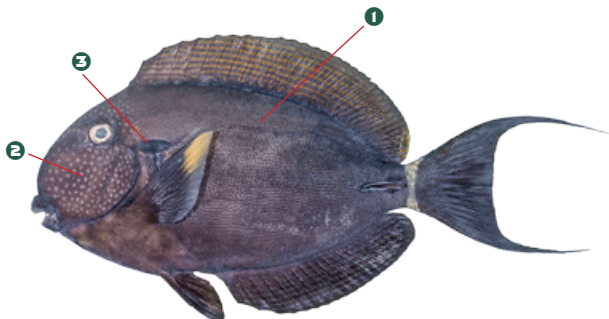
Brown to greyish-brown body with

❶ numerous very fine, pale yellow horizontal lines. ❷ Head blackish with numerous white spots.

❸ Black streak behind upper margin of gill covers.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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DGV *Acanthurus mata*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Elongate surgeonfish

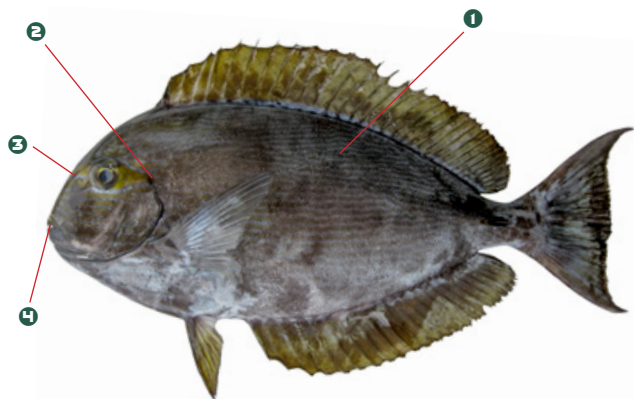


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Grey to pale blue with **1** numerous horizontal dark blue lines on head and body. **2** Small blackish spot at upper margin of gill covers. **3** Double yellow band before eyes that continues as a single band behind eyes. **4** Yellowish upper lip.

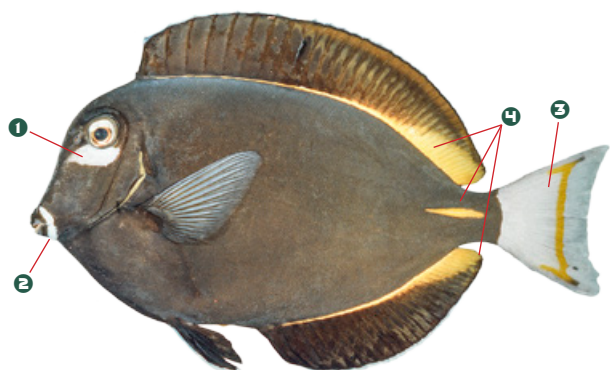
Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AXQ *Acanthurus nigricans*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Whitecheek surgeonfish



Dark brown to navy blue or black with **1** distinctive white patch on cheek below eyes, and **2** white ring behind lips. **3** Caudal fin white with yellow vertical band. **4** Yellow band at base of dark dorsal and anal fins and yellow caudal fin spines.

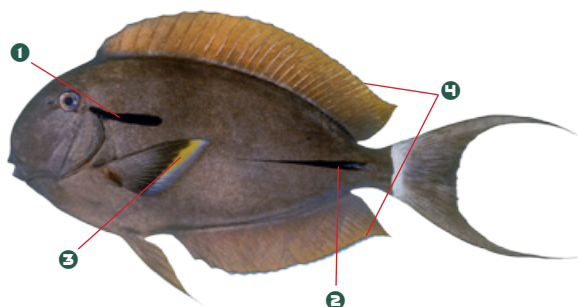
Max length: 22 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AXQ *Acanthurus nigricauda*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Epaulette surgeonfish, blackstreak surgeonfish



Brown to grey with long, **1** horizontal black streak behind eyes. **2** Thin black streak on caudal fin spines extending forward. **3** Outer third of pectoral fins yellow. **4** Blue margins on dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 40 cm FL

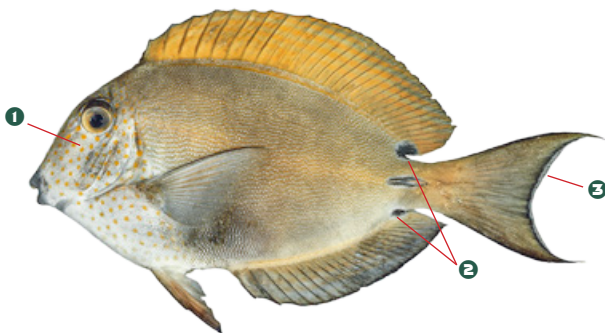
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Brown surgeonfish

Bluish-brown to brown with **1** numerous orange spots on head. **2** Dark blue to black spots at rear base of dorsal and anal fins. **3** Caudal fin with a narrow pale posterior margin.

Max length: 21 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

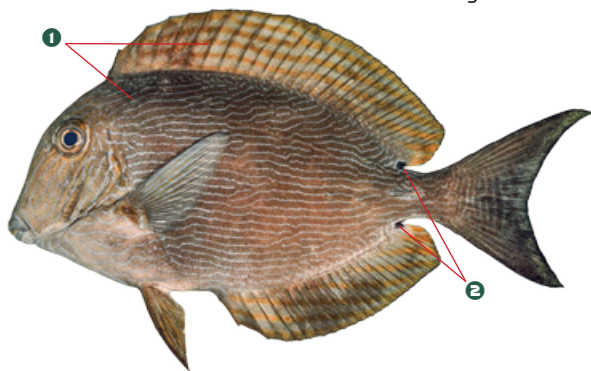


Bluelined surgeonfish

Brown with **1** numerous pale blue lines on head and body. **2** Small dark spot at rear base of dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 23 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Similar to *Acanthurus nigrofuscus* but *A. nigroris* has blue lines instead of orange spots on head.

Orangespot surgeonfish

Adults (shown) dark brown to grey with **1** distinctive dark-edged, horizontal orange band (outlined in blue or purple) extending posteriorly from upper end of gill covers. **2** Caudal fin with small grey-black spots and a large white area in fork of fin. Juveniles mostly yellow but still display distinctive orange band on upper end of gill covers.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



AXQ *Acanthurus pyroferus*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Chocolate surgeonfish, mimic surgeonfish



Yellowish-tan to dark brown with **1** curving black band from chin to upper margin of gill covers. **2** Lips black, nearly encircled by a white band. **3** Orange patch above base of pectoral fins. **4** Caudal fin dark with yellow margin.

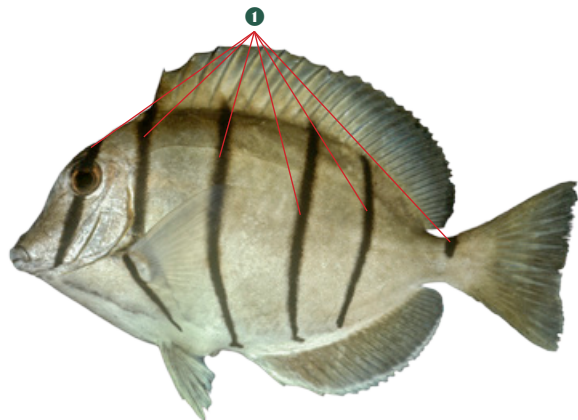
Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AQT *Acanthurus triostegus*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Convict surgeonfish, convict tang



Olive-grey on top and upper body, white elsewhere. **1** Five narrow, vertical black bars on body and one on head through eyes.

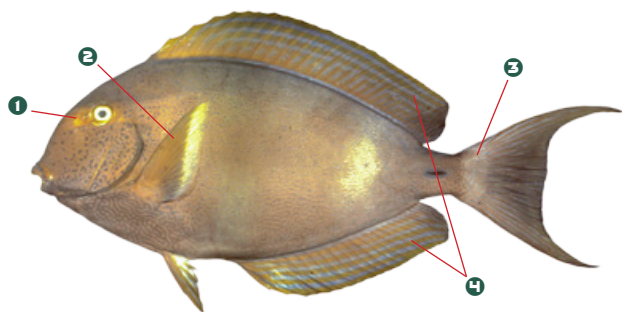
Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AXQ *Acanthurus xanthopterus*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Yellowfin surgeonfish



Blue to greyish-brown with **1** yellow smudge over eyes and **2** yellow pectoral fins. Often with a **3** white ring around base of caudal fin. **4** Dorsal and anal fins have yellow and blue bands.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Striated surgeonfish

Dark grey-brown to orangish-brown with **1** numerous orange spots on head and **2** blue lines on body.

Max length: 26 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Whitemargin unicornfish

Bluish-grey or olive or brown, with **1** white lips and **2** pale margins on dorsal and anal fins. Juveniles and sub-adults (shown) have **3** white ring at base of caudal fin. Adults (not shown) have a long horn on forehead that projects well in front of mouth.

Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

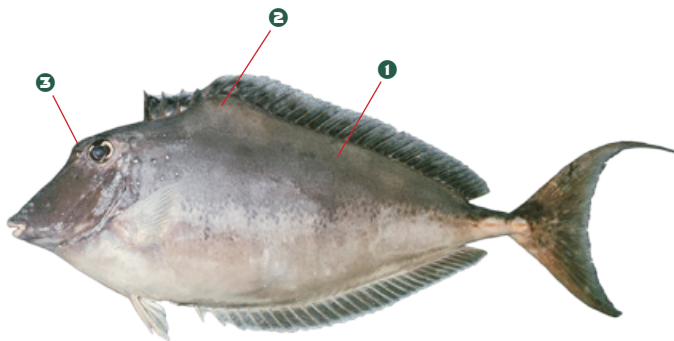


Humpback unicornfish

1 Olive-grey upper body, becoming pale on belly, with **2** distinctive hump on back. Adult males have a long horn that extends beyond mouth; females have only a **3** small bump.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



NAB *Naso brevirostris*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Spotted unicornfish



Bluish-grey to brown with ❶ dark spots on head, and vertical lines on body, ending as spots on belly (faded in this image). ❷ Long horn on forehead in front of eyes. ❸ Caudal fin mostly white.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SUR *Naso caesi*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Gray unicornfish



Bluish-grey to dark grey-brown with ❶ blue caudal fin. ❷ No horn on head.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SUR *Naso hexacanthus*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Sleek unicornfish



Brown to bluish-grey upper body, yellowish-grey belly. ❶ No horn on forehead. Black marking on cheeks and ❷ black margin on gill covers.

Max length: 75 cm FL

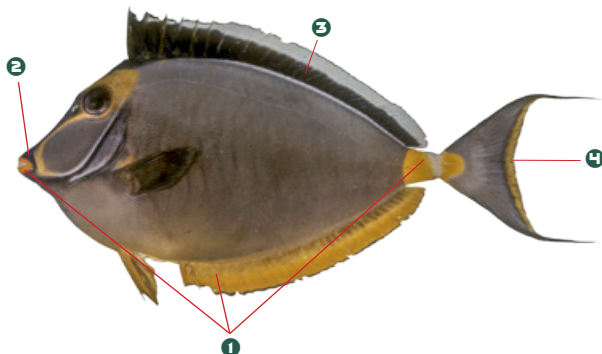
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Orangespine unicornfish

Brownish-grey with **1** orange lips, anal fin and caudal fin spines. **2** Black area with yellow margin from mouth to eyes. **3** Dorsal fin mostly black with pale blue margin and narrow blue line at base. **4** Grey caudal fin with pale yellow sub-margin. Adult males have long filaments on caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

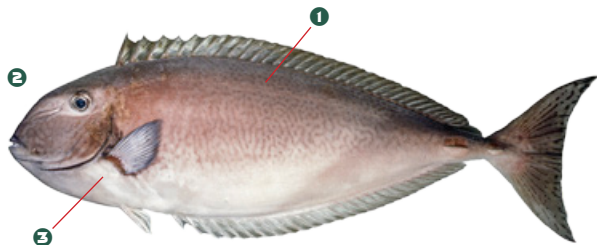


Elongate unicornfish, slender unicornfish

Bluish-grey upper body with **1** numerous small dark grey to black spots (these may join to form small bands), paler on belly. **2** No horn on head. **3** Occasionally with a large pale area around pectoral fins.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

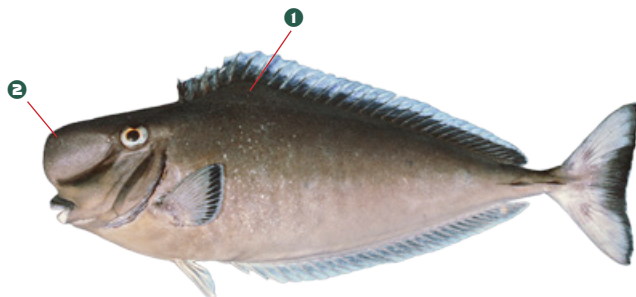


Bulbous unicornfish, humpnose unicornfish

Grey to olive upper body, becoming paler on belly with numerous small black spots on body. **1** Distinctive hump on back and **2** bulbous snout.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Nasotuberosus* from the Indian Ocean but lacks large black spot on chest.

NAS *Naso unicornis*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Bluespine unicornfish

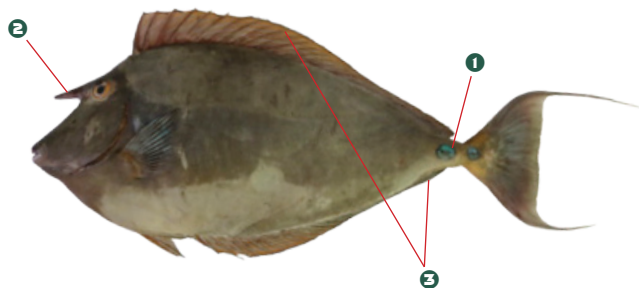


Photo: Brad Moore, SPC

Olive-grey upper body and paler underside. ❶ Blue caudal fin spines. ❷ Short horn on head in front of eyes that does not extend past mouth. ❸ Blue margins on dorsal and anal fins, and occasionally a blue area around pectoral fins.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SUR *Naso vlamingii*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Bignose unicornfish

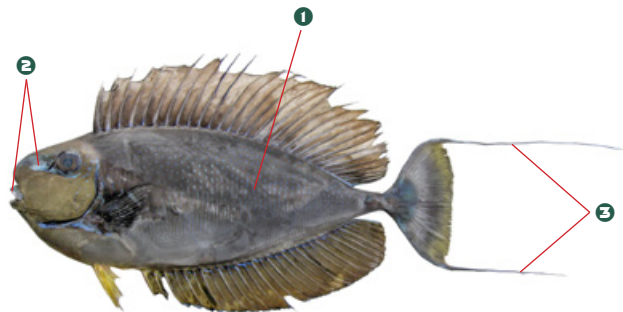


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Grey-brown to bluish-grey.

❶ Vertical dark blue lines on sides of body with dark blue spots above and below. ❷ Blue lips and blue horizontal band in front of eyes. Distinctive bump on forehead just below level of eyes. ❸ Caudal fin slightly rounded with long trailing blue filaments.

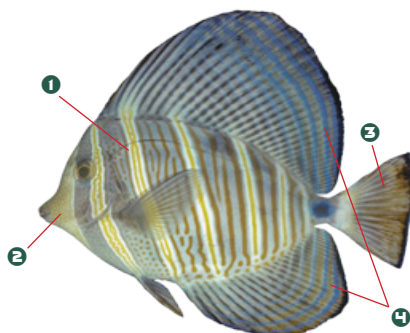
Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

ZEV *Zebrasoma velifer*

Acanthuridae / Surgeonfish

Sailfin tang, sailfin surgeonfish



❶ Alternating grey-brown and greyish-white bars with narrower yellow bars inside both broader bars. ❷ Numerous close-set, small white spots on head. ❸ Caudal fin white to yellowish-brown without spots. ❹ Distinctive enlarged dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Silvery head and body often with
 ❶ a dark mark at tip of snout.
 ❷ Front of lower jaw rounded.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Similar to *Albula argentea* (not shown) but lacks yellow spot on base of pectoral fins (present in *A. argentea*).



Roundjaw bonefish, *Albula glossodonta*, for sale at Abemama Atoll, Kiribati.

Photo: Brad Moore, SPC

BDZ *Balistoides viridescens*

Balistidae / Triggerfish

Titan triggerfish



Dark body with ① yellow-green to blue crosshatch pattern.

② Dark brown band across snout and above upper lip. ③ Second dorsal, anal and caudal fins yellowish-orange with dark base and margins.

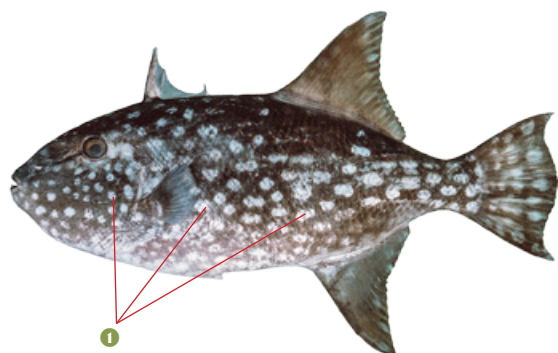
Max length: 75 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

CNT *Canthidermis maculata*

Balistidae / Triggerfish

Rough triggerfish, spotted oceanic triggerfish, oceanic triggerfish



Elongated, pale bluish-grey to blackish-grey body often with ① white spots that fade with age and a dark blotch around base of pectoral fins.

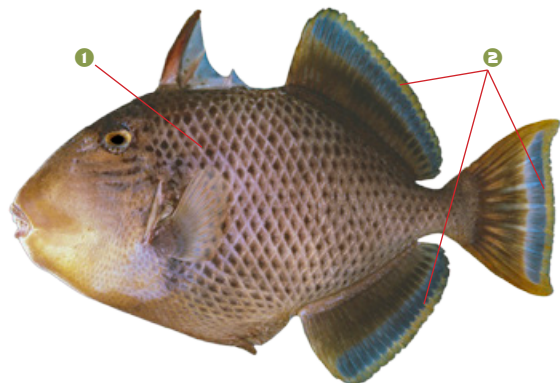
Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

UBV *Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus*

Balistidae / Triggerfish

Yellowmargin triggerfish



Blue to purplish-blue or tan with dark spots and ① crosshatch pattern on body. ② Margins of fins yellow to orange, preceded by light blue on second dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Hound needlefish, crocodile long-tom

Silvery, slender body with ❶ elongated upper and lower jaws, and sharp needle-like teeth. ❷ Lower lobe of forked caudal fin larger than upper lobe.

Max length: 135 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Similar to *Platybelone argalus* (not shown) but with larger lower caudal fin lobe (upper and lower caudal fin lobes are of similar size in *P. argalus*).

Reef needlefish

Greyish-green to silvery, long slender body and ❶ elongate upper and lower jaws with sharp, needle-like teeth. ❷ Caudal fin truncate to slightly emarginate.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Blue and gold fusilier, scissortail fusilier



Silvery-blue with horizontal ❶ yellow stripe above lateral line from head to base of caudal fin. ❷ Dark streaks on caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 32 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Redbelly yellowtail fusilier



Greyish-blue upper body fading to whitish-pink belly. ❶ Yellow caudal fin.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellow and blueback fusilier, blue and yellow fusilier



Silvery-blue with ❶ bright yellow caudal fin and base. ❷ Base of pectoral fins black.

Max length: 35 cm FL

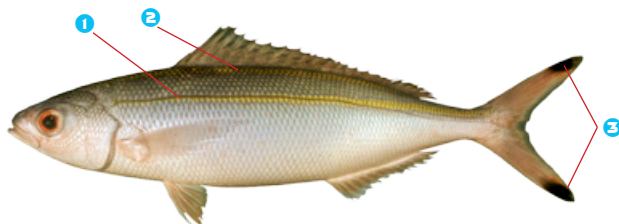
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Marr's fusilier, twinstripe fusilier

Silvery-blue to blue-green with horizontal **1** yellow stripe along lateral line, ending at base of caudal fin. **2** Yellow stripe on upper back. **3** Dark tips on caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

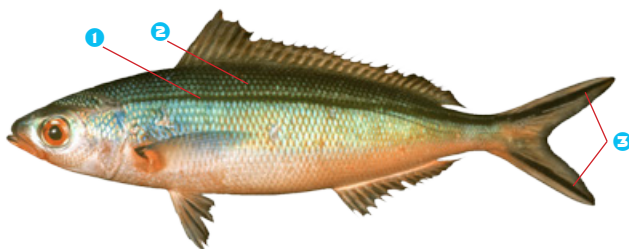


Dark-banded fusilier, bluestreak fusilier

Silvery-blue upper body to silvery-pink lower body. **1** Dark horizontal stripe along lateral line to caudal fin. **2** Scales on back have a black border, forming a linear pattern. **3** Black streaks on caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Three-stripe fusilier

Upper body bluish-green with **1** three broad yellowish-brown stripes on back, lower body whitish-pink. **2** Dark tips on caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 18 cm FL

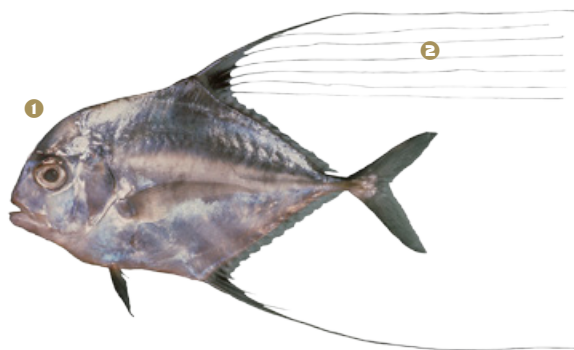
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



LIJ *Alectis ciliaris*

Carangidae / Jacks

African pompano



Silvery-blue upper body, tending to silver on lower body. **1** Steep forehead profile. **2** First few dorsal and anal fin rays of juveniles (shown) extremely long and filamentous.

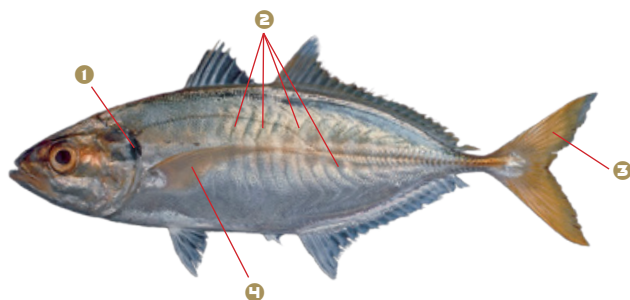
Max length: 130 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

TUM *Atule mate*

Carangidae / Jacks

Yellowtail scad



Silvery bluish-green upper body, tending to silver on lower body. **1** Prominent black spot on upper margin of gill covers. **2** Often with numerous dusky bars on sides. **3** Caudal fin yellow, dorsal and **4** pectoral fins translucent with tints of yellow.

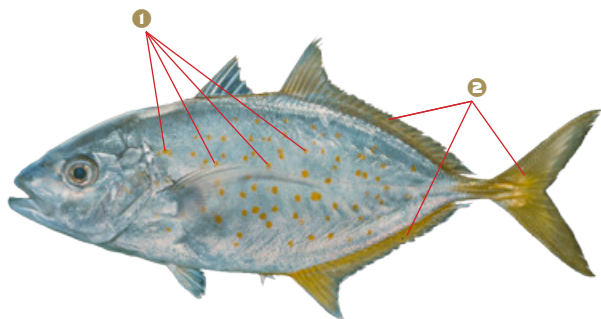
Max length: 28 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

NGJ *Carangoides bajad*

Carangidae / Jacks

Orangespotted trevally



Silvery to yellowish-orange with **1** numerous small orange spots on sides. **2** Fins usually yellowish-orange.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Silvery with ① black spot on upper margin of gill covers.

Max length: 70 cm FL

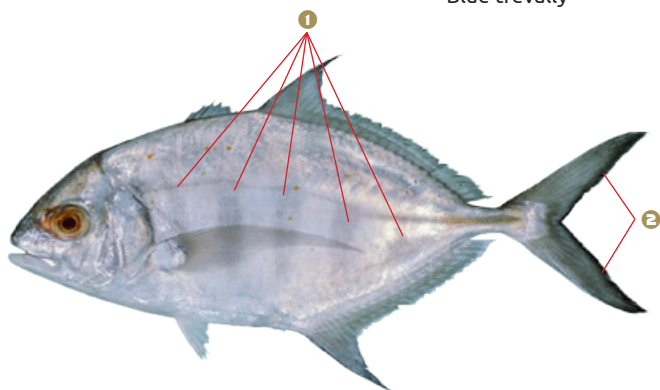
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Silvery, usually with ① 5–7 black vertical bars on sides. ② Dark margin on caudal fin.

Max length: 60 cm FL

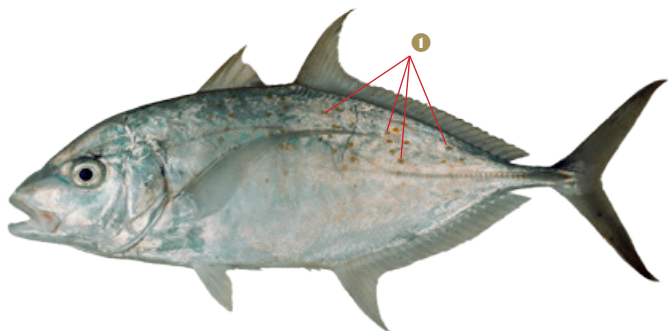
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



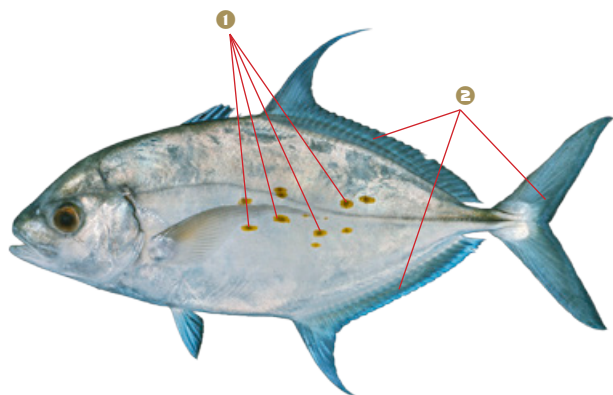
Silvery with ① numerous small brassy spots, occasionally with faint dark bars on sides. Large adults have 3–4 black blotches on sides (not present in this image).

Max length: 120 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Island trevally

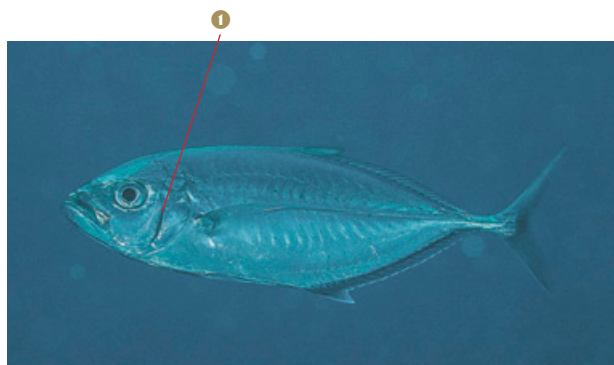


Silvery with **1** yellow spots or blotches on sides. Sometimes with faint bars on sides of body. **2** Fins with blue tints.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Barcheek trevally

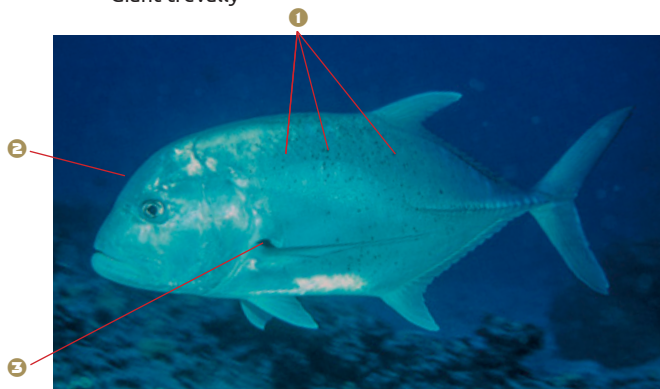


Silvery with a prominent **1** black line on gill covers.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Giant trevally



Dusky or silvery-grey upper body tending to silver on lower body. **1** Numerous black spots on sides. Large adults have a **2** steep forehead. **3** Small black area at upper base of pectoral fins.

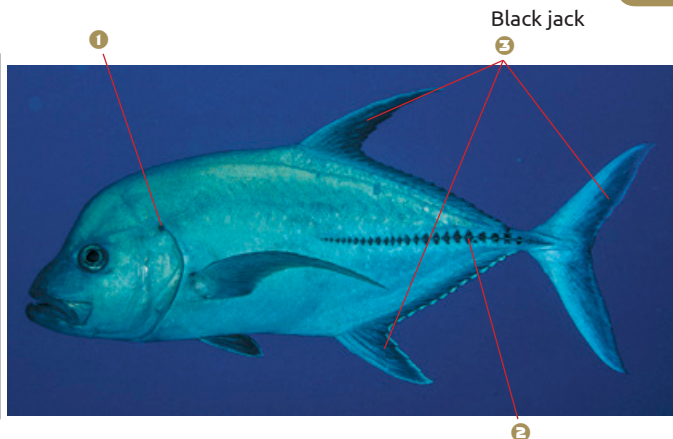
Max length: 160 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Dark olive-grey to nearly black upper body, tending to silvery-grey on lower body. ❶ Small black spot at upper margin of gill covers. ❷ Scutes and ❸ second dorsal, anal and caudal fins dark.

Max length: 80 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

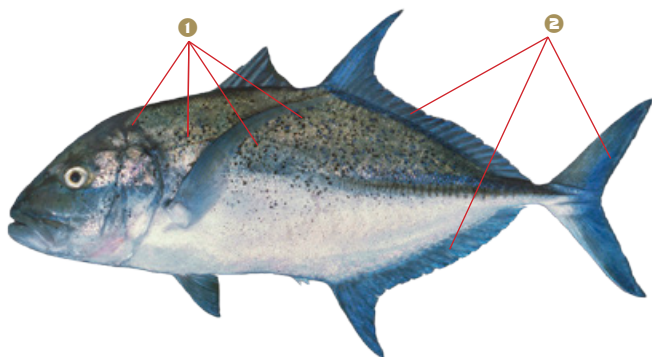


Bluefin trevally

Silvery to bluish-green with ❶ numerous blue and black spots on upper two-thirds of body. ❷ Bright blue dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

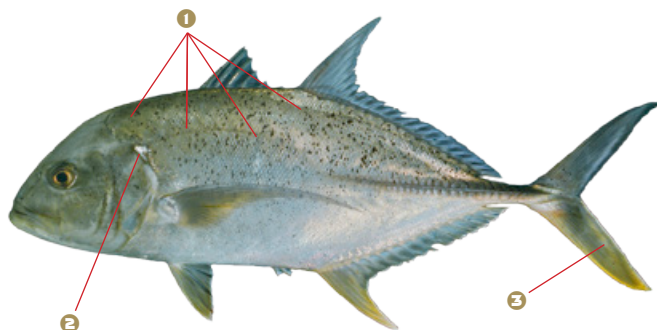


Brassy trevally

Silvery with bronze to greenish-blue tints and ❶ dark spots on sides. ❷ White spot behind upper margin of gill covers. ❸ Lower lobe of caudal fin yellow with white margin.

Max length: 80 cm FL

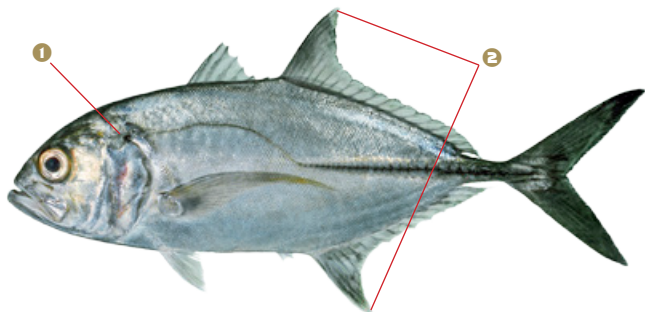
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



CXS *Caranx sexfasciatus*

Carangidae / Jacks

Bigeye trevally



Silvery with ① small dark spot on gill covers and ② white tips on lobes of second dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 85 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

NXT *Caranx tille*

Carangidae / Jacks

Tille trevally



Silvery elongated body with ① steep forehead and snout. ② Black spot on upper margin of gill covers.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

MSD *Decapterus macarellus*

Carangidae / Jacks

Mackerel scad



Silvery with ① small black spot on upper margin of gill covers at level of eyes. ② Jaw does not extend past eyes.

Max length: 35 cm FL

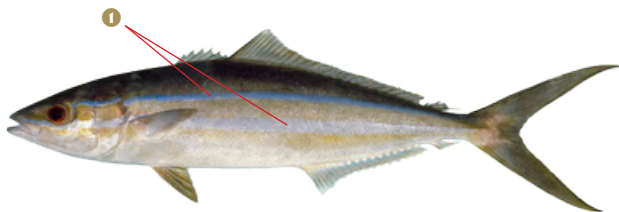
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Olive-blue upper body shading to greenish-white lower body.

① Two light blue horizontal stripes on sides from head to caudal fin, often with yellowish-olive stripe in between.

Max length: 120 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

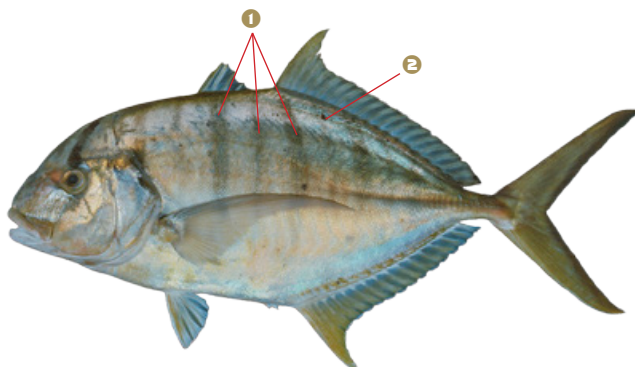


Adults (shown) silvery-grey with ① faint bars and ② scattered black blotches on head and body.

Juveniles yellow with similar, although more pronounced, marking pattern.

Max length: 120 cm FL

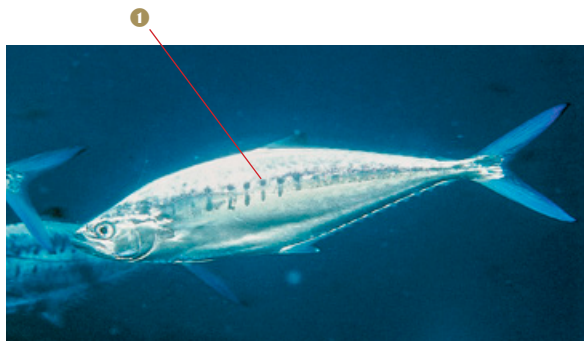
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Elongated silvery body with a ① double row of dark round blotches on sides.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



OBJ *Scomberoides tol*

Carangidae / Jacks

Needlescaled queenfish

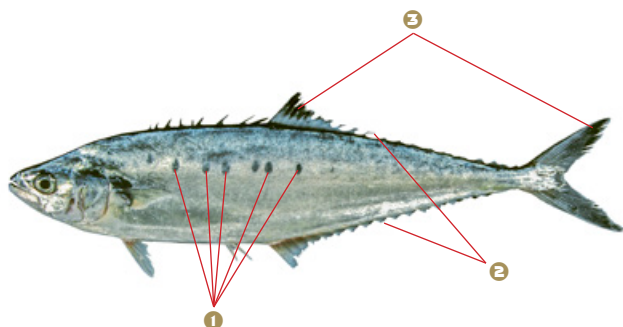


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Elongated body; bluish-silver upper body becoming silver or white on lower body. **1** Five to eight vertically oblong or oval black spots on, or just above lateral line. **2** Soft rays of posterior portion of dorsal and anal fins form semi-detached finlets. **3** Black tips on soft dorsal and caudal fins.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

LRO *Selar boops*

Carangidae / Jacks

Oxeye scad



Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Silvery with large eyes and **1** yellow horizontal stripe extending from head to caudal fin. **2** Black spot often present on upper margin of gill covers. Scutes prominent from mid-body to caudal fin.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Selar crumenophthalmus* but scutes extend further along body (scutes are restricted to rear third of body in *S. crumenophthalmus*).

BIS *Selar crumenophthalmus*

Carangidae / Jacks

Bigeye scad



Silvery with a large eye and **1** yellow horizontal stripe extending from head to base of caudal fin. **2** Scutes prominent on rear third of lateral line.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

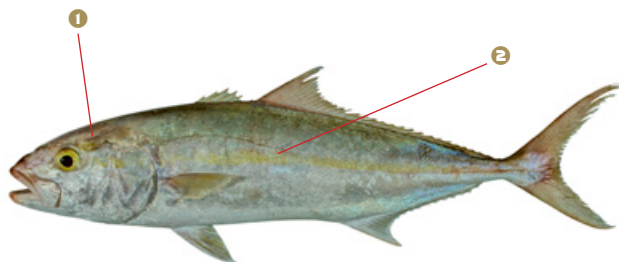
Similar to *Selar boops* but scutes restricted to rear third of body (scutes in *S. boops* extend from caudal fin forward to mid-body).

Silvery olive-grey upper body shading to silvery on lower body with **1** dark yellowish-brown band from lip through eye to origin of dorsal fin. Occasionally with an **2** amber stripe from gill cover to caudal fin.

Max length: 160 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

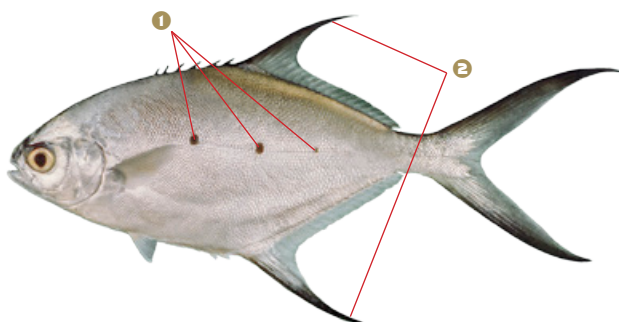


Similar to *Seriola rivoliana* (not shown) but with much lower second dorsal fin (second dorsal fin of *S. rivoliana* is 4–5 times the height of first dorsal fin).

Bluish-silver upper body shading to silver on lower body, with **1** 1–5 prominent black spots on sides. **2** Anterior lobes of second dorsal and anal fins elongated.

Max length: 50 cm FL

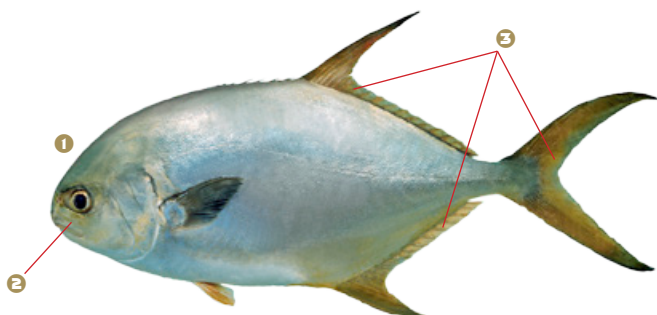
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



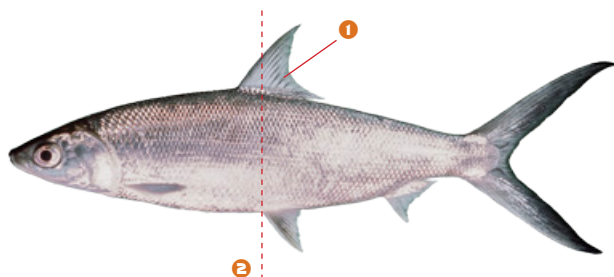
Bluish-silver upper body to silvery or golden lower body. **1** Steep forehead and snout. **2** Front of snout and lips golden. **3** Fins yellow to yellowish-grey. No spots on sides.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Milkfish



Silvery with ① single dorsal fin.
② Pelvic fins at mid-body below dorsal fin.

Max length: 150 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



A boy with a milkfish, *Chanos chanos*.

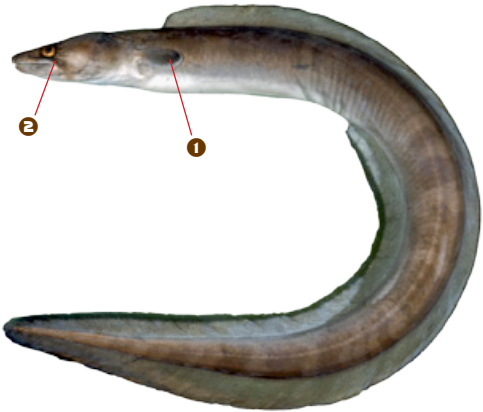
Photo: WorldFish

Longfin African conger, moustache conger

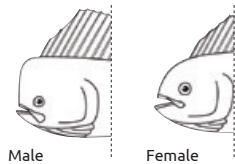
Brownish-grey, often with dark bars on sides. **1** Black area on pectoral fins and **2** black streak on upper lip below eyes.

Max length: 130 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Common dolphinfish, mahi mahi



Bluish-silver with yellow tinting that fades quickly after death. Males have large blunt forehead, 1 females have more rounded forehead.

Max length: 180 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



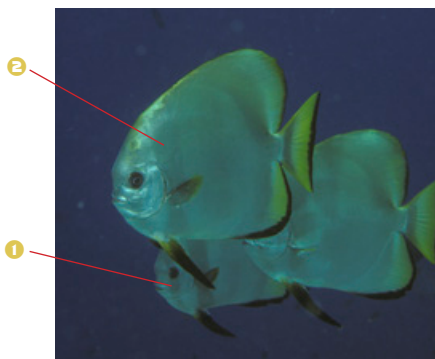
Dolphinfish, *Coryphaena hippurus*, at Kedonganan Fish Market, Bali, Indonesia.

Photo: Brad Moore, SPC

Yellowish-silver with ① faint, dark vertical bar through eyes and a ② second vertical bar on body through pectoral fins.

Max length: 45 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

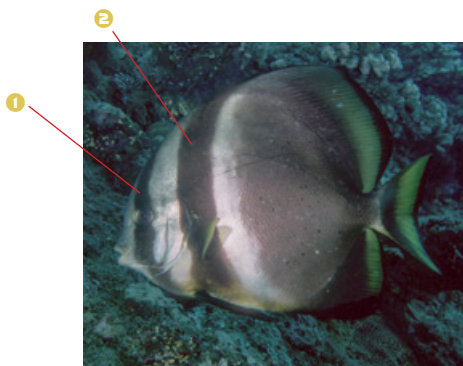


Similar to *Platax orbicularis* but lacking black spots on body.

Adults (shown) silvery-grey with a ① narrow, dark vertical bar through eyes and ② broader vertical bar anteriorly on body through pectoral fins. Usually with a few scattered black spots on body. Juveniles light reddish-brown to yellow with a dark vertical bar through eyes, and greatly elongated dorsal and anal fin.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



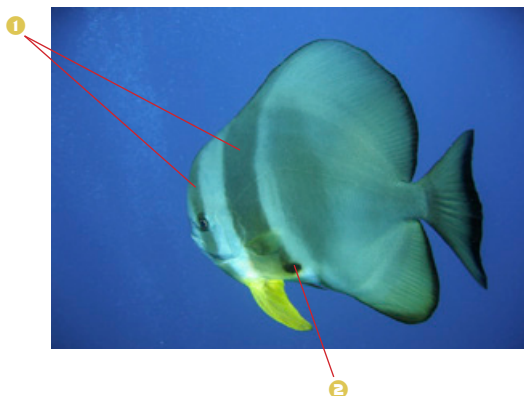
Similar to *Platax boersii* but with scattered black spots on body.

Silvery with ① dark to faint vertical bar through eyes and a second bar through pectoral fins. ② A large dark blotch above rear margin of pelvic fins separates this species from other batfish species in the Pacific.

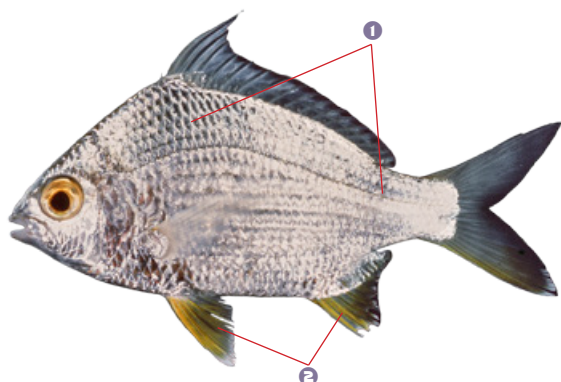
Max length: 70 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Richard Ling, Flickr



Deep-bodied silver-biddy

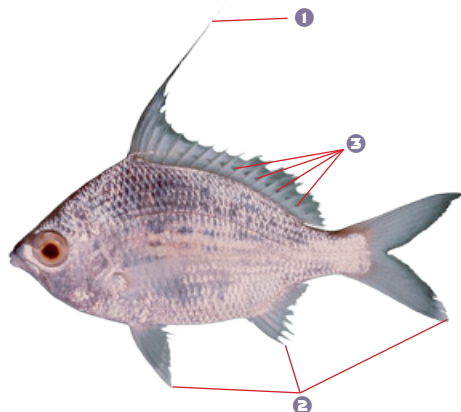


Silvery, often with ① dusky to faint vertical bars on body (faded in this image) and dark caudal fin. ② Yellow pelvic and anal fins.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Whipfin silver-biddy

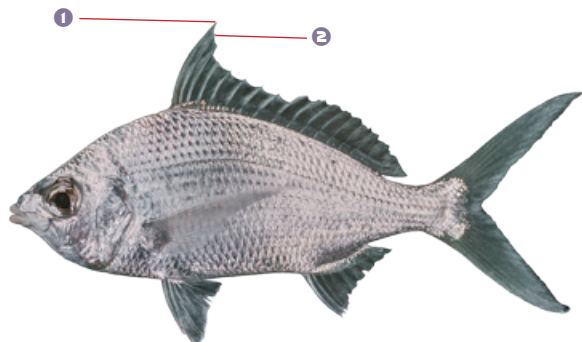


Silvery with 7–10 vertical bands of elongated dark spots on upper body. ① Second dorsal spine elongated to form a fine filament. ② Tip of lower lobe of caudal fin, apex of anal fin, and tip of pelvic fins white. ③ Small, triangular, greyish-black spots on dorsal fin.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Longtail silver-biddy



Silvery with 6–9 vertical bands of elongated dark spots on upper body (faded in this image). ① Second dorsal spine slightly elongated. ② No black tip on dorsal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Slender silver-biddy

Silvery with elongated spots forming faint broken vertical stripes on body, particularly in small individuals (< 10 cm FL) (faded in this image).

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

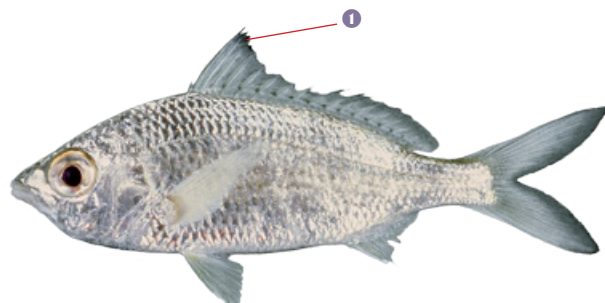


Common silver-biddy

Silvery, sometimes with 6–8 faint vertical bars (more prominent on juveniles). ❶ Dark tip on dorsal fin.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



DGP *Diagramma pictum*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Painted sweetlips



Adults bluish-grey with dark scattered blotches on body and faint spots on body and fins that fade with age. Sub-adults (shown) paler with **1** numerous gold spots on body and fins.

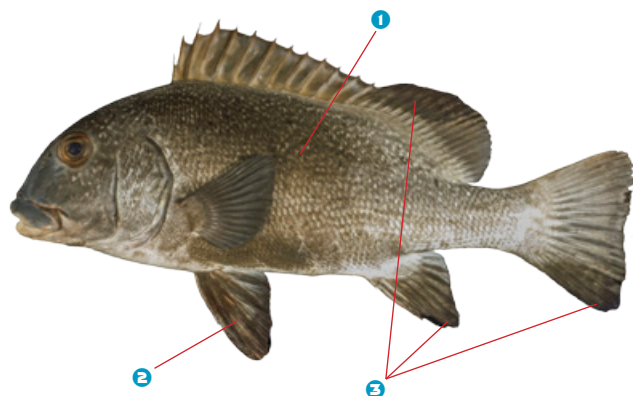
Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

PBX *Plectorhinchus albovittatus*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Two-striped sweetlips, giant sweetlips



Grey with **1** faint wide dark bar behind pectoral fins (faded in this image). **2** Black pelvic fins and **3** black margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

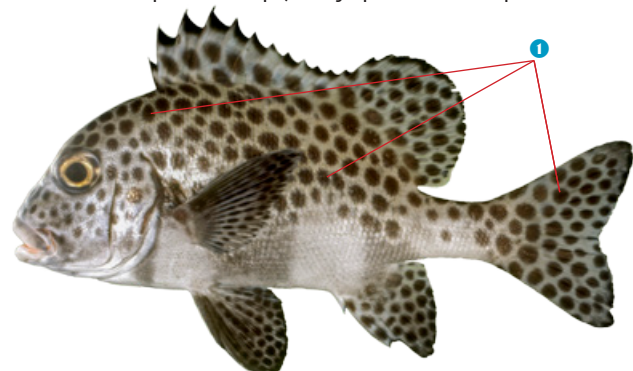
Max length: 100 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

PBX *Plectorhinchus chaetodonoides*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Harlequin sweetlips, many-spotted sweetlips



Adults pale green on upper body to light grey on lower body with **1** numerous large, close-set black spots on head, body and fins.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

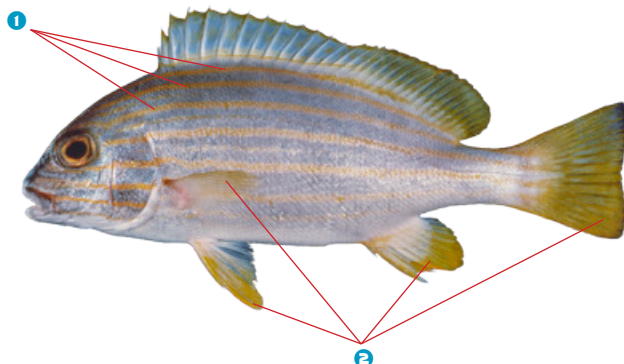
Similar to *Plectorhinchus picus* but lacks black margin on gill covers (present in *P. picus*) and has much larger spots.

Yellow-striped sweetlips

Silvery-blue with ❶ numerous horizontal yellow stripes on head and body. ❷ Fins bright yellow.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

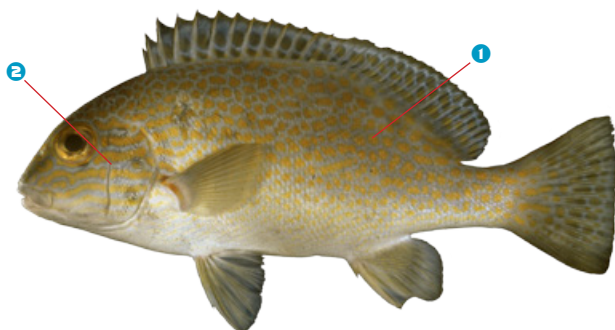


Lemonfish, gold-spotted sweetlips

Grey with ❶ gold spots on body and dorsal and caudal fins, joining as ❷ wavy lines on head.

Max length: 60 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Harry hotlips, blubberlip

Dark grey to brown body and ❶ fins, with charcoal-grey head. ❷ Dark outlines around scales and ❸ black margin on cheeks and gill covers.

Max length: 70 cm TL

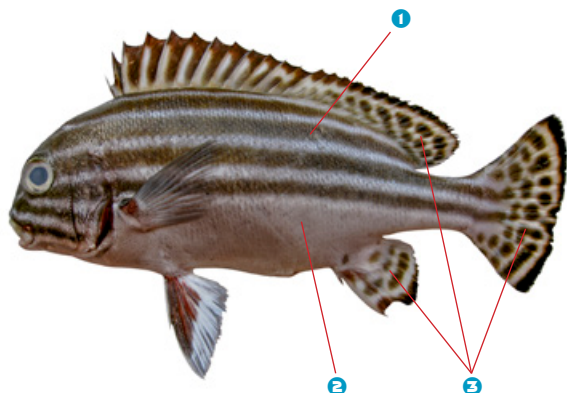
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



GFH *Plectorhinchus lessonii*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Lesson's thicklip, striped sweetlips



1 White with 4–5 horizontal blackish-brown stripes on head, upper body and 2 white unmarked lower body. 3 Black spots on dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 40 cm TL

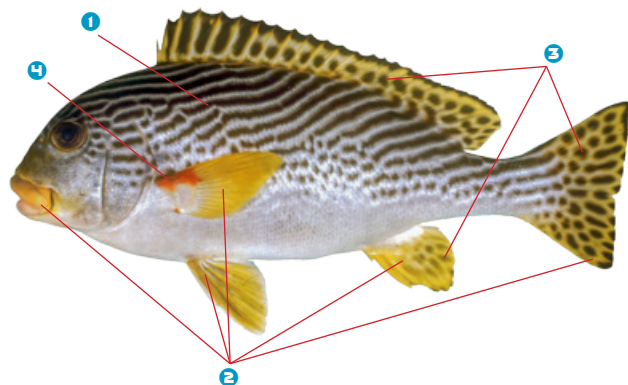
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Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

IEY *Plectorhinchus lineatus*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Yellowbanded sweetlips



Grey upper body to white lower body with 1 numerous diagonal black stripes breaking into spots ventrally. 2 Lips and fins yellow. 3 Black spots on dorsal, anal and caudal fins, and 4 large red spot at upper base of pectoral fins.

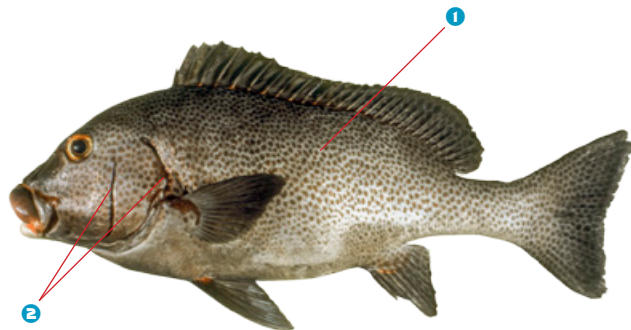
Max length: 60 cm TL

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PBX *Plectorhinchus picus*

Haemulidae / Grunts

Painted sweetlip, dotted sweetlips



Grey to greenish-white with 1 numerous small black spots on head and body, and dorsal, anal and caudal fins. 2 Black margin on rear of gill covers.

Max length: 80 cm FL

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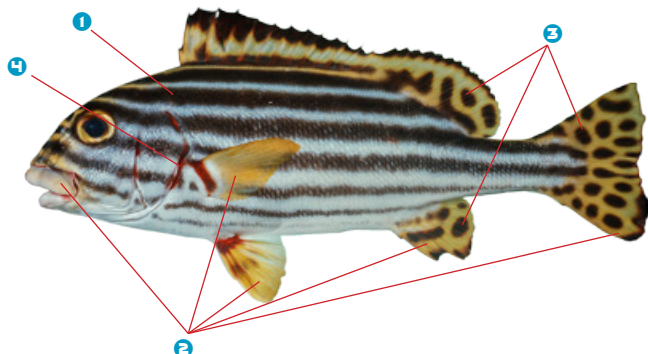
Similar to *Plectorhinchus chaetodonoides* but with much smaller spots and black margin on gill covers (spots are larger and black margin is absent in *P. chaetodonoides*).

Oriental sweetlips

White with ❶ numerous horizontal black stripes on head and body. ❷ Lips and fins yellow. ❸ Black spots on dorsal, anal and caudal fins. ❹ Areas of red around gill covers and base of pectoral and pelvic fins.

Max length: 70 cm TL

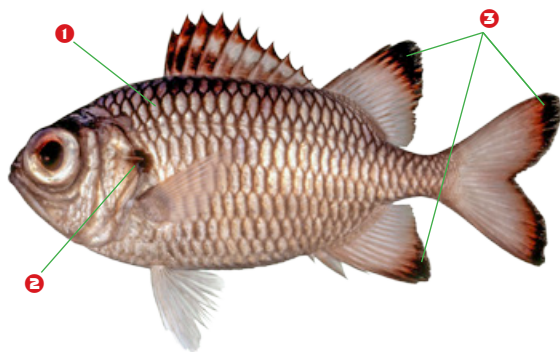
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A school of oriental sweetlips, *Plectorhinchus vittatus*, Maldives.

Photo: Malcolm Browne, Flickr

Shadowfin soldierfish

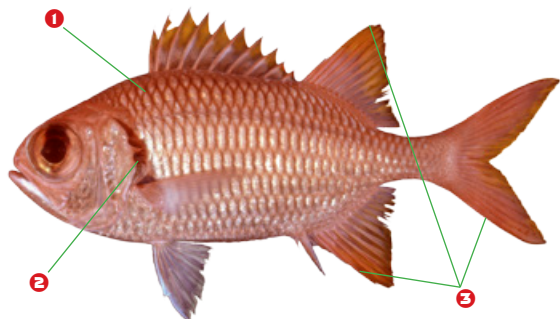


Silvery-salmon pink with **1** dark scale margins, particularly on upper body. **2** Reddish-black spot on rear margin of gill covers and **3** reddish-black margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 30 cm FL

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Brick soldierfish



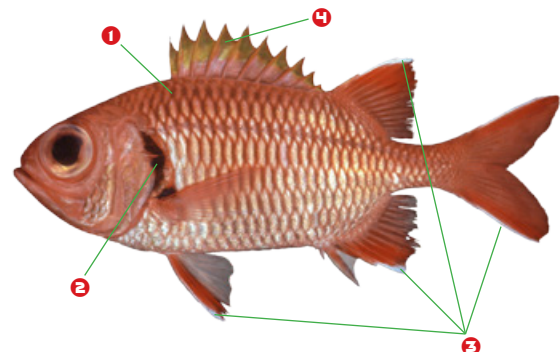
Silvery-red with **1** dark scale margins and **2** dark red band on margin of gill covers. **3** Dorsal, anal and caudal fins red without white margins.

Max length: 27 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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Similar to *Myripristis violacea* but without white margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Blotcheye soldierfish, bigscale soldierfish



White with red tints and **1** red scale margins. **2** Dark margin on gill covers and **3** white margins on soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins. **4** Outer part of spiny dorsal fin orange-yellow.

Max length: 28 cm FL

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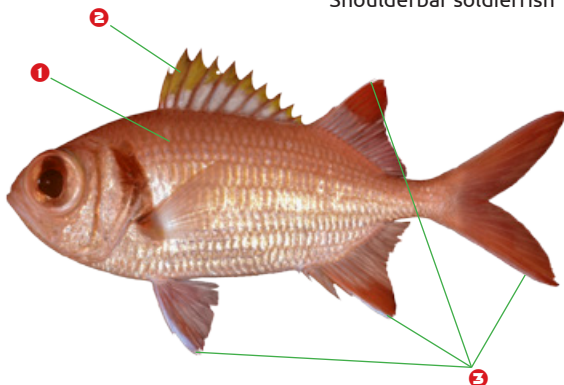
Similar to *Myripristis kuntzei* but with much larger scales and a redder overall appearance.

Shoulderbar soldierfish

Silvery orange-red with **1** darker scale margins. Small scales relative to other soldierfishes. **2** Outer part of spiny dorsal fin yellow or orangish-yellow and **3** white margins on soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins. A small species, typically no larger than 15 cm FL.

Max length: 20 cm FL

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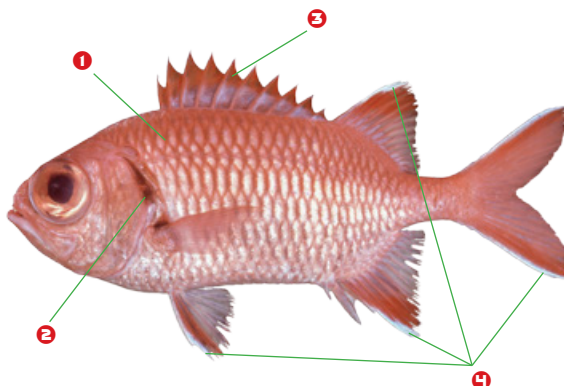
Similar to *Myripristis berndti* but with much smaller scales and a more orange overall appearance.

Pinecone soldierfish, small-eyed squirrelfish

Pink to silvery with **1** red scale margins and **2** reddish-brown margin on gill covers. **3** Red spiny dorsal fin and **4** narrow white margins on soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 25 cm FL

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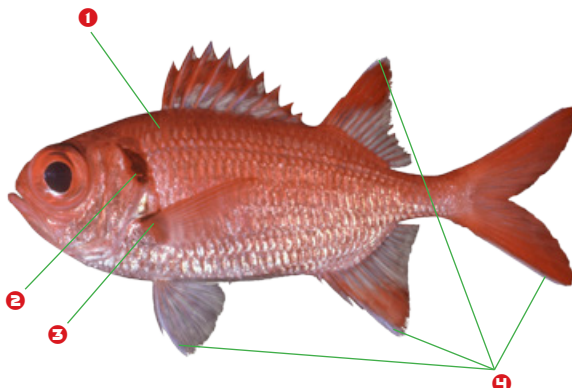


Scarlet soldierfish

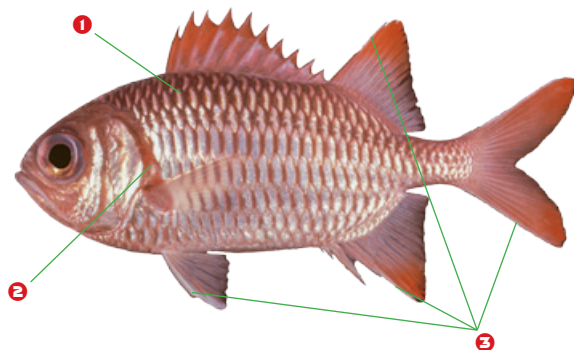
Red upper body to silvery lower body with **1** darker scale margins. **2** Brown margin on upper gill covers and **3** a reddish-brown spot at base of pectoral fins. **4** White margins on soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 20 cm FL

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Lattice soldierfish, violet soldierfish



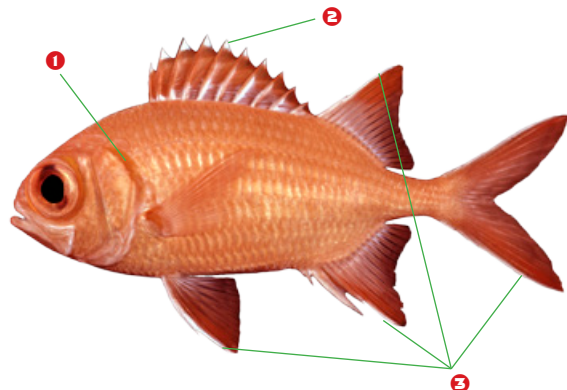
Silvery-pink with **1** dark scale margins and **2** red band on margin of gill covers. **3** Soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins red with white margins.

Max length: 22 cm FL

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Similar to *Myripristis amaena* but with white margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Whitetip soldierfish

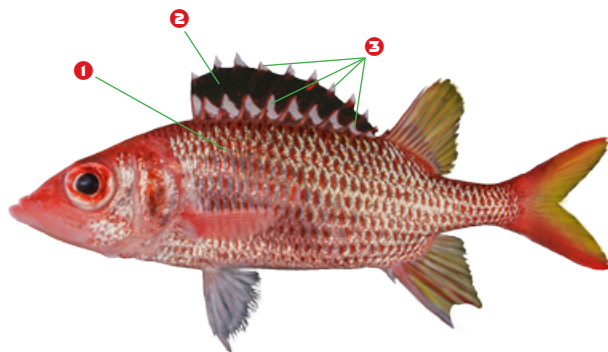


Orangish-red body with **1** slightly darkened margin on gill covers. **2** Dorsal fin spines have white tips, and **3** narrow white margins on soft dorsal, pelvic, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 20 cm FL

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TV	VU	WF	WS		

Blackfin squirrelfish



Silvery to dark red with **1** reddish-black scale spots and slight yellow and green iridescence overall. **2** Dark spiny dorsal fin with **3** white tips and white spots at base of each membrane.

Max length: 32 cm FL

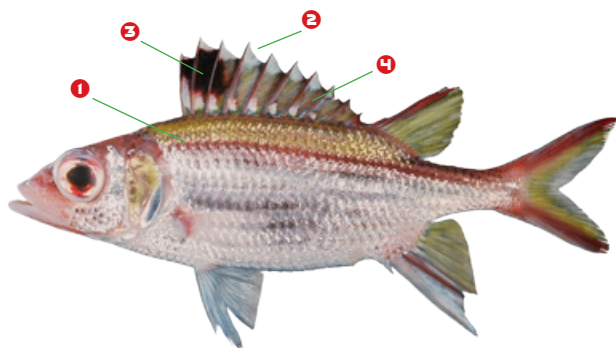
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Sammara squirrelfish, spotfin squirrelfish

Silvery with **1** thin dark red to blackish stripes. **2** Tips of dorsal fin spines white with **3** large dark spot on first three membranes followed by **4** a narrowing dark red band.

Max length: 30 cm FL

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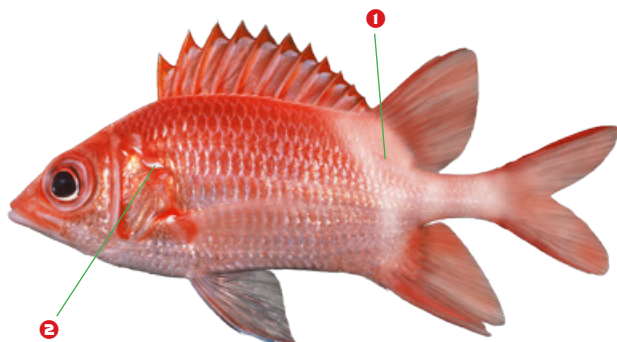


Silerspot squirrelfish, tailspot squirrelfish

Red head and forebody tending to **1** silvery-white towards rear of body and base of caudal fin. **2** Small white streak above upper margin of gill covers.

Max length: 23 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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Threespot squirrelfish

Orangish-red with **1** white horizontal stripes on body. **2** Reddish-black spot on middle of base of caudal fin.

Max length: 25 cm FL

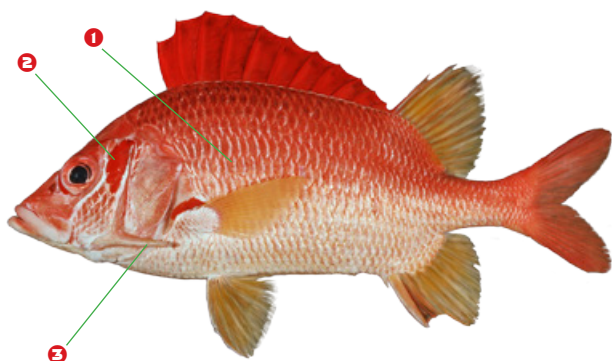
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HVS *Sargocentron spiniferum*

Holocentridae / Soldierfish and Squirrelfish

Sabre squirrelfish



Red with **1** silvery-white scale margins and a **2** vertically elongated red spot behind eyes.
3 Large spine on cheeks.

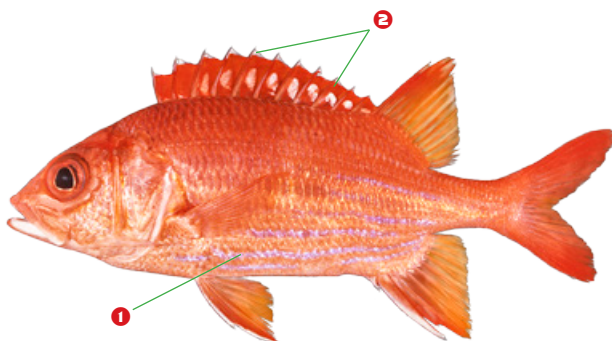
Max length: 45 cm FL

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TV	VU	WF	WS		

HCZ *Sargocentron tiere*

Holocentridae / Soldierfish and Squirrelfish

Bluelined squirrelfish, Tahitian squirrelfish



Red with **1** iridescent blue stripes on side, more evident on lower body. **2** Spiny dorsal fin red with white tips.

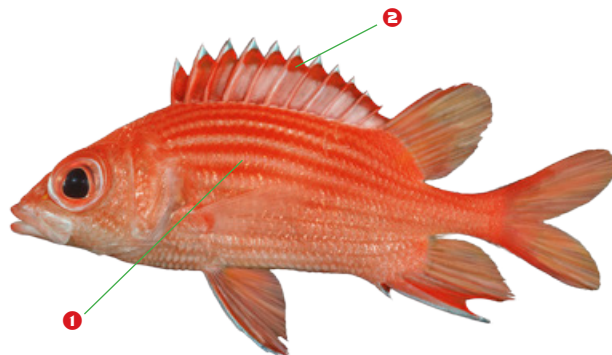
Max length: 30 cm FL

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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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HCZ *Sargocentron tiereoides*

Holocentridae / Soldierfish and Squirrelfish

Pink squirrelfish



Red with **1** silvery-pink horizontal stripes on body. **2** Spiny dorsal fin has bright red band below white tips.

Max length: 16 cm FL

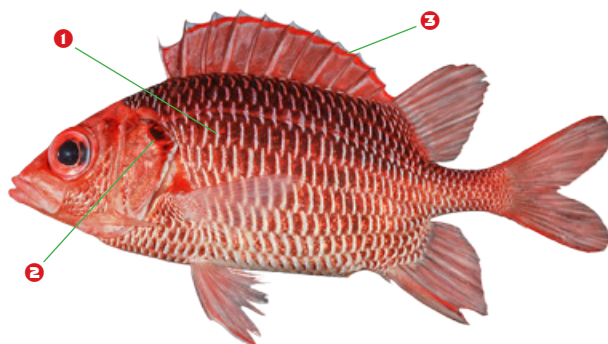
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Violet squirrelfish

Purplish-brown body with red head. **1** Scales on body have silvery-white to bluish-silver vertical streaks. **2** Dark rear margin of gill covers. **3** Bright red band just below margin of dorsal fin.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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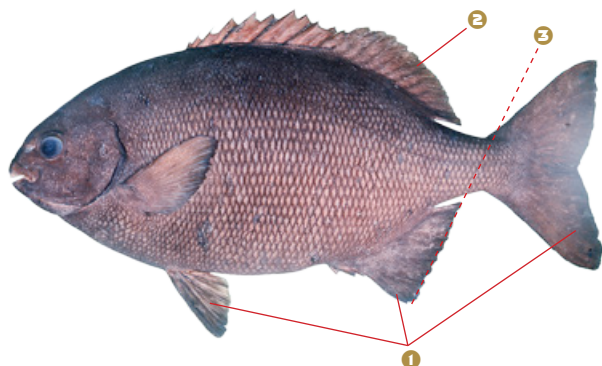
Silverspot squirrelfish, *Sargocentron caudimaculatum*, Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Photo: Bernard Dupont, Flickr

KYB *Kyphosus bigibbus*

Kyphosidae / Sea chubs

Brown chub, grey sea chub, grey drummer



Silvery-grey with brown to bronze stripes. **1** Fins dark grey.

2 Second dorsal fin not elevated, and **3** rear margin of anal fin aligns forward of upper lobe of caudal fin.

Max length: 70 cm FL

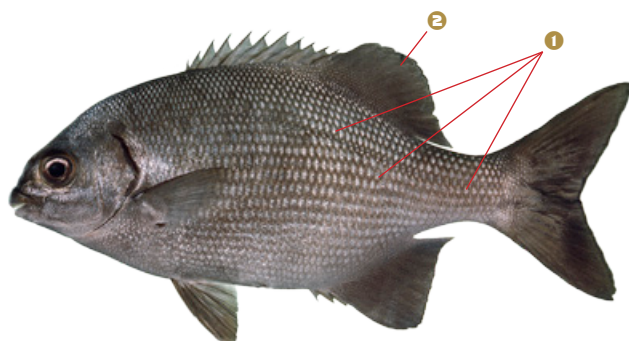
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Similar to *Kyphosus vaigiensis* but rear margin of anal fin aligns forward of upper lobe of caudal fin.

KYC *Kyphosus cinerascens*

Kyphosidae / Sea chubs

Blue sea chub, snubnose chub, topsail drummer



Silvery-grey with **1** narrow brown to bronze stripes. **2** Soft portion of dorsal fin higher than longest dorsal spine.

Max length: 45 cm FL

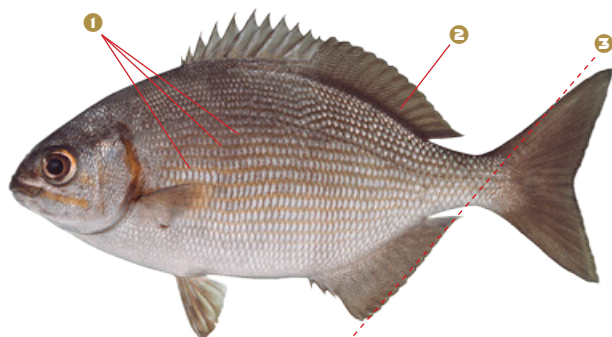
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Similar to *Kyphosus vaigiensis* but with much higher soft dorsal fin.

KYV *Kyphosus vaigiensis*

Kyphosidae / Sea chubs

Brassy chub, lowfin drummer



Silvery-grey with **1** narrow brown to bronze stripes. **2** Soft portion of dorsal fin not elevated. **3** Rear margin of anal fin aligns with outer margin of upper lobe of caudal fin.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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Similar to *Kyphosus cinerascens* but with lower soft dorsal fin.

Orange to orangish-red with **1** numerous horizontal pale blue lines over head, extending as dashed lines along body to caudal fin. Adults usually have **2** large black blotch towards rear of body, extending towards lower lobe of caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

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Yellowish-white body with purplish-brown head and **1** wide black band on forebody. **2** Black spot at base of pectoral fins.

Max length: 20 cm FL

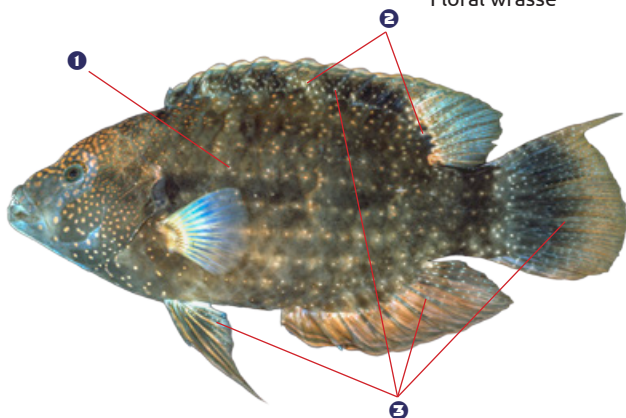
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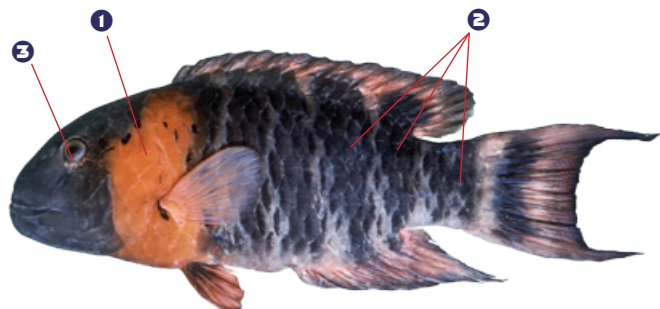
Variable in colour but generally reddish-brown to greenish-grey, often with **1** rows of pink or white dots on sides and **2** white blotches on back extending to base of dorsal fin. **3** Pelvic, anal, dorsal and caudal fins with numerous white dots. Older individuals have rounded caudal fin with extended upper and lower lobes.

Max length: 36 cm TL

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Redbreasted wrasse

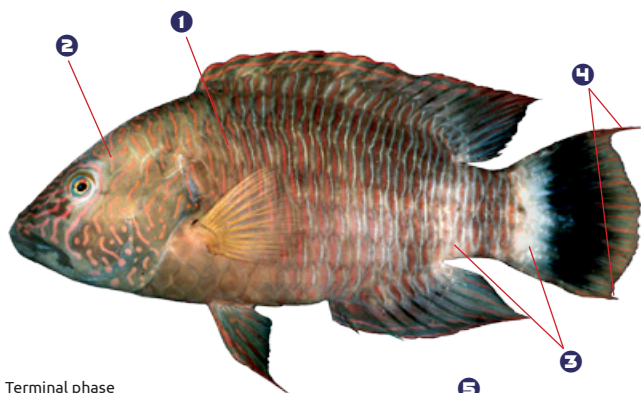


- 1** Orangish-red to reddish-brown towards posterior of head and forebody. **2** Alternating black and white vertical bars on sides of body extending onto fins. **3** Orange lines radiating outward from eyes.

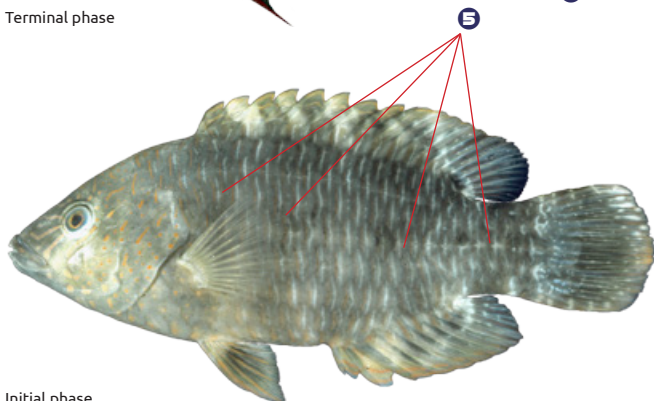
Max length: 40 cm TL

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TV	VU	WF	WS		

Tripletail wrasse



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase greenish-brown with **1** vertical red edging on each body scale and **2** small red spots and irregular lines on head. **3** Two pale vertical bars on base of caudal fin. Older individuals have **4** rounded caudal fin with extended upper and lower lobes. Initial phase with greenish-brown head and whitish-green body with **5** four wide vertical brown bars on sides.

Max length: 45 cm TL

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Terminal phase green with blue head. **1** Wavy, maze-like markings on head and breast.

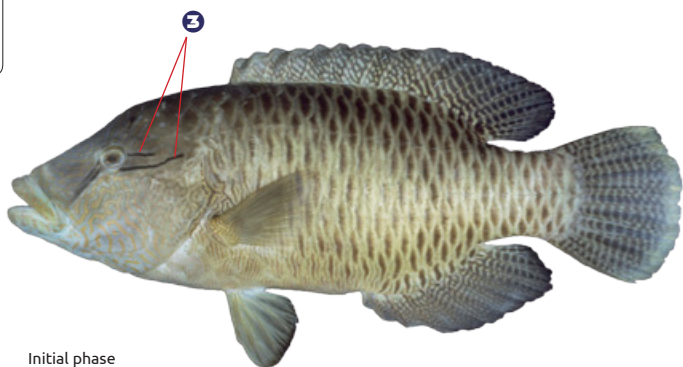
2 Pronounced hump above eyes. Initial phase olive to bluish-green or greenish-grey with dark vertical streaks on body and **3** two dark lines posteriorly from eye.

Max length: 170 cm TL

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Terminal phase

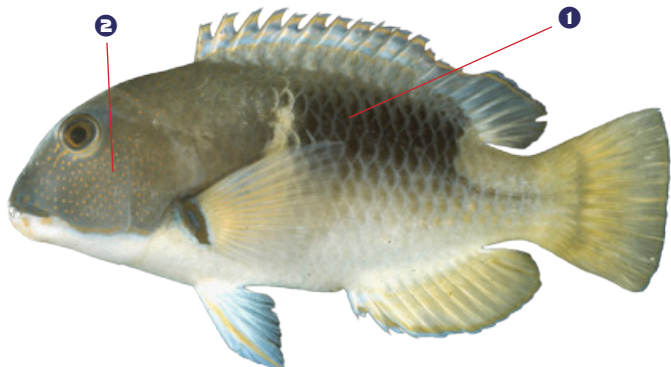


Initial phase

Greenish-grey head and upper body with white to pale blue lower body. **1** Rectangular black marking on upper sides of body and **2** orange dots on head.

Max length: 50 cm TL

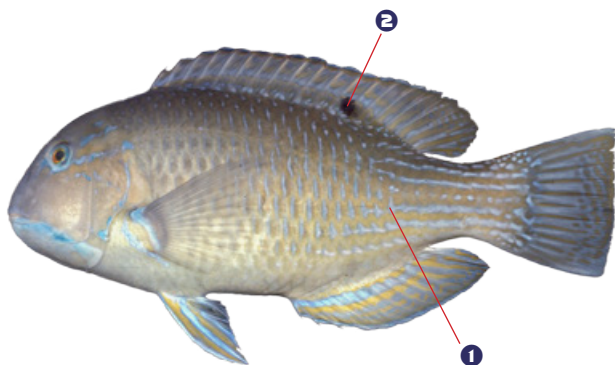
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ODJ *Choerodon schoenleinii*

Labridae / Wrasses

Blackspot tuskfish



Terminal phase (shown) greenish-grey on upper body to yellow on lower body, with **1** blue spots becoming streaks on body near caudal fin. **2** Small black spot at base of mid-dorsal fin. Initial phase with golden-yellow sides.

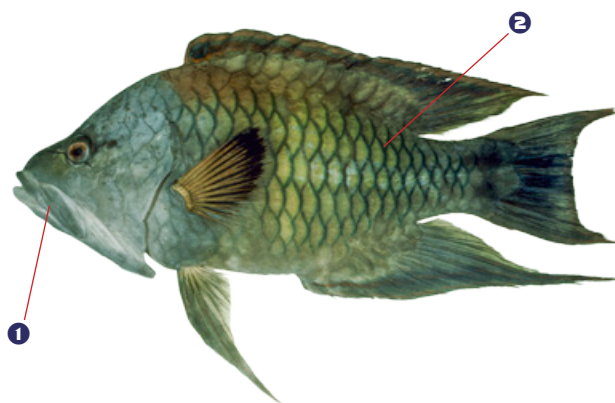
Max length: 90 cm TL

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EBI *Epibulus insidiator*

Labridae / Wrasses

Sling-jaw wrasse



1 Distinctive protractible jaw that extends half the length of the body. Terminal phase with white head and dark body. Initial phase (shown) light yellow to dark brown with **2** black outline around scales or with bright yellow head, body and fins.

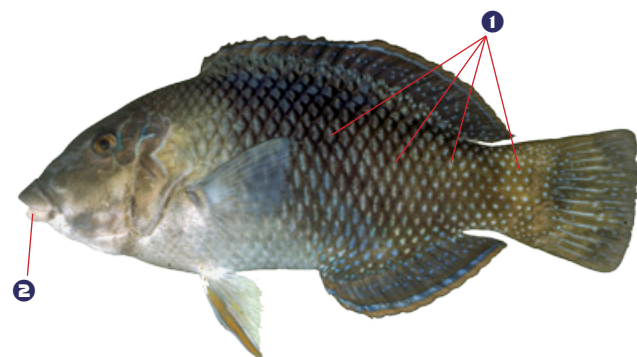
Max length: 35 cm FL

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IBW *Hemigymnus melapterus*

Labridae / Wrasses

Blackeye thicklip, thicklip wrasse



Terminal phase (shown) with whitish-grey head and forebody, black rear body with **1** light streaks or spots on most scales. **2** Large lips. Initial phase similar in colouration but with yellow caudal fin.

Max length: 60 cm TL

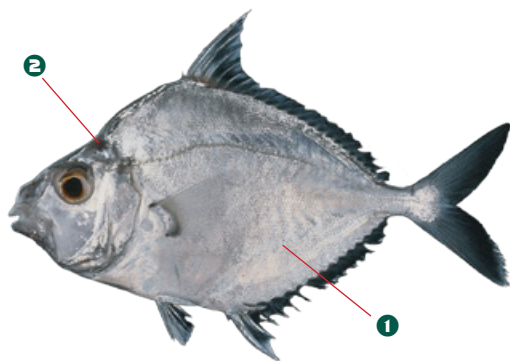
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Common ponyfish

Silvery, often with ① faint vertical bars on back, sometimes with a ② dark blotch on forehead.

Max length: 25 cm FL

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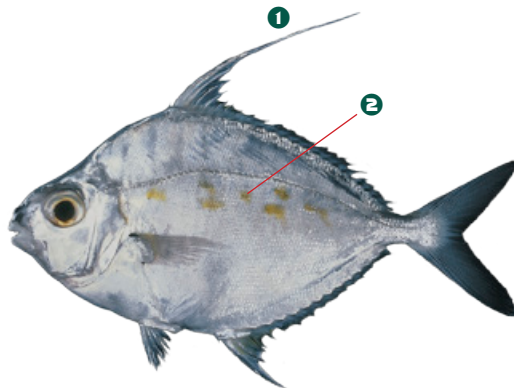
Similar to *Leiognathus fasciatus* but lacks extended second dorsal spine.

Striped ponyfish

Silvery with ① extended second dorsal spine. Often with ② 1–2 rows of yellowish-orange blotches on sides.

Max length: 20 cm FL

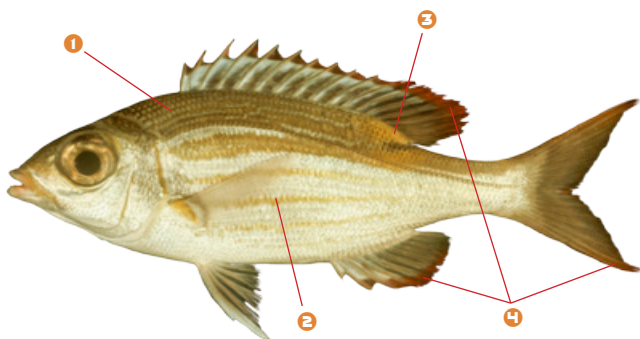
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GXR *Gnathodentex aureolineatus*

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Striped large-eye bream



Silvery-grey to reddish-brown with **1** dark scale rows on back above lateral line and **2** 4–5 brownish-gold stripes underneath. **3** Large yellow spot at rear base of dorsal fin. **4** Margins of soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins red.

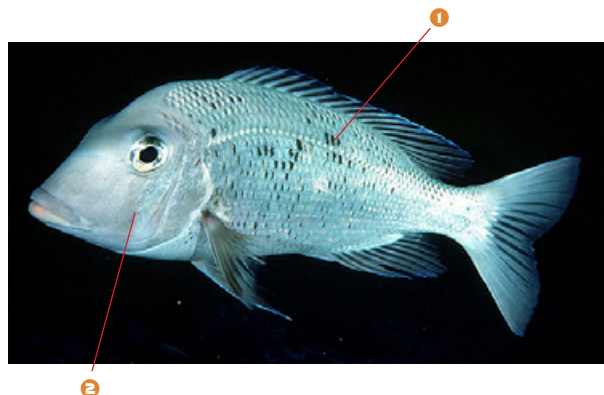
Max length: 28 cm FL

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TV	VU	WF	WS		

GMQ *Gymnocranius euanus*

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Japanese large-eye bream



Silvery-grey with **1** scattered dark spots on body. Often with **2** dark band on cheeks below eyes.

Max length: 42 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

GMW *Gymnocranius grandoculis*

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Blue-lined large-eye bream



Adults (shown) silvery-grey and generally unmarked except for **1** wavy blue lines on snout and cheeks. Juveniles have faint bars on sides and through eyes.

Max length: 60 cm FL

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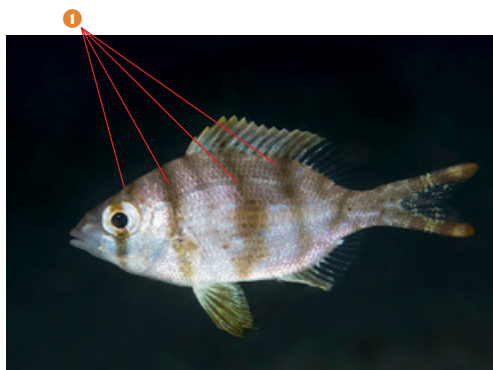
Grey large-eye bream

Silvery-grey with ❶ several irregular dark vertical bars on head and body.

Max length: 35 cm FL

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TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Jim Greenfield, Fishbase



Blue-spotted large-eye bream

Silvery-grey with ❶ dark scale centres on back, paler on lower body. ❷ Dark bar through eyes (faint in this image). ❸ Pointed caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 42 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

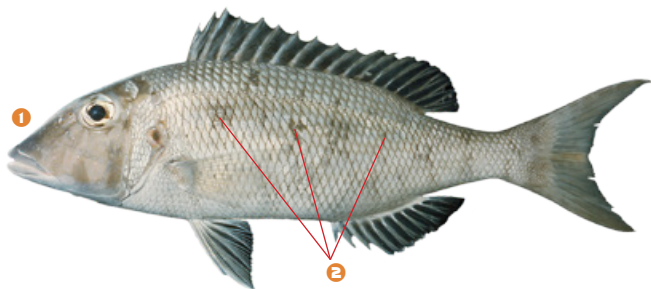


Ambon emperor

Light to mottled greenish-brown with silvery tints. ❶ Snout from lips to eyes slightly convex (most *Lethrinus* species have a slightly concave snout). Often with ❷ small dark spots covering several scales.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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Pacific yellowtail emperor

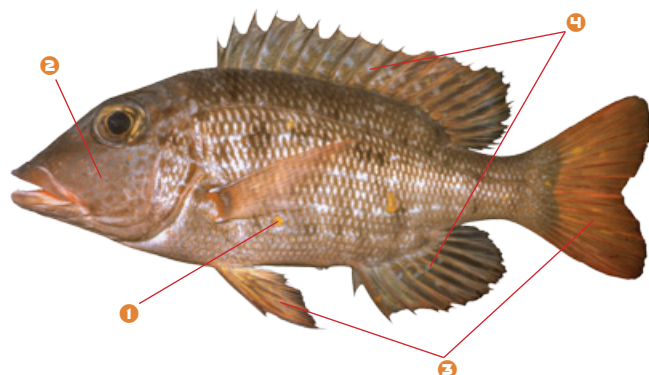


Silvery or olive-brown with **1** yellow caudal fin and base that may extend as a band to pectoral fins. **2** Yellow shading above eyes. Larger individuals have distinctive steep forehead.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Orange-spotted emperor, yellowfin emperor

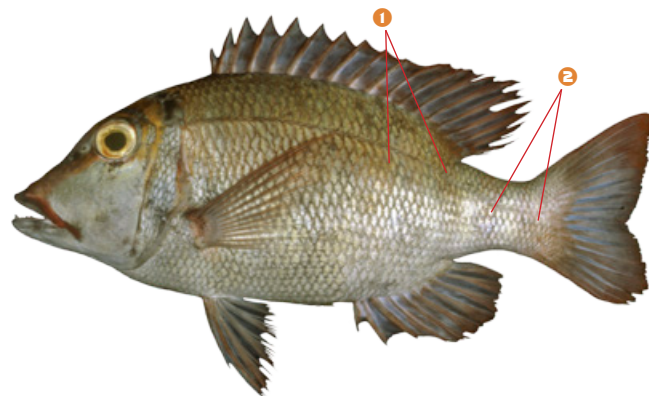


Adults reddish-brown to greyish-brown often with **1** gold spots scattered over body and **2** yellowish-orange spots on head. **3** Fins vary from yellow to orange or red. **4** Blue spots on dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Longfin emperor



Red to yellowish-brown body with red fins. Often with **1** faint vertical bars on body and **2** two more prominent bars at base of caudal fin (faint in this image).

Max length: 50 cm FL

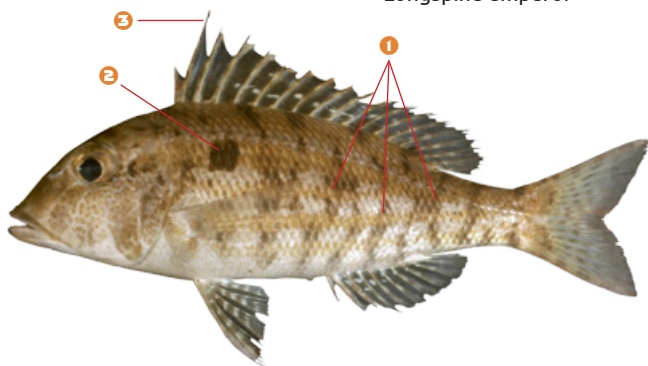
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Longspine emperor

Silvery-brown body with **1** brown vertical bars and a light brown head. **2** Squarish blotch above pectoral fins. **3** Second spine of dorsal fin elongated, forming a fine filament.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



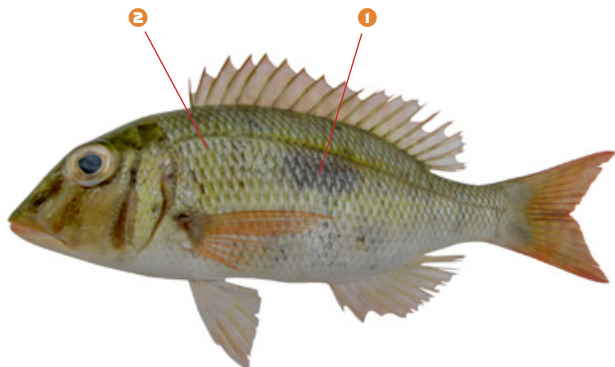
Thumbprint emperor, blackspot emperor

Pale grey to greenish-grey with large, **1** horizontally elongated dark blotch on sides. **2** Margins of scales brown.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



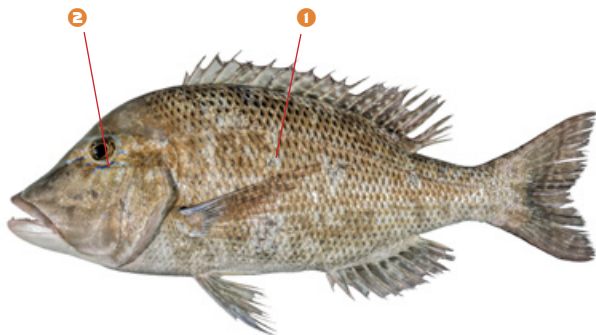
Grass emperor

Tan to yellow or brown body with **1** scattered irregular blotches. Head brown or yellow with blue dots on cheeks and **2** short blue stripes radiating in front and behind eyes.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



LTS

Lethrinus lentjan

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Pink ear emperor



Silvery-grey with **1** bright red streak on rear margin of gill covers. Upper base of pectoral fins often have a red spot.

Max length: 50 cm FL

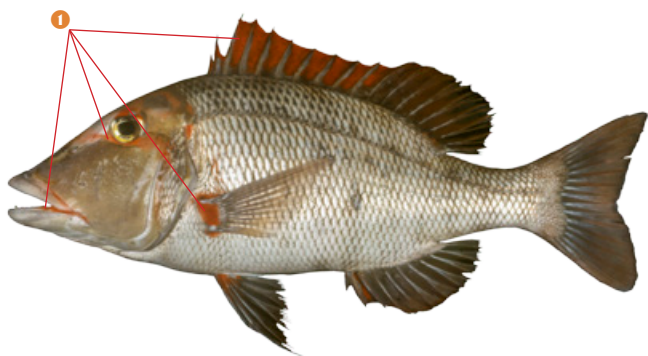
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

LHI

Lethrinus miniatus

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Trumpet emperor, red throat emperor



Grey body with reddish-brown head. **1** Orange to bright red colouration on spiny dorsal fin, base of pectoral fins, around eyes and inside mouth.

Max length: 80 cm FL

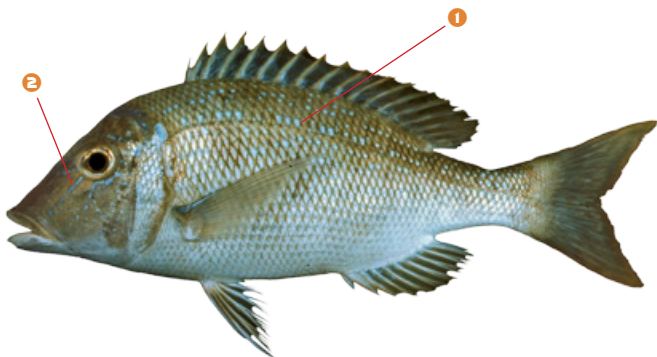
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

LHN

Lethrinus nebulosus

Lethrinidae / Emperors

Spangled emperor



Greenish-grey upper body to silvery-grey lower body. **1** Scales have both a black and a pale blue or white spot giving a 'spangled' appearance. **2** Blue streaks on cheeks radiating from eyes.

Max length: 80 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

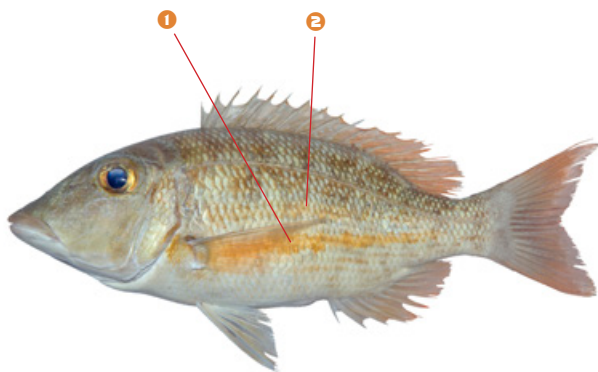
Orange-striped emperor

Pale grey to mottled tan to olive or brown upper body, lighter on lower body. **1** Distinctive single yellowish-orange horizontal stripe along lower half of body with **2** faint, thinner yellowish-orange stripes above and below.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Biodiversity Institute of Onatrio



Longface emperor

Distinctive elongated body and **1** long pointed snout. Grey to olive-grey, often with **2** wavy lines on snout.

Max length: 95 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

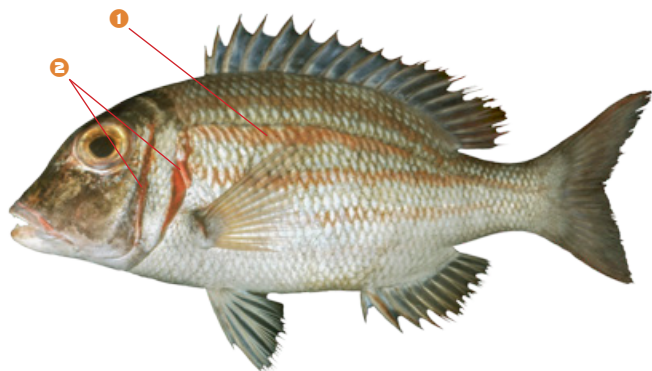


Ornate emperor

Silvery with **1** broad yellowish-orange stripes on sides. **2** Red margin on cheeks and gill covers.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Spotcheek emperor

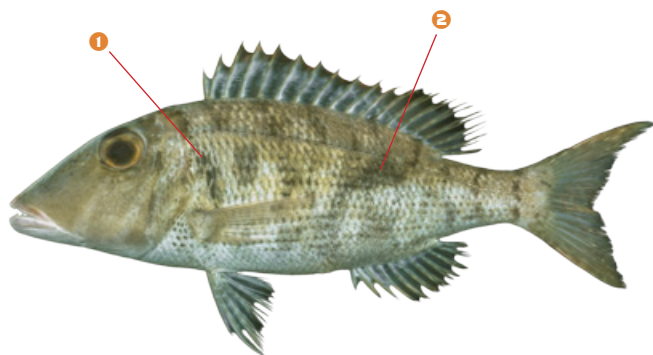


Silver to brown with ❶ dark blotches on body. ❷ Bright red spot on upper gill covers.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Black blotch emperor

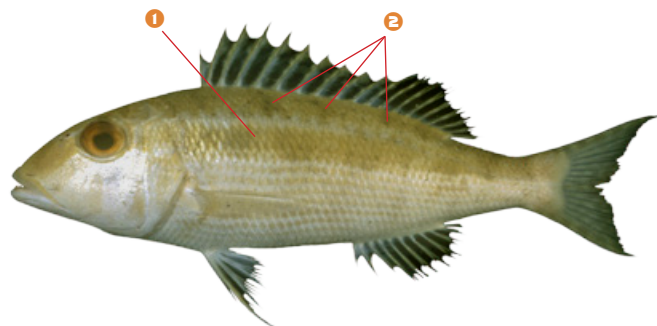


Brown to olive-grey body often with a yellow to yellowish-brown head. ❶ Short, diagonal dark band behind gill covers and ❷ dark patch on posterior of body.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Slender emperor



Small, elongated body. ❶ Greenish- to yellowish-brown upper body to near-white lower body. ❷ Scales on upper body have a light brownish-grey spot, resulting in a lined appearance.

Max length: 20 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Elongated silvery-grey to olive body, often with a mottled appearance. **1** Yellow upper lip and **2** bright orange-red spot at base of pectoral fins.

Max length: 70 cm FL

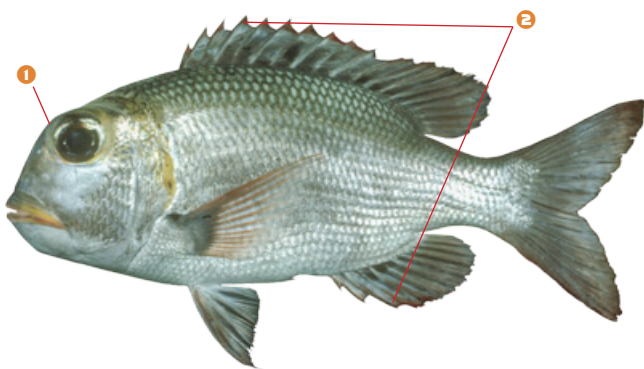
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Adults (shown) grey to silver or brown, with **1** steep sloping forehead and large eyes. **2** Red tips on dorsal fins and reddish-brown pectoral fins with dark base. Juveniles and small adults have black saddles on back.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



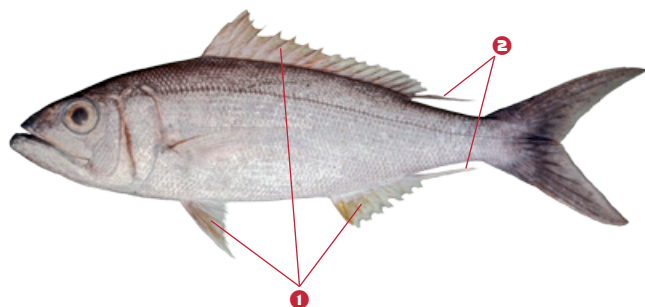
Adults (shown) grey to reddish-brown upper body and grey lower body, with **1** three narrow white vertical bars on body and one on head behind eyes. **2** Black spot at base of pectoral fins. **3** Caudal fin yellow anteriorly to red posteriorly. Juveniles and small adults similar but with more pronounced narrow white vertical bars.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Small toothed jobfish

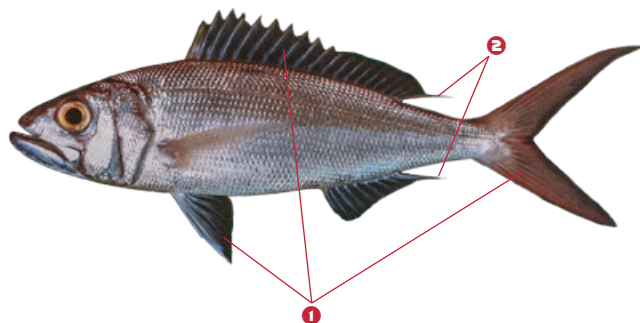


Silvery-purple upper body shading to silvery bluish-grey on lower body. **1** Fins yellow to yellowish-brown. **2** Last dorsal and anal fin rays extend to form short filaments.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Rusty jobfish



Silvery-lavender brown upper body shading to silver on lower body.

1 Fins reddish-brown. **2** Last dorsal and anal fin rays extend to form short filaments.

Max length: 80 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Green jobfish



Greenish-grey with tints of blue to lavender. **1** Last dorsal and anal fin rays extend to form short filaments.

Max length: 100 cm FL

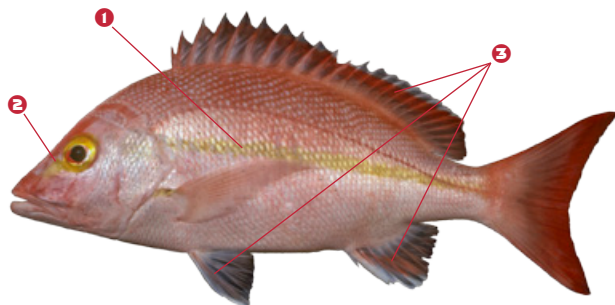
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellow-banded snapper, hussar

Rosy pink upper body and lighter belly. **1** Yellow to greenish-yellow horizontal stripe along body from gill covers to caudal fin, and **2** greenish-yellow shading around eyes. **3** Pink bands on dorsal, pelvic and anal fins.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Mangrove red snapper, mangrove jack

Reddish-bronze to olive-brown upper body to silvery-pink lower body. **1** Fins dark red. **2** Large canine teeth in jaws. Juveniles (not shown) have pale vertical bars on body.

Max length: 120 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Two-spot red snapper, twinspot snapper, red bass

Large adults (shown) red to reddish-grey. Juveniles and small adults have two silvery-white spots on back. **1** Deep elongated groove on snout between eyes and nostrils. **2** Fins dark red to black at margins.

Max length: 80 cm FL

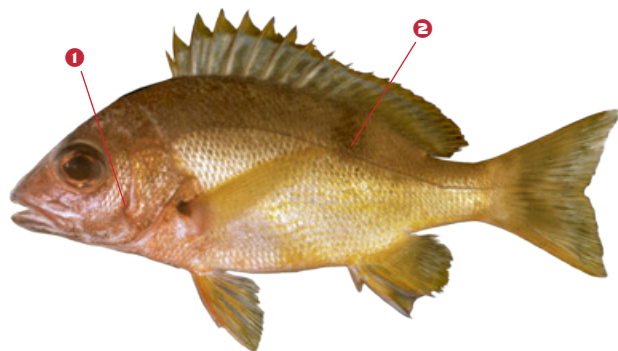
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



SNA *Lutjanus bouton*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Moluccan snapper



Pink or reddish-brown, often with yellowish-orange lower body.

1 Deep notch in gill covers. Generally without distinctive markings but occasionally with 10–12 yellow horizontal stripes on sides.

2 Black spot on sides below anterior part of soft dorsal fin.

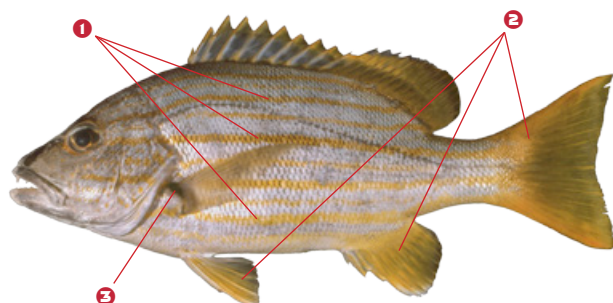
Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SNA *Lutjanus carponotatus*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Spanish flag, stripey



Grey or bluish-grey undercolour with **1** 5–9 yellow or yellowish-brown horizontal stripes on sides.

2 Bright yellow fins. **3** Prominent black spot at base of pectoral fins.

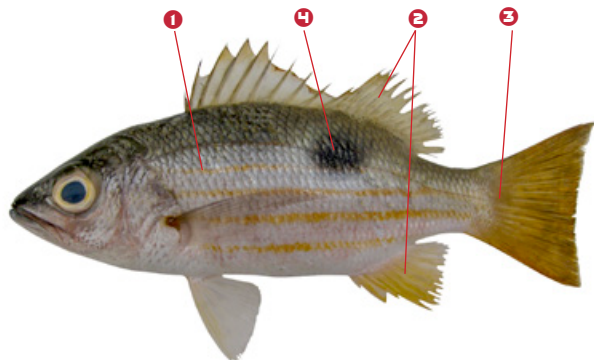
Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

LWE *Lutjanus ehrenbergii*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Blackspot snapper



Silvery to silvery-white undercolour with **1** five horizontal yellow stripes of unequal width on body below lateral line. **2** Yellow fins and **3** yellow patch on base of caudal fin. **4** Black spot on sides mostly below lateral line.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Lutjanus fulviflamma* but differentiated by presence of five narrow horizontal yellow stripes of unequal width below lateral line (stripes in *L. fulviflamma* are of equal width).

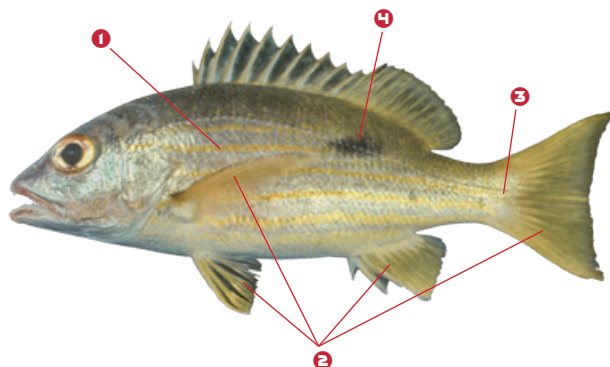
Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Dory snapper

Silvery to silvery-white undercolour with **1** 5–6 yellow stripes of equal width on body below lateral line. **2** Yellow fins and **3** yellow patch on base of caudal fin. **4** Black spot on sides mostly below lateral line.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



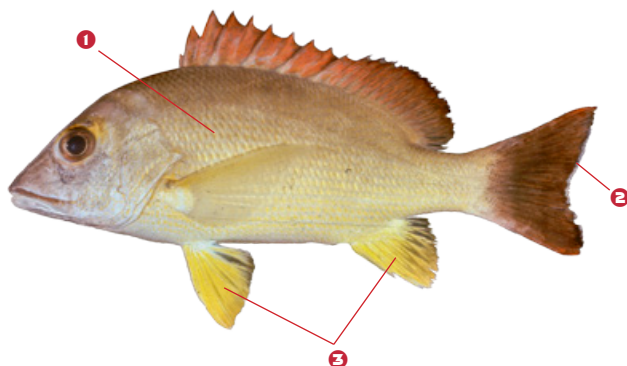
Blacktail snapper

Brown to yellowish-grey upper body and pale yellow lower body.

1 Yellow to brown scale margins that may form thin horizontal stripes on sides of body. **2** Reddish-black caudal fin with a narrow white posterior margin. **3** Yellow pectoral, pelvic and anal fins.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

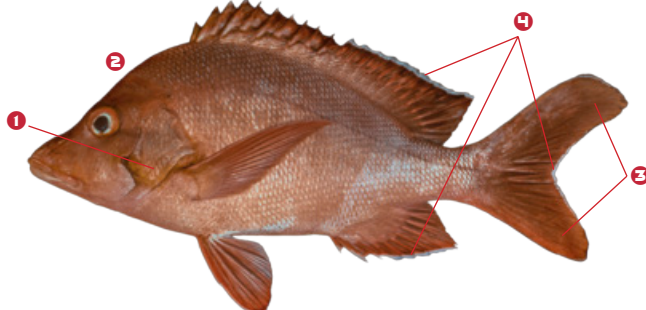


Humpback red snapper, paddletail

Reddish-grey to red body. Older individuals with **1** yellow on gill covers, around base of pectoral fins, eyes and snout. **2** Distinctive arching forehead and **3** maroon caudal fin with rounded lobes. **4** White margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 45 cm FL

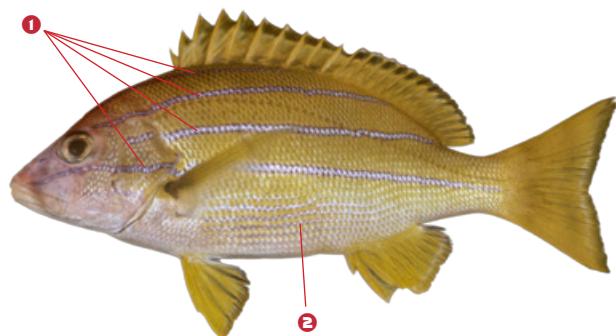
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



LVK *Lutjanus kasmira*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Common bluestripe snapper



Similar to *Lutjanus quinquelineatus* but with four blue horizontal stripes on body instead of five.

Yellow upper body becoming paler towards belly, with **1** four prominent neon blue horizontal stripes on upper body, and **2** faint grey horizontal lines on belly.

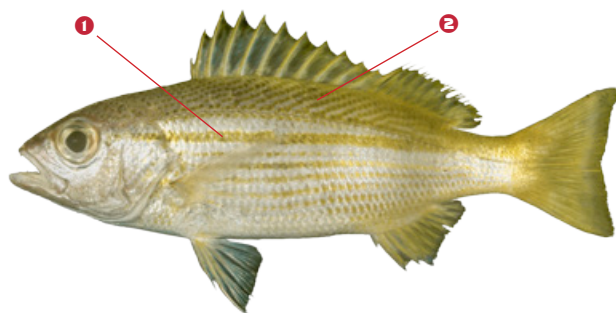
Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

LJL *Lutjanus lutjanus*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Bigeye snapper



Similar to *Lutjanus vitta* but with yellow stripe and lines instead of brown, and smaller space between eyes and upper jaw.

Silvery-grey upper body becoming silver on belly, with **1** dominant, horizontal yellow stripe from eyes to caudal fin. **2** Narrower diagonal yellow lines above lateral line and narrow horizontal yellow lines below lateral line.

Max length: 33 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

MAL *Lutjanus malabaricus*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Malabar blood snapper, saddletail snapper, large-mouthed nannygai



Adults (shown) pinkish-red and generally unmarked. Juveniles red with black band from dorsal fin to lips through eyes and black saddle surrounded by white on upper base of caudal fin.

Max length: 100 cm FL

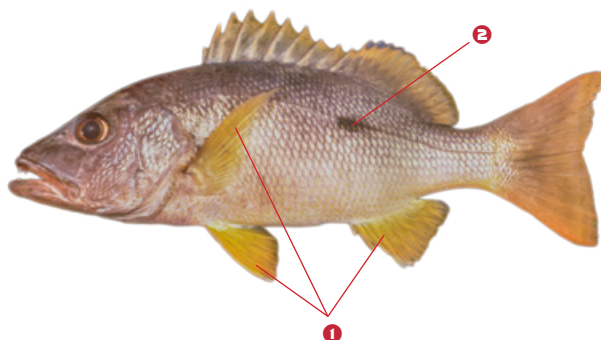
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

One-spot snapper

Silvery-yellow to yellowish-brown, with **1** yellow fins and **2** a black spot on lateral line below anterior part of soft dorsal fin (spot may be faint or absent on adults).

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

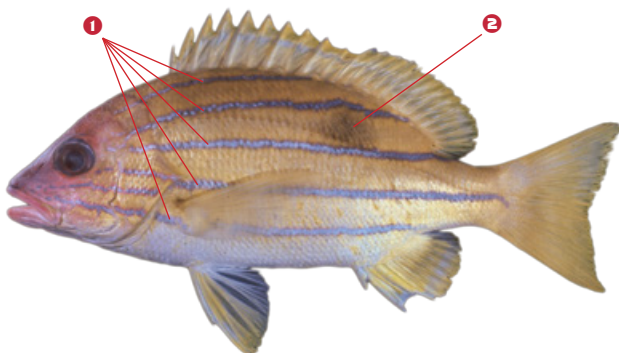


Five-lined snapper

Yellow upper body and paler belly with **1** five prominent, neon blue, horizontal stripes on body. **2** Occasionally with faint black spot or blotch on rear back.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



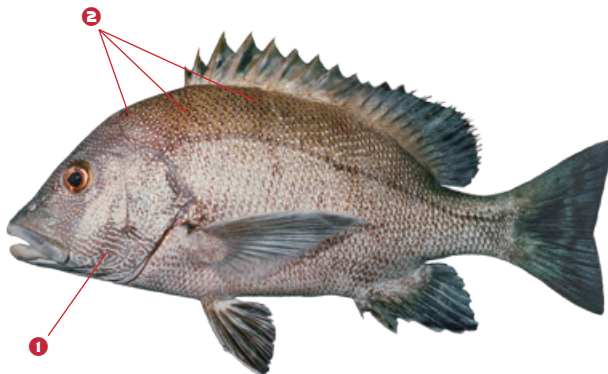
Similar to *Lutjanus kasmira* but with five blue horizontal stripes on body instead of four.

Blubberlip snapper

Greyish-green with **1** thin wavy blue lines over face and gill covers. Scales on body of adults have **2** 1–3 very small blue dots, giving a speckled appearance.

Max length: 80 cm FL

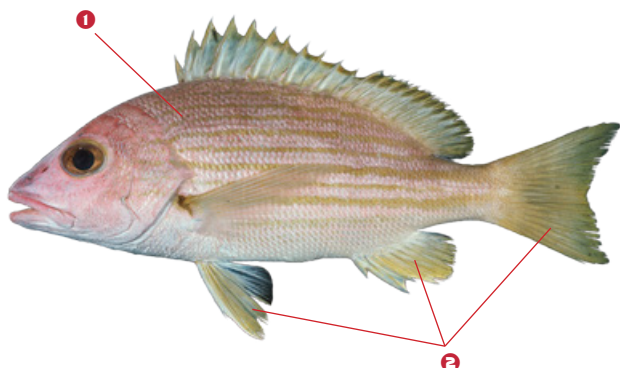
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



LUF *Lutjanus rufolineatus*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Yellow-lined snapper



Pinkish-red undercolour with
1 narrow, horizontal yellow
 stripes on sides. **2** Yellow fins.

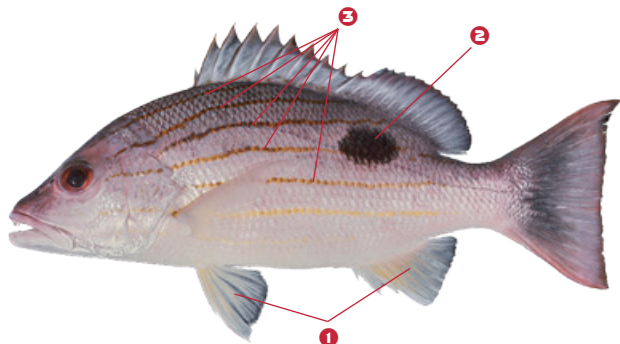
Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SNU *Lutjanus russellii*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Russell's snapper, Moses perch



Adults silvery-white with pink tint.
 Grey dorsal and caudal fins, and **1**
 yellow pelvic and anal fins. Small
 black spot at upper base of pecto-
 ral fins. Often with **2** a black spot
 on rear back. Juveniles (shown)
 have **3** five horizontal brown
 stripes on head and body.

Max length: 50 cm FL

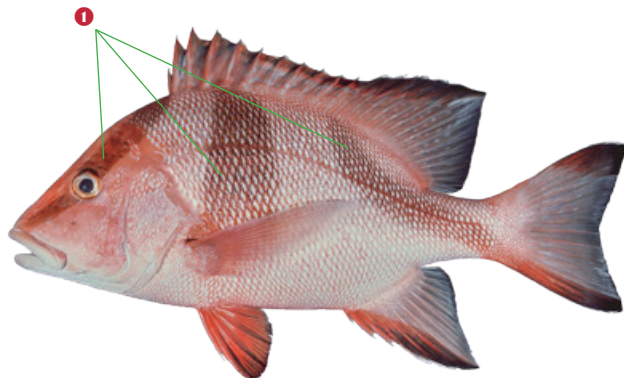
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Lutjanus monostigma* but with much darker caudal fin base.

LUB *Lutjanus sebae*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Emperor red snapper, red emperor



Adults pinkish-red, occasionally
 with yellow scribbled lines on
 head. Young adults (shown) white
 to pale red with prominent
1 darker red bands crossing body
 and head.

Max length: 110 cm FL

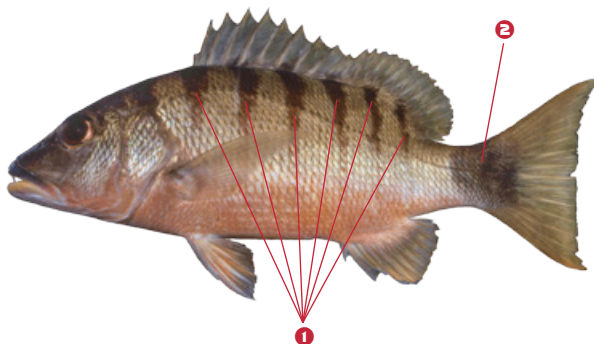
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Black-banded snapper

Olive-greenish back and lighter belly, with **1** 6–7 vertical bars over top of body. **2** Large black blotch on base of caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Timor snapper

Adults red with dark spot at base of pectoral fins. Juveniles (shown) have **1** dark band that begins at front of dorsal fin and extends to snout (and goes through eyes), and **2** white saddle on upper base of caudal fin.

Max length: 62 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

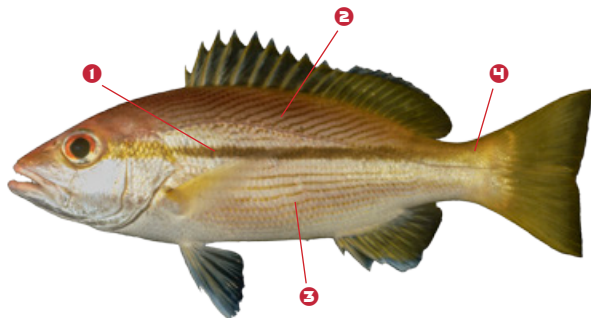


Brownstripe red snapper, brownstripe snapper

Pinkish-grey to yellowish-grey upper body, turning to silvery-white on belly, with **1** a brown stripe from eyes to caudal fin. **2** Narrower diagonal brown lines above lateral line and **3** horizontal brown lines below lateral line. **4** Large yellow blotch below soft dorsal fin and on base of caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Similar to *Lutjanus lutjanus* but with a brown stripe and lines instead of yellow, and space between eye and upper jaw is larger.

SNX *Macolor macularis*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Midnight snapper



Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Dark grey-blue to grey-brown upper body, yellow on belly, with pale line marking on scales. **1** Fine wavy blue lines and spots over face and gill covers. **2** Large eyes with bright yellow irises.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

MLN *Macolor niger*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Black and white snapper



Grey to grey-brown with a series of interlocking **1** elongated dark spots on face. **2** Large eyes with dull gold irises.

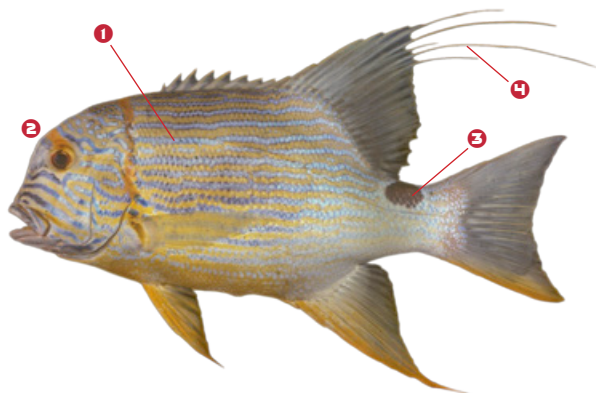
Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SJS *Symphorichthys spilurus*

Lutjanidae / Snappers

Sailfin snapper



Adults **1** yellowish-brown to olive-brown with blue horizontal stripes from head to caudal fin. **2** Distinctive steep forehead. **3** Black spot at base of caudal fin. **4** Soft dorsal fin with extended filaments.

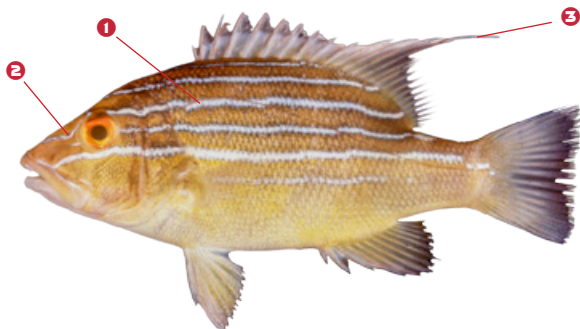
Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Large adults mottled pink and red. Small adults (shown) and juveniles usually greyish-brown with **1** numerous horizontal blue stripes. **2** Deep pit on head in front of each eye. **3** Soft dorsal fin tip may have extended white filaments.

Max length: 80 cm FL

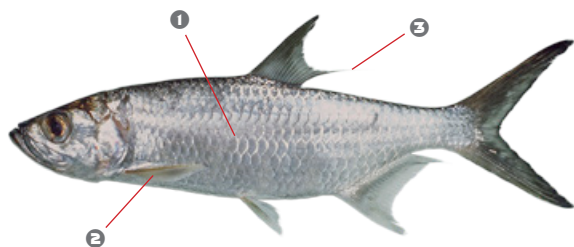
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Midnight snapper, *Macolor macularis*, Maldives.

Photo: Malcolm Browne, Flickr

Indo-Pacific tarpon



❶ Silvery with large scales, eyes and mouth. ❷ Pectoral fins low on body. ❸ Last ray of dorsal fin elongated forming trailing filament.

Max length: 140 cm FL

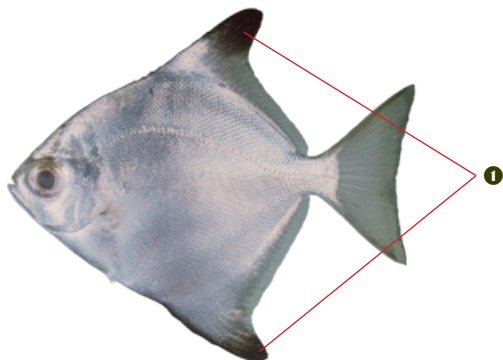
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Silver moony

Distinctive laterally compressed body and ❶ triangular dorsal and anal fins. Caudal fin, and often dorsal fin, yellow.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



A school of silver moony, *Monodactylus argenteus*.

Photo: Richard Ling, www.bbmexplorer.com

Fringelip mullet

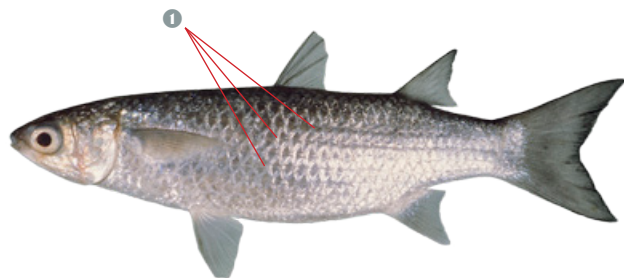


Silvery-olive-grey upper body and silver belly. ① Small black spot at base of yellowish-grey pectoral fins, and ② dusky posterior margin on caudal fin.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Largescale mullet

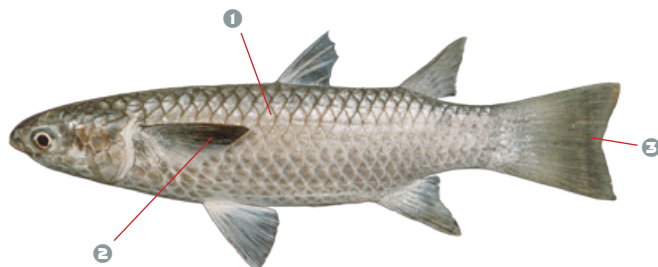


Grey to greenish-grey upper body with ① faint narrow horizontal stripes on body. Often with a narrow yellow bar at base of pectoral fins.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Squartetail mullet



Silvery-grey upper body to silvery on belly, with ① large diamond-shaped scales, predominantly ② black pectoral fins, and ③ yellowish-grey square-cut caudal fin.

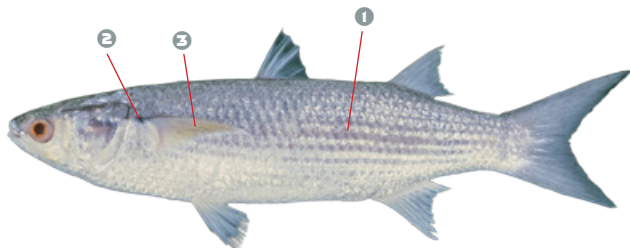
Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Silvery-grey upper body to silvery on sides and belly, with **1** narrow dark horizontal stripes. **2** Deep blue to black spot at upper base of **3** yellowish-grey pectoral fins.

Max length: 50 cm FL

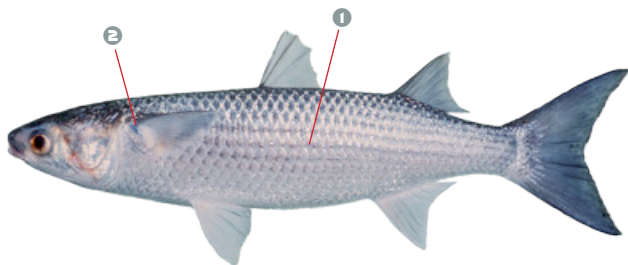
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



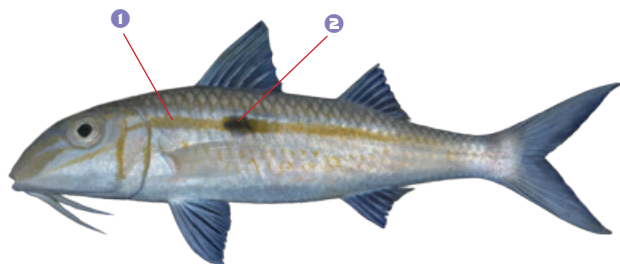
Silvery with around **1** six dark horizontal stripes on sides. Broad flattened head and thickened body, with **2** small bluish spot at base of pectoral fins.

Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Yellowstripe goatfish



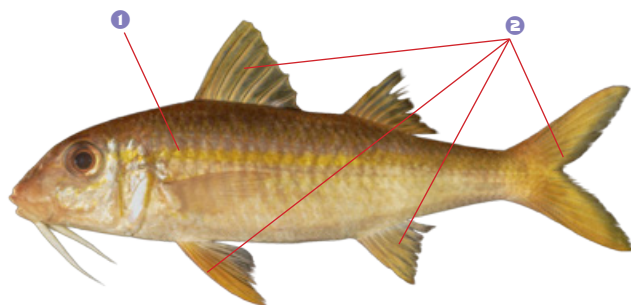
Similar to *Mulloidichthys vanicolensis* but with blackish-brown spot on yellow stripe (absent in *M. vanicolensis*).

Silvery-white with a **1** yellow horizontal stripe extending from head to base of caudal fin. **2** Blackish-brown spot in yellow stripe below first dorsal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellowfin goatfish



Similar to *Mulloidichthys flavolineatus* but lacks blackish-brown spot on yellow stripe (present in *M. flavolineatus*).

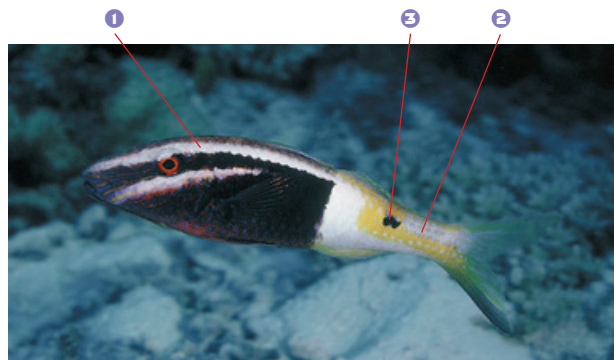
Pink to reddish-orange upper body with white to pink belly.

- 1** Yellow horizontal stripe extending from eyes to base of caudal fin.
- 2** Yellow fins.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Bicolor goatfish



Head and forebody reddish-brown with **1** two white bands, **2** rear body white and yellow with **3** dark spot below second dorsal fin.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Dash-and-dot goatfish

White to pale grey with **1** reddish-brown to black stripe extending from snout (and running through eyes) to below second dorsal fin. Often yellow or yellowish-grey on back above this stripe. **2** Large black spot at base of caudal fin.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



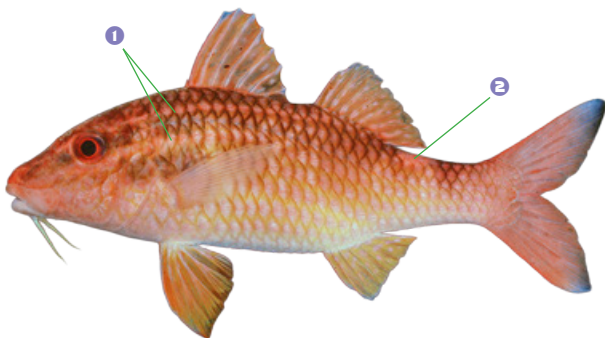
Similar to *Parupeneus macronemus* (not shown) but without black stripe along base of second dorsal fin (present in *P. macronemus*).

Whitesaddle goatfish

Yellowish-green to light red or purple with **1** 2–3 white stripes on head and forebody (faded in this image). **2** Elongated white spot on anterior portion of caudal fin base.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

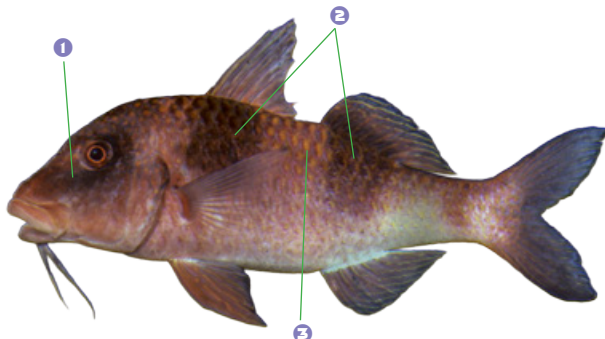


Doublebar goatfish

Grey to bluish-grey or purple, sometime reddish-brown, with a **1** black blotch around eyes and a **2** pair of black vertical bars on body, one below each dorsal fin. **3** Scales with yellow-grey margins or with a yellowish-orange spot.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Similar to *Parupeneus insularis* but occurs in the western Pacific (*P. insularis* occurs in the eastern central Pacific).

Gold-saddle goatfish

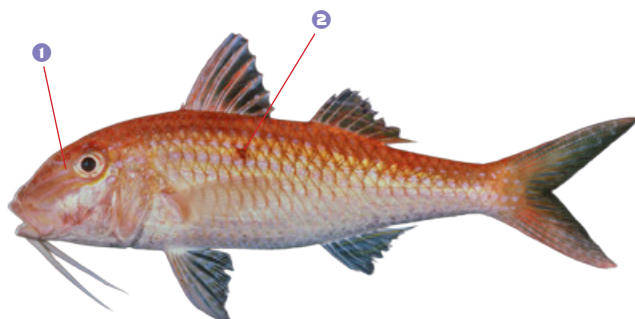


Highly variable in colour, from tan to purple to bright yellow and in-between. Often with **1** blue line markings around eyes and a **2** yellow saddle behind second dorsal fin.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Cinnabar goatfish

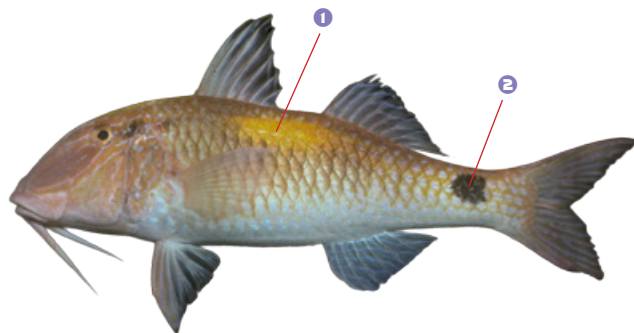


Yellowish-grey to pinkish-grey upper body fading to pinkish- or bluish-white on belly. **1** Lavender to blue stripes around eyes and on upper sides. **2** Small, reddish-brown spot on sides.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Indian goatfish



Grey or brown to bluish-white with **1** bright yellow patch on body. **2** Large black spot at base of caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

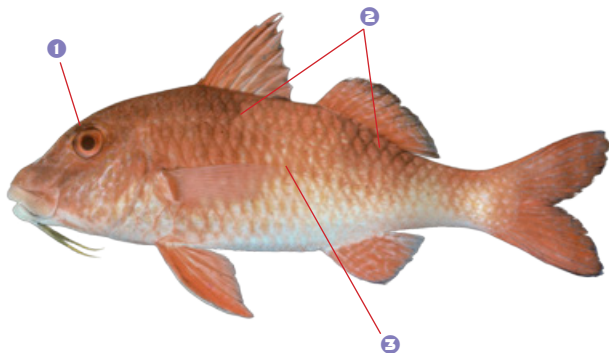
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Twosaddle goatfish

Grey to bluish-grey or purple, sometime reddish-brown, with a **1** black smudge around eyes and a **2** pair of black bars on body, one below each dorsal fin. **3** Scales with yellowish-grey margin or with a yellowish-orange spot.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



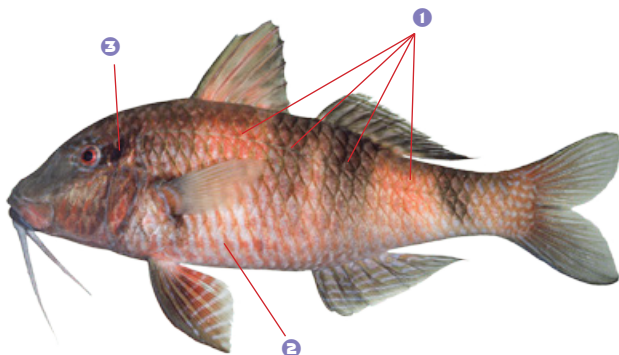
Similar to *Parupeneus crassilabris* but occurs in the eastern central Pacific (*P. crassilabris* occurs in the western Pacific).

Manybar goatfish

Light grey to pinkish-red with **1** alternating reddish-brown and **2** white vertical bars of variable width on sides (faded in this image). **3** Dark horizontal band behind eyes.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

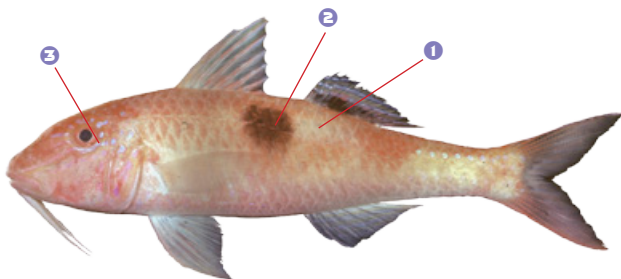


Sidespot goatfish

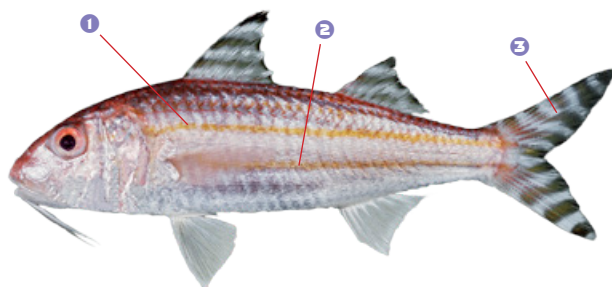
Pinkish-grey to yellowish-grey. **1** Pale pink to white spot preceded by **2** large dark spot below posterior part of first dorsal fin. **3** Short blue lines radiating from eyes except from below eyes.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Finstripe goatfish

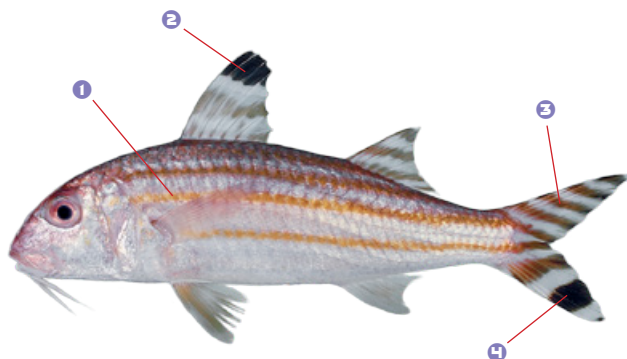


Bronze upper body to silvery-white belly, with an **1** orange horizontal stripe extending from eyes to upper base of caudal fin, and **2** a narrower yellow stripe extending from at least the pectoral fins to lower base of caudal fin. **3** Upper lobe of caudal fin has 6-7 reddish-black bars.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellowstriped goatfish



Silvery with shades of yellow to green. **1** Four yellowish-brown horizontal stripes on body. **2** First dorsal fin has broad black tip with two narrower yellowish-brown bands underneath. **3** Upper lobe of caudal fin has five dark brown bands, **4** lower lobe has three. Outer band on lower lobe is twice as wide as other bands.

Max length: 30 cm FL

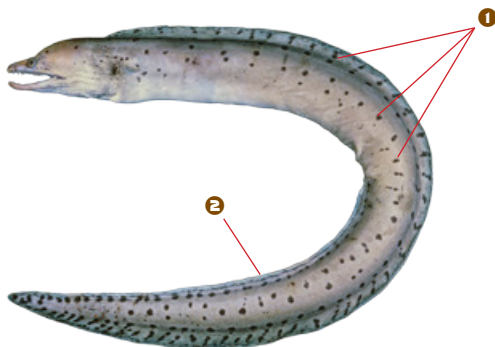
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Fimbriated moray

Pale grey-brown with highly variable patterns of well separated **1** dark brown blotches. **2** Margins of fins pale.

Max length: 80 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

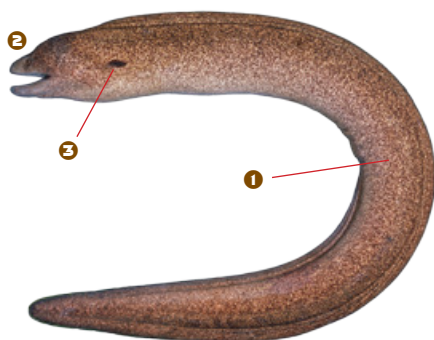


Yellow-edged moray

Pale yellow body **1** densely mottled with dark brown. **2** Snout and front of lower jaw purplish-brown. **3** Black spot on gill openings.

Max length: 150 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

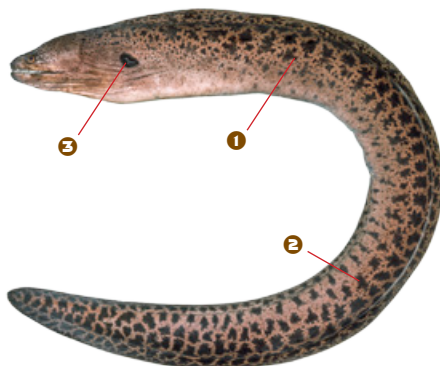


Giant moray

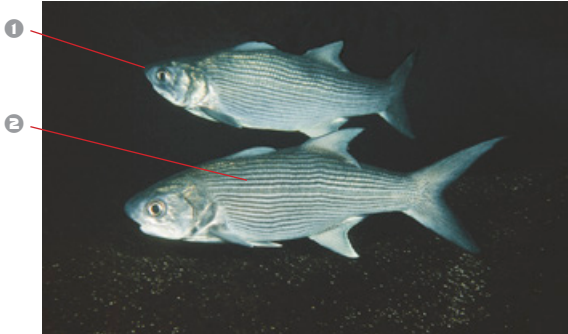
Brown with irregular **1** dark brown blotches and **2** numerous small dark brown spots on head, body and fins. **3** Black spot on gill openings.

Max length: 250 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Sixfinger threadfin, Pacific threadfin



Similar to *Polydactylus plebius* (not shown) but with six elongated rays extending from dorsal fin (*P. plebius* has five).

- 1 Silver with rounded snout and
- 2 narrow brownish-black stripes on body. Six lower rays of pectoral fins separate and elongated.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Glasseye, *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*, Taveuni, Fiji.

Photo: Pauline Bosserelle

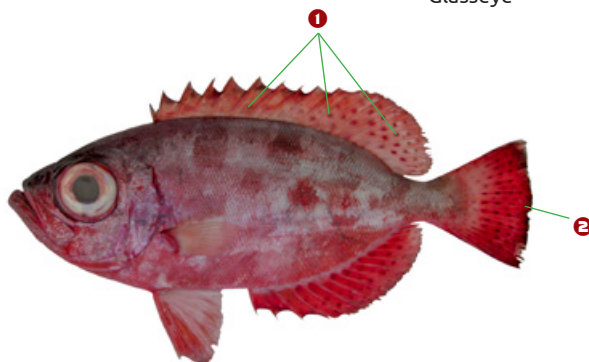
Glasseye

Variable red to silvery. ❶ Fins with faint dark dots, most evident on caudal fin. ❷ Caudal fin slightly rounded.

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



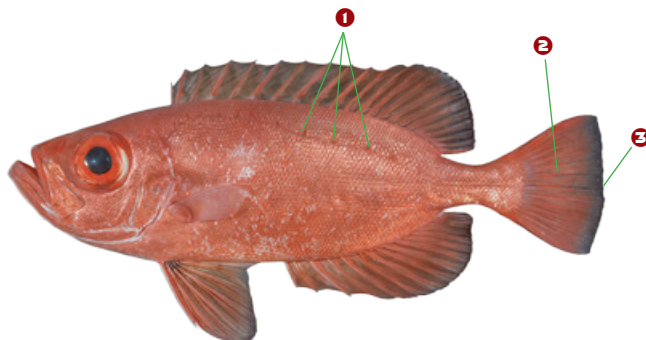
Similar to *Priacanthus blochii* but with dark spots on fins (absent in *P. blochii*) and lacks spots along lateral line (present in *P. blochii*).

Paeony bullseye, Bloch's bigeye

Red to silvery with red blotches. Usually around ❶ 15 small dark spots along lateral line. ❷ Fins usually plain without spots or blotches. ❸ Rounded caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



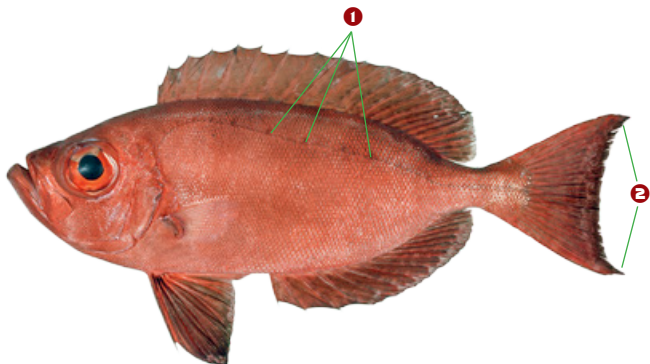
Similar to *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus* but lacking spots on fins.

Moontail bullseye, crescent-tail bigeye

Usually deep red but occasionally silvery with red vertical bars. ❶ Series of small dark dots on lateral line. ❷ Crescent-shaped caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



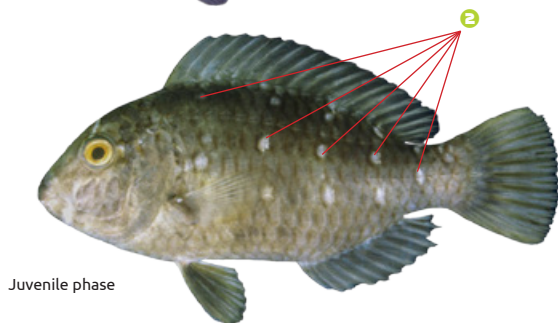
BMK *Bolbometopon muricatum*

Scaridae / Parrotfish

Green humphead parrotfish, bumphead parrotfish



Adult phase



Juvenile phase

Adults greenish-grey with
1 distinctive hump on forehead.
 Juveniles brown to green with
2 five vertical rows of small white spots.

Max length: 120 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

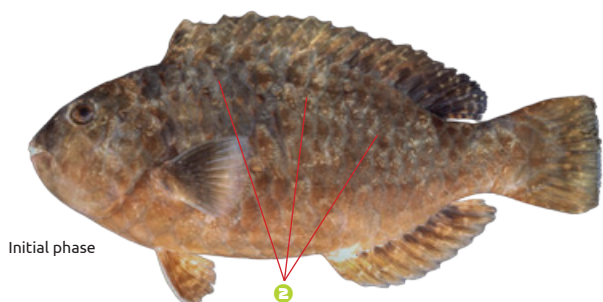
ULG *Calotomus carolinus*

Scaridae / Parrotfish

Carolines parrotfish, stareye parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase with green to brownish-red, with **1** numerous orange-pink bars radiating out from eyes. Initial phase mottled brown with **2** pale patches on back.

Max length: 50 cm TL

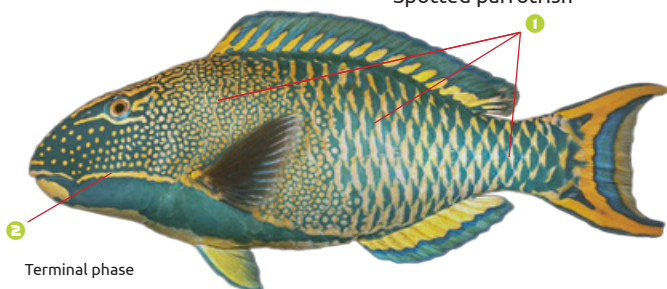
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Spotted parrotfish

Terminal phase green with **1** numerous small orange-pink spots and lines on head and forebody, and short orange-pink bars on scales towards rear half of body. **2** Orange-pink horizontal stripe extending from upper lip to anal fin, with no spots below this line. Initial phase with purplish- to reddish-brown head with **3** golden irises in eyes, **4** pale yellow band on back, and **5** greenish-grey to bluish-grey scale markings on sides and belly.

Max length: 80 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



Initial phase

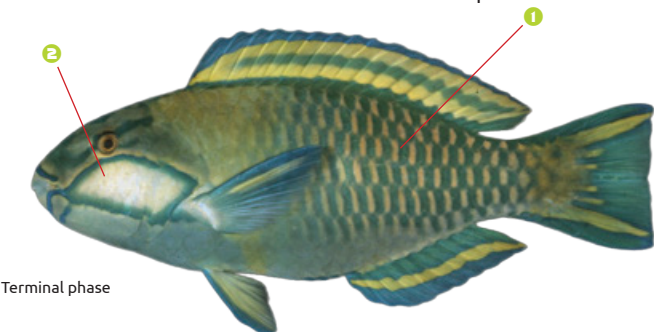
This species was previously referred to as *Cetoscarus bicolor* across its distribution, however recent genetic analysis has split this into two distinct species: *C. bicolor* in the Red Sea and *C. ocellatus* in the Indo-Pacific region.

Bleeker's parrotfish

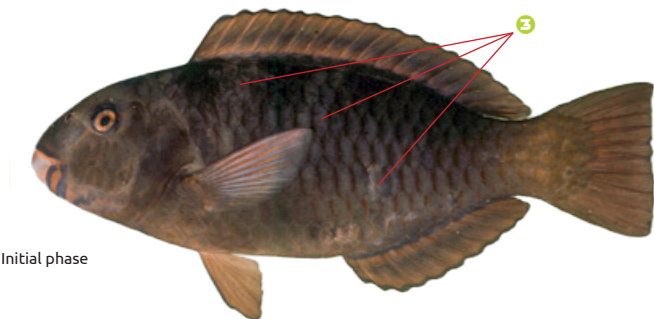
Terminal phase green with **1** pink to lavender scales and **2** large, green-edged yellow patch on cheeks. Initial phase dark brown, usually with **3** 3–4 pale vertical bars on back extending to sides (faint in this image).

Max length: 49 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

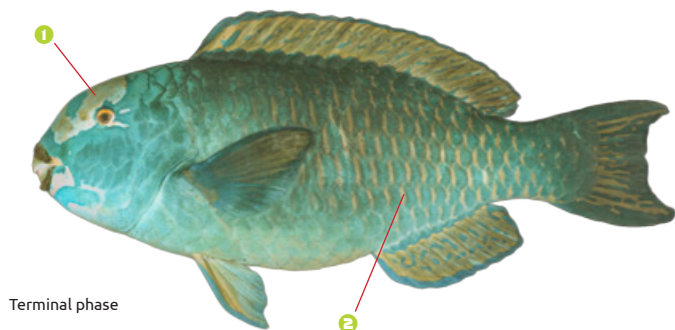


Terminal phase

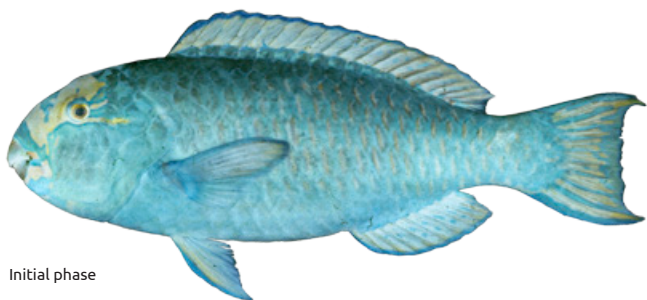


Initial phase

Pacific slopehead parrotfish, tan-faced parrotfish



Terminal phase



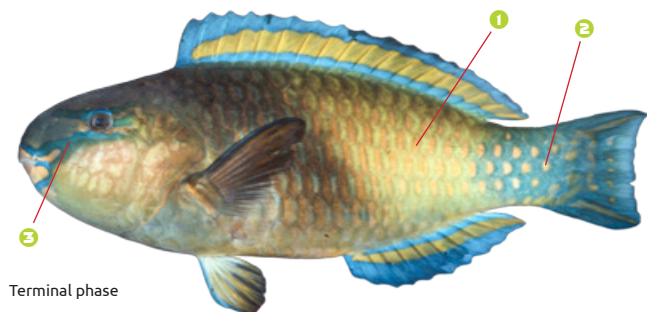
Initial phase

Terminal phase and initial phase green with ① tan to light pink markings on upper head and ② light pink vertical bar on each scale. Terminal phase with steep forehead profile and elongate caudal fin lobes.

Max length: 50 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Palecheek parrotfish, Japanese parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase light greenish-yellow with a broad purple band from forehead to belly and a vertical ① pink bar on each scale, ② shortening to spots near caudal fin. ③ Three blue-green bands extending behind eyes, and two in front of eyes. Initial phase brown with ④ reddish-orange caudal fin with ⑤ a narrow black margin.

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Steephead parrotfish

Terminal phase and initial phase green to bluish-green with ❶ distinctive steep bulbous forehead. Dark bluish-purple head above ❷ irregular green band on cheeks. Red variation with yellow fins sometimes observed. Juveniles dark brown to black with ❸ 3–4 pale yellow stripes on head and body.

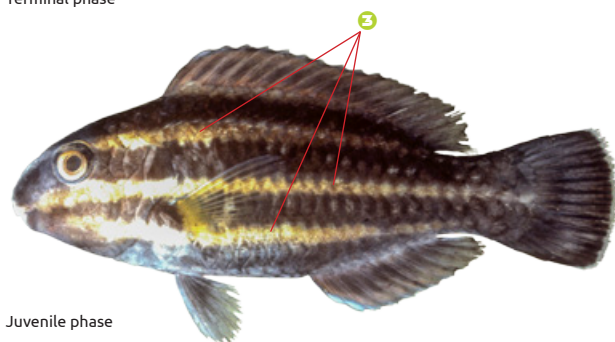
Max length: 70 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Terminal phase photo: Brad Moore, SPC



Terminal phase



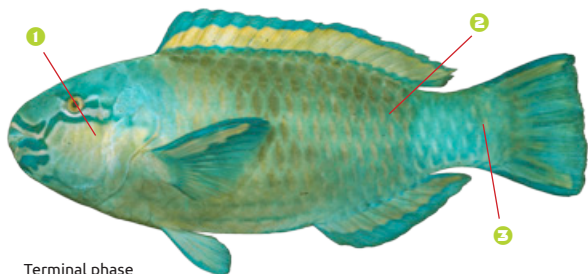
Juvenile phase

Pacific bullethead parrotfish

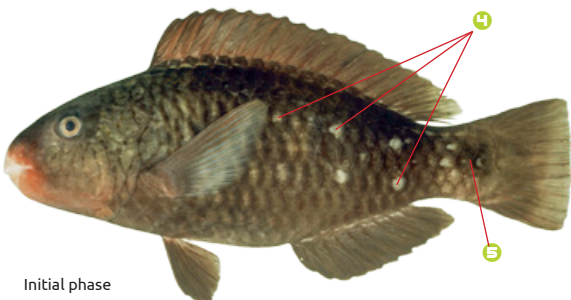
Terminal phase green with ❶ pale yellow cheeks, ❷ lavender scale margins, and ❸ a pale caudal fin base with square-cut caudal fin. Initial phase light reddish-brown with ❹ 3–4 rows of white spots on rear body, often with ❺ large dark spot at base of caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



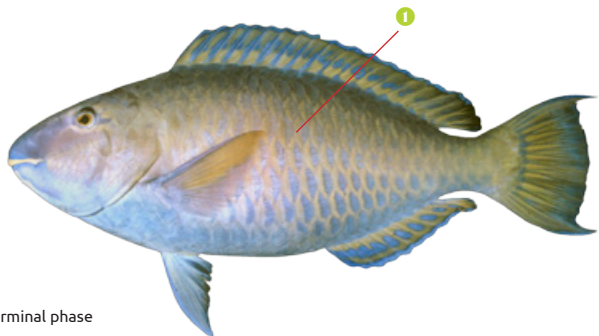
Terminal phase



Initial phase

This species was previously referred to as *Chlorurus sordidus* across its distribution, however recent genetic and morphological data have split this into two distinct species: *C. sordidus* in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean and *C. spilurus* in the Pacific.

Pacific longnose parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

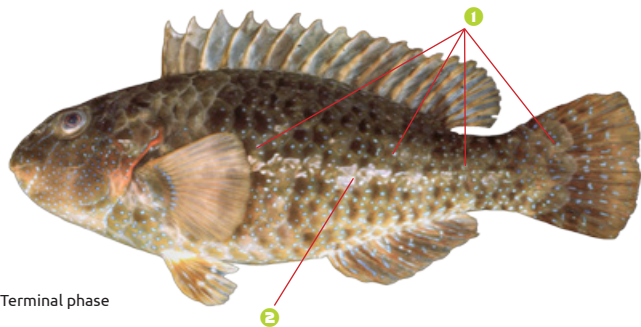
Terminal phase pale blue-green with ① light pink scale margins. Initial phase pale yellowish-grey with ② yellow caudal fin.

Initial phase photo: Brad Moore, SPC

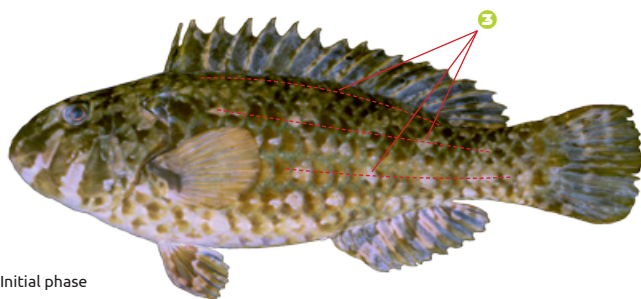
Max length: 60 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Marbled parrotfish, seagrass parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Olive-green to greenish-brown. ① Terminal phase has numerous small blue spots on head, body, anal and caudal fins, and often with ② a white horizontal stripe on body. Initial phase similar but with ③ 2-3 horizontal rows of widely spaced spots and numerous smaller dots on body.

Max length: 35 cm TL

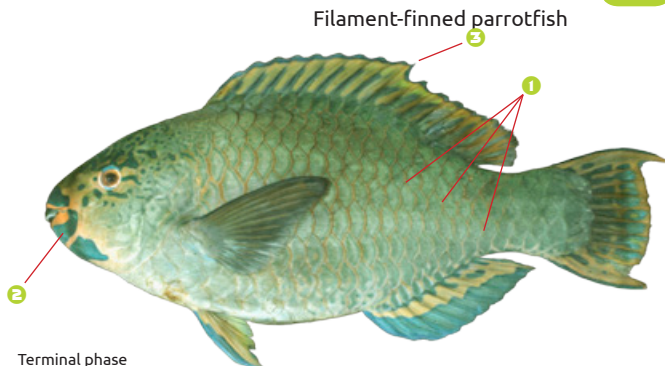
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Filament-finned parrotfish

Terminal phase green with ① pink scale margins, ② dark green bands around mouth, and ③ distinctive short filamentous extension at middle of dorsal fin (this is the only parrotfish that has this feature). Initial phase red-brown with darker edged scales, ④ dark green bands around mouth, ⑤ distinctive filamentous extension at middle of dorsal fin and often with a few small white spots on body.

Max length: 60 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



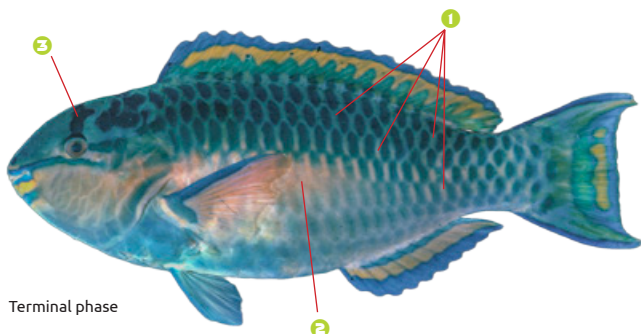
Initial phase

Chameleon parrotfish

Terminal phase blue-green with ① lavender scale margins and ② a broad area of orangish-pink behind pectoral fin. Narrow green band around mouth and ③ a dark green band linking eyes across top of head. Initial phase olive-brown, often with sharply contrasting white belly.

Max length: 31 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

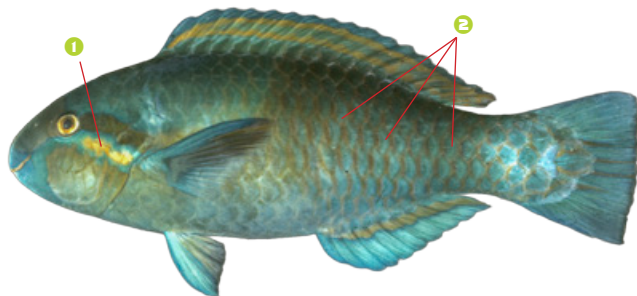


Terminal phase

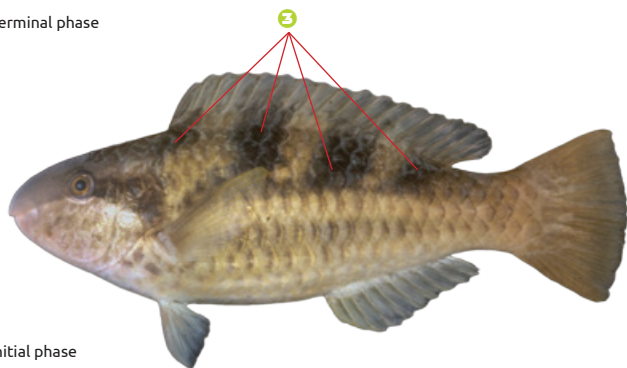


Initial phase

Yellowbarred parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase with solid green head above and behind eyes, and 1 green-edged yellow bar on gill covers extending from eyes towards pectoral fins. Rear of body green with 2 lavender-pink margins on scales. Initial phase yellowish-grey with grey head and 3 3-4 dark vertical bars on back.

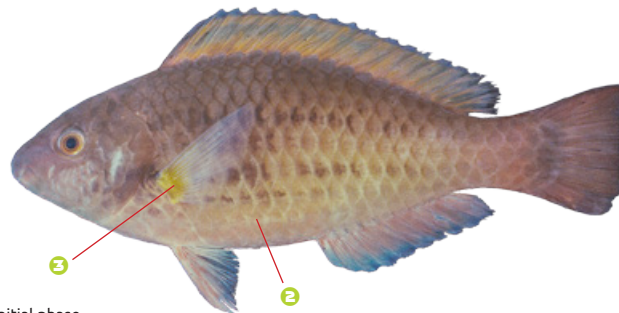
Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellowfin parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase with light brown head and forebody and darker blue-green rear. 1 Green band from snout to rear of gill covers. Large individuals often have a yellow patch at base of caudal fin. Initial phase pale yellow to reddish-grey with 2 faint white stripes on abdomen and 3 bright yellow pectoral fins.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Forsten's parrotfish, bluepatch parrotfish

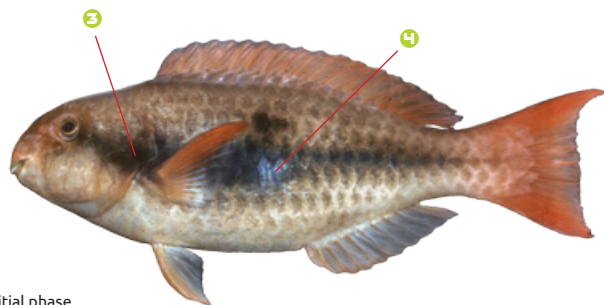
Terminal phase green with ❶ pink scale margins and ❷ wide green band around mouth. Initial phase reddish-brown to reddish-grey upper body, paler on belly, with ❸ a dark horizontal band extending from eyes to base of caudal fin. ❹ Iridescent blue-green patch inside band just behind pectoral fins.

Max length: 55 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Bridled parrotfish

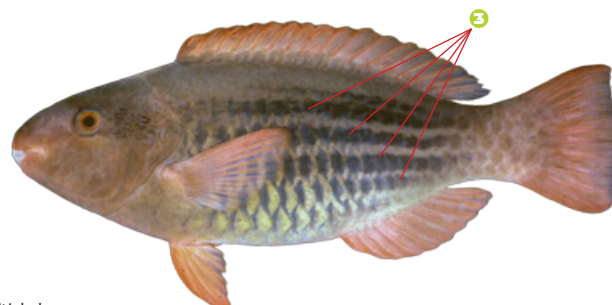
Terminal phase shades of green with orange-pink scale markings and ❶ distinctive pale green rear body and caudal fin base. ❷ Pink upper lip. Initial phase brownish-yellow to reddish-grey with ❸ numerous horizontal dark stripes on body (sometimes broken into diamond-shaped markings).

Max length: 47 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



Initial phase

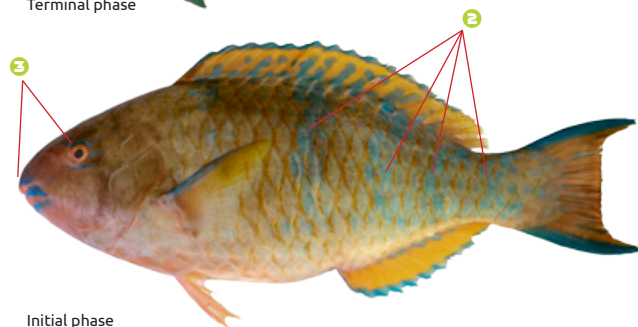
USY *Scarus ghobban*

Scaridae / Parrotfish

Blue-barred parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase light brown with blue-green scale markings and 1 two blue bands on chin. Often a pale orangish-pink area above and behind pectoral fins. Initial phase yellowish-brown with 2 4–5 irregularly shaped vertical blue bars on back and sides. 3 Blue bars around mouth and eyes.

Max length: 75 cm TL

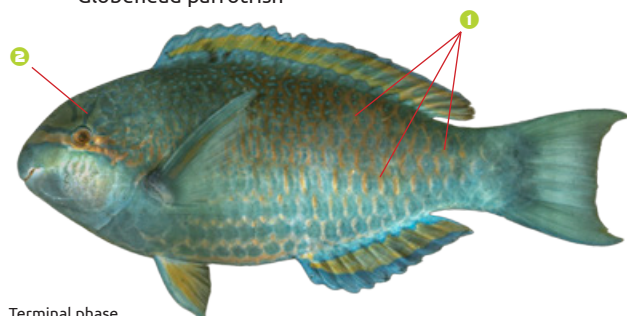
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Initial phase photo: Brad Moore, SPC

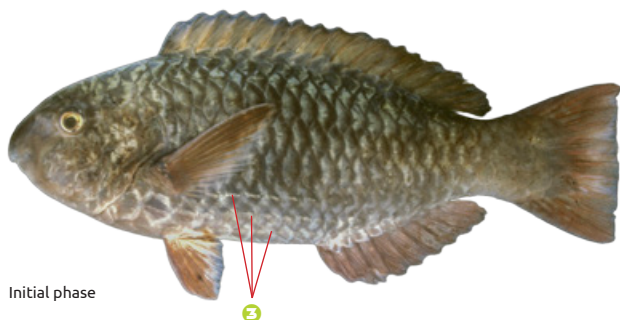
USX *Scarus globiceps*

Scaridae / Parrotfish

Globehead parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase green with 1 pink scale margins, 2 broken lavender lines on upper head, and 2–3 pinkish-violet stripes on belly. Initial phase greyish-brown with 3 three thin white horizontal stripes on belly.

Max length: 45 cm TL

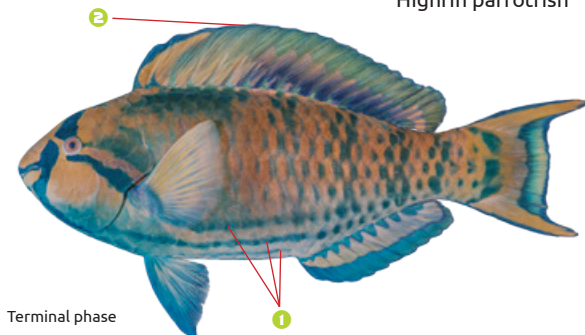
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
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TV	VU	WF	WS		

Terminal phase brownish-orange to purple with ❶ green horizontal band extending from eyes to pectoral fins and three blue-green horizontal stripes on belly.

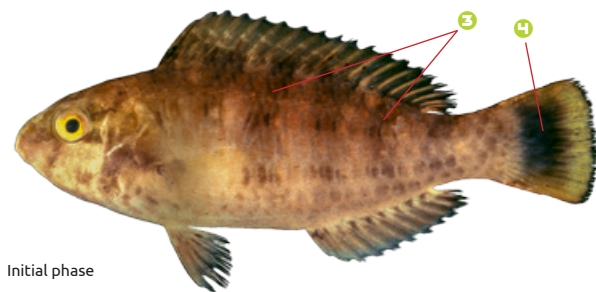
❷ Distinctive high rounded dorsal fin. Initial phase brownish-orange, often with ❸ dark brown bars on sides of body and ❹ a large black area on caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase

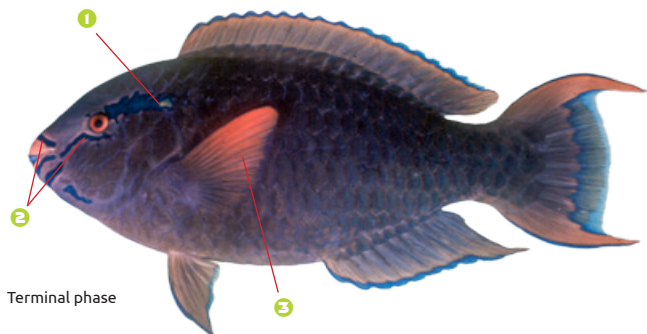


Initial phase

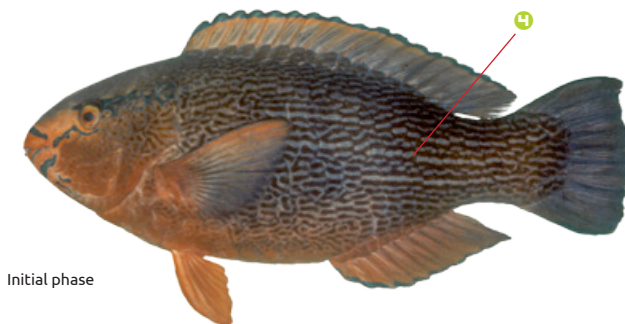
Terminal phase dark green with dark reddish-brown to purple scale margins and ❶ a yellow to green spot or streak behind eyes (often appears as a small yellow spot on margin of gill covers). ❷ Green bands around lips and another green band on chin that often continues up to eyes. ❸ Pectoral fins purplish-red. Initial phase with red head and fins (except caudal fin) and ❹ wavy black and white horizontal stripes on body.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

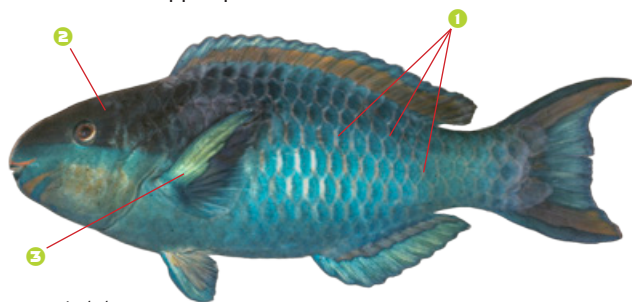


Terminal phase



Initial phase

Dark capped parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase blue-green with **1** narrow pink scale margins and **2** darker head and forebody (forming a 'cap'). **3** Distinctive light green and dark green portions on pectoral fins. Initial phase light grey with shades of yellow and **4** distinctive dark grey 'cap' on upper head and forebody.

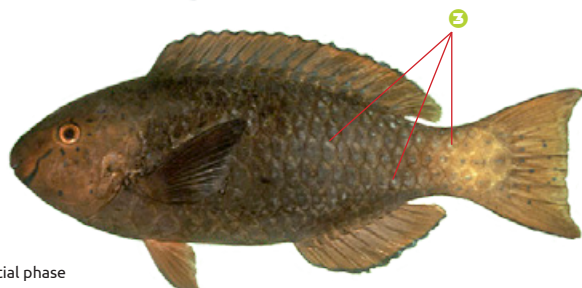
Max length: 35 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Singapore parrotfish, greenthroat parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase dark green with **1** greenish-yellow upper head. **2** Distinctive green chin, cheeks and throat and broad green band across snout. Initial phase reddish-brown with **3** scattered white spots on body.

Max length: 70 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Initial phase individuals appear similar to those of *Scarus altipinnis* but lack filamentous spine in mid-dorsal fin (present in *S. altipinnis*).

Common parrotfish, palenose parrotfish

Terminal phase green at rear of body, becoming progressively pinker towards head. ① Lavender snout and ② pink scale margins. ③ Green band on edge of lips, joining at corner of mouth and continuing below eyes. ④ Two additional green bands extending behind eyes. Initial phase reddish-brown with pale snout.

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Quoy's parrotfish

Terminal phase (shown) green to pinkish-green or grey with ① green 'moustache' and cheeks, and ② lime green patch at upper base of caudal fin. Initial phase with grey back and reddish-brown lower body. Four wide brown bars spaced by narrow yellow bars on midbody and base of caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

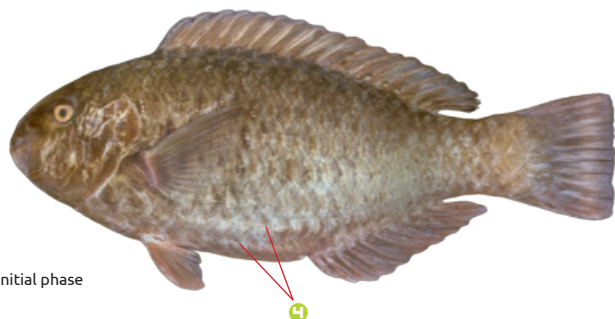


Terminal phase

Rivulated parrotfish, surf parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase green to blue-green with **1** distinctive orange patch on gill covers, **2** numerous wavy green lines on head. **3** Bright green pectoral fins. Initial phase grey to grey-brown with **4** two pale horizontal stripes on body.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Ember parrotfish, redlip parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase shades of green with **1** bulbous forehead, **2** a green to blue band above pink margin on upper lip, and **3** double bands on chin. Initial phase red to reddish-brown with **4** dark markings on scales.

Max length: 70 cm TL

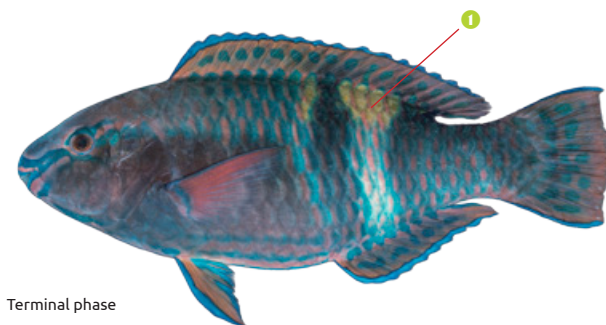
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Yellowband parrotfish

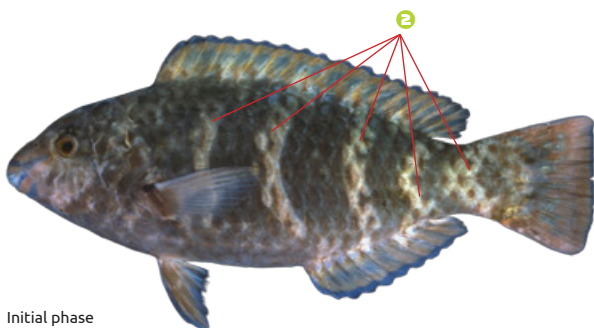
Terminal phase dark green to bluish-purple with lighter fore-head and **1** short yellow vertical bar on back (becoming paler toward belly). Initial phase greyish-brown with **2** 5–6 white vertical bars on body.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Greensnout parrotfish

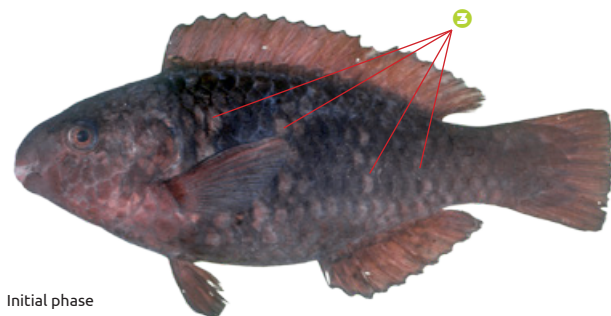
Terminal phase blue-green with **1** distinctive rounded green snout and **2** yellow patch on cheeks and gill covers. Initial phase brown to dark brown with **3** four faint pale vertical bars on body (may appear as rows of vertical spots).

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
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Terminal phase



Initial phase

Tricolour parrotfish



Terminal phase



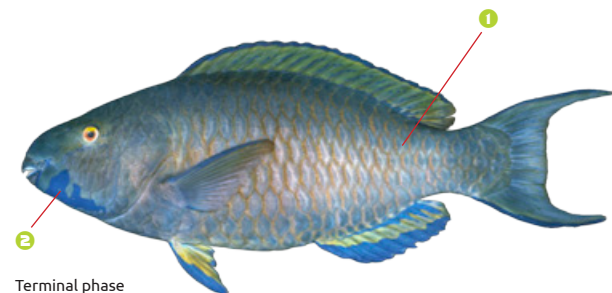
Initial phase

Terminal phase shades of yellow-green to green with lavender scale bases and ① distinctive elongated caudal fin lobes. Initial phase with dark grey head and rows of brown, yellow, green, blue and light red on sides (faded in this image) with ② yellowish-orange anal fin and ③ red caudal fin.

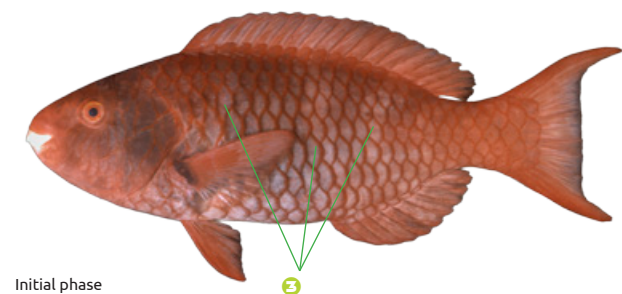
Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Red parrotfish



Terminal phase



Initial phase

Terminal phase green with ① pink scale margins and a large, ② irregular dark green patch on lower cheek and chin. Initial phase ③ bright red to reddish-grey with 3–4 pale vertical bars on sides.

Max length: 55 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Long, slender silvery body with
 ① elongated pointed snout, and
 ② dorsal and anal finlets. Often
 with ③ bar pattern on sides.

Max length: 210 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

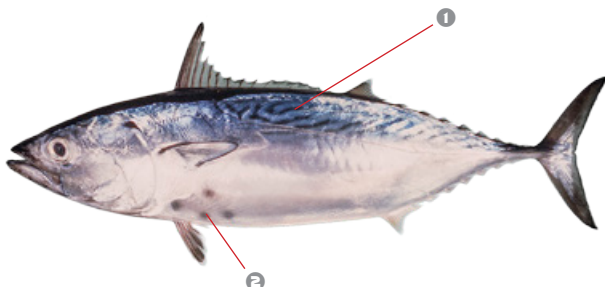
Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



Silvery, torpedo-shaped body with
 ① dark wavy lines on back above
 lateral line. ② Dark spots on belly
 below pectoral fins.

Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

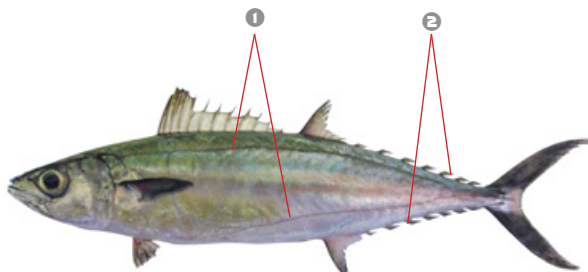


Silvery slender body with ① two
 lateral lines (one on upper side
 and one on lower side), and
 ② dorsal and anal finlets. Two
 well-separated dorsal fins.

Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

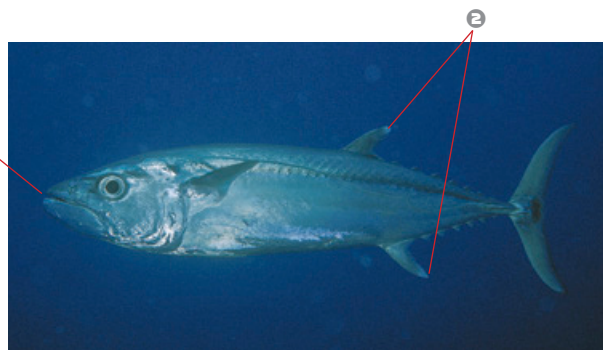
Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



DOT *Gymnosarda unicolor*

Scombridae / Mackerels, tunas

Dogtooth tuna



Long, stocky body with dorsal and anal finlets. Grey-blue upper body to silvery on belly. ① Heavy-set jaw with prominent teeth. ② White tips on second dorsal and anal fins.

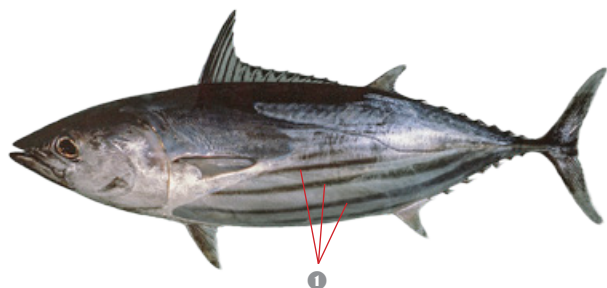
Max length: 250 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

SKJ *Katsuwonus pelamis*

Scombridae / Mackerels, tunas

Skipjack tuna



Dark silvery-purple upper body to silvery belly, with ① 3–6 horizontal dark bands on belly.

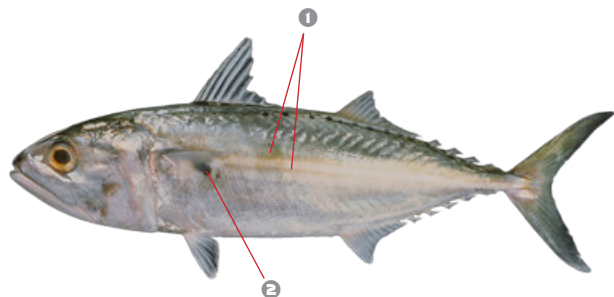
Max length: 100 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

RAG *Rastrelliger kanagurta*

Scombridae / Mackerels, tunas

Indian mackerel



Silvery with faint spotting on upper back and ① 2–3 narrow yellow horizontal stripes on sides on body. ② Prominent black spot under pectoral fins.

Max length: 35 cm FL

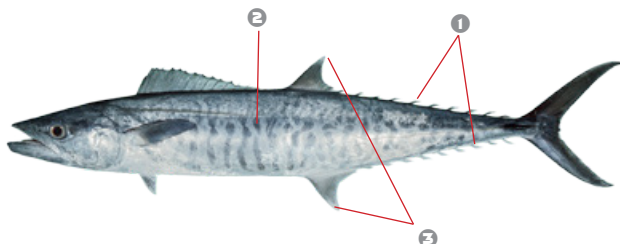
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel

Bluish-grey upper body tending to silver on belly with ① dorsal and anal finlets and ② numerous irregularly shaped, narrow dark bars. ③ White tips on second dorsal and anal fins.

Max length: 180 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



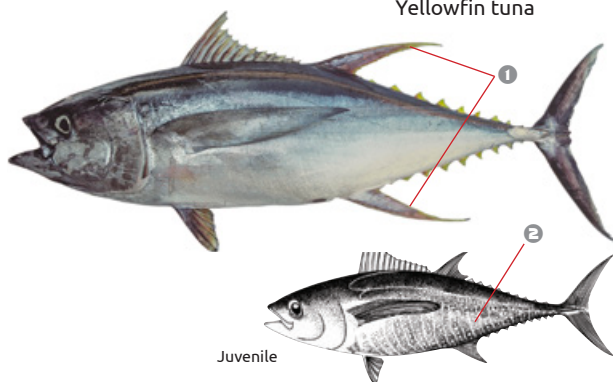
Yellowfin tuna

Adults torpedo-shaped, metallic black to dark blue on upper body, through yellow to silver on belly. ① Distinctive long, yellow second dorsal and anal fins. Juveniles with ② close-set, evenly-spaced curved vertical bars separated by lines of spots on lower body.

Max length: 210 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



Juveniles appear similar to *Thunnus obesus* but are distinguished by the presence of close-set, evenly spaced vertical bars on lower body (bars on *T. obesus* are wide and unevenly spaced).

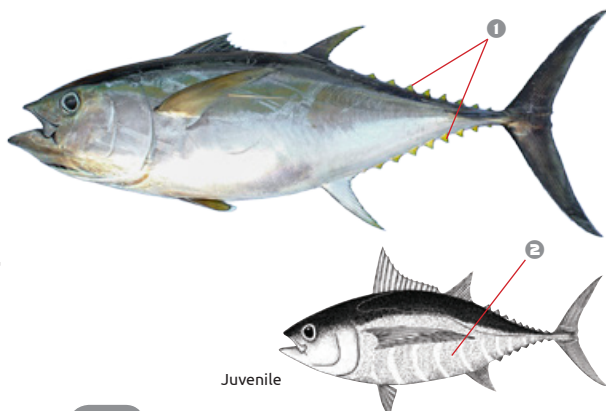
Bigeye tuna

Adults torpedo-shaped, metallic black to dark blue on upper body, through yellow to silvery-white on belly. ① Dorsal and anal finlets bright yellow with black edges. Juveniles with ② wide, unevenly spaced vertical bars on lower body.

Max length: 220 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: S. Chow, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Research Council, Japan



EHG *Aethaloperca rogaa*

Serranidae / Groupers

Redmouth grouper



Dark brown to black, frequently with **1** pale bar across abdomen, and occasionally with indistinct orange markings. **2** Inside of mouth red.

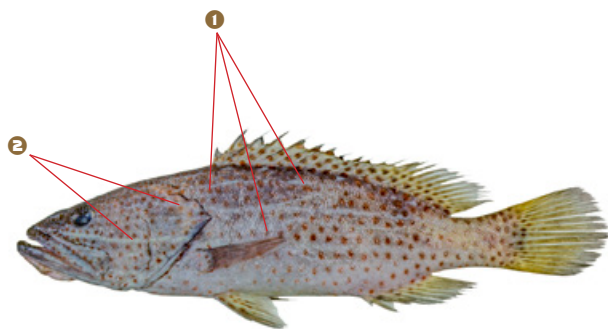
Max length: 60 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

AYG *Anyperodon leucogrammicus*

Serranidae / Groupers

Slender grouper



Greenish- to brownish-grey with **1** orange-gold spots on head, body and dorsal fin of adults. **2** Distinctive pale horizontal stripes extending from snout to caudal fin.

Max length: 65 cm TL

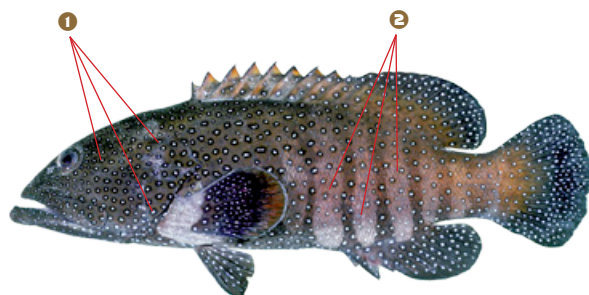
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

CFF *Cephalopholis argus*

Serranidae / Groupers

Peacock hind, peacock grouper



Brown to purple with **1** small, black-edged blue to purple spots over head, body and fins. **2** Broad pale vertical bars on rear body.

Max length: 60 cm TL

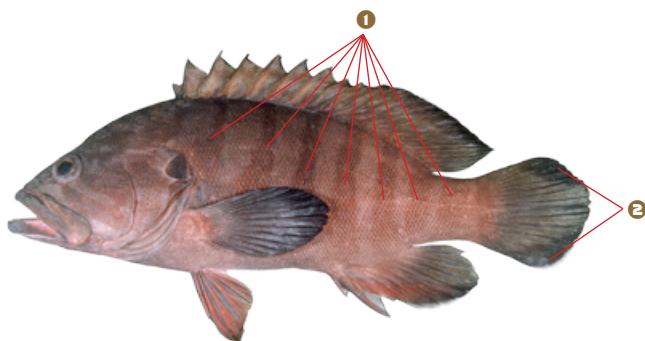
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Chocolate hind, chocolate grouper

Light brown with around **1** 7–8 dark brown vertical bars on sides. **2** Caudal fin with dark corners and light blue margin (faint in this image).

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

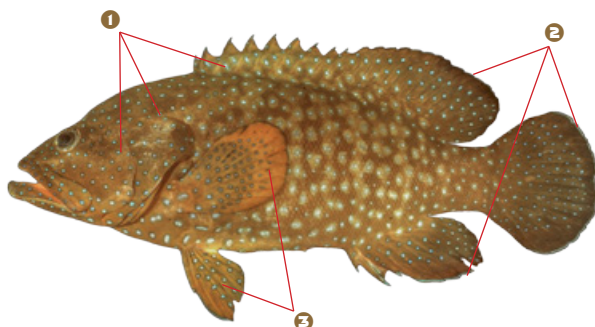


Bluespotted hind, bluespotted grouper

Reddish-brown to brown with **1** dark rimmed blue dots over head, body and fins. **2** Pale blue margin on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins. **3** Orange pectoral and pelvic fins.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

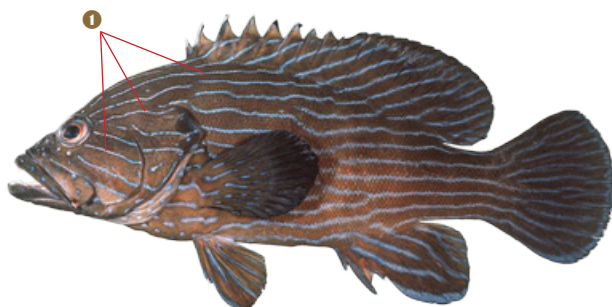


Bluelined hind, bluelined grouper

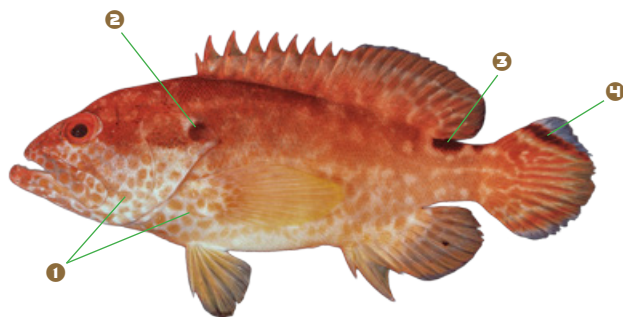
Dark brown to yellowish-brown with **1** numerous narrow blue lines over head, body and fins.

Max length: 35 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Leopard hind, leopard grouper



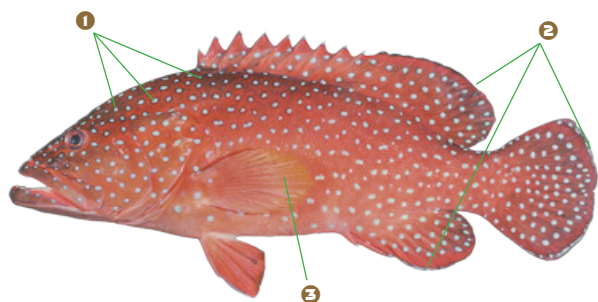
Mottled reddish-brown with

① numerous reddish-orange spots on head and body. ② Dark brown spot on upper margin of gill covers and ③ a dark saddle patch on base of caudal fin. ④ Dark streak below upper margin of caudal fin.

Max length: 25 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Coral hind, coral grouper



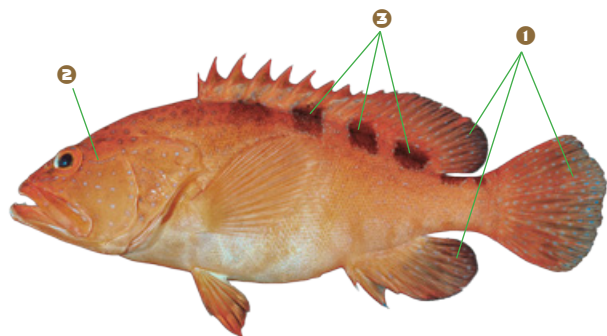
Orange-red to reddish-brown with

① dark-edged blue spots on head, body and fins except pectoral and pelvic fins. ② Narrow blue margin on all fins except ③ pectoral fins, which have a yellow margin.

Max length: 50 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Sixblotch hind, saddle grouper



Orange-red with ① small blue spots on head, body, and dorsal, anal and caudal fins. Often with ② short blue lines on head.

③ Black saddles between paler vertical bars on body.

Max length: 50 cm TL

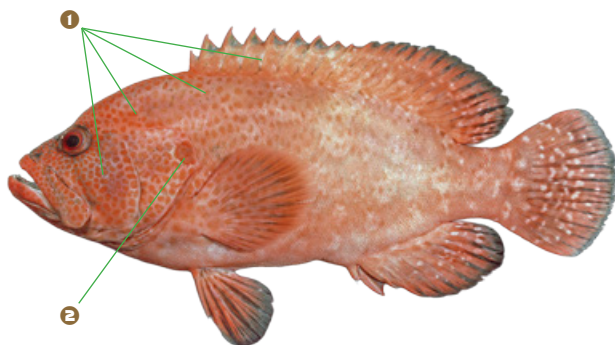
AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Tomato hind, tomato grouper

Orange-red to reddish-brown with
1 numerous small reddish-brown spots on head, body and fins.
2 Larger dark red spot may be present on upper margin of gill covers.

Max length: 57 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Strawberry hind, strawberry grouper

Red to reddish-orange with
1 dark red to reddish-brown mottling.
2 Pale blue to white margins on caudal fin.

Max length: 30 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Darkfin hind, flagtail grouper

Red to reddish-brown, occasionally with faint pale vertical bars on body.
1 Distinctive diagonal white lines on caudal fin.

Max length: 28 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Humpback grouper

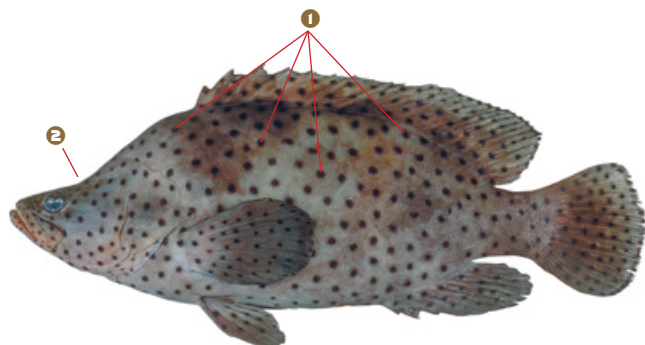


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Greenish-white to light greenish-brown with ❶ large scattered black spots on head, body and fins. ❷ Distinctive concave forehead.

Max length: 70 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Areolate grouper



Whitish-grey with ❶ numerous large, close-set gold to brown spots on head, body and fins. ❷ Caudal fin slightly concave with a white posterior margin.

Max length: 45 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Brownspotted grouper



Shades of brown with ❶ numerous small dark brown spots over head, body and fins. ❷ Caudal fin slightly concave with white posterior margin.

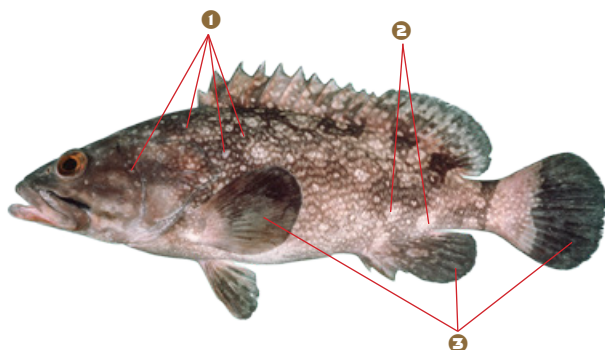
Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Brownish-grey with **1** numerous small white to whitish-grey spots, and **2** scattered, larger blotches. **3** Pectoral, anal and caudal fins dark and without blotches.

Max length: 76 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

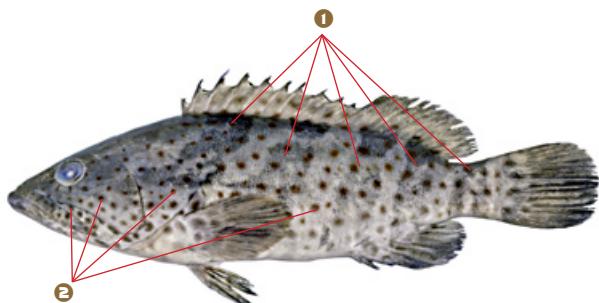


Light greyish-brown upper body to whitish-brown belly, with **1** five greyish-brown vertical bands on body, and **2** numerous golden orange spots on head, body and bases of fins.

Max length: 100 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

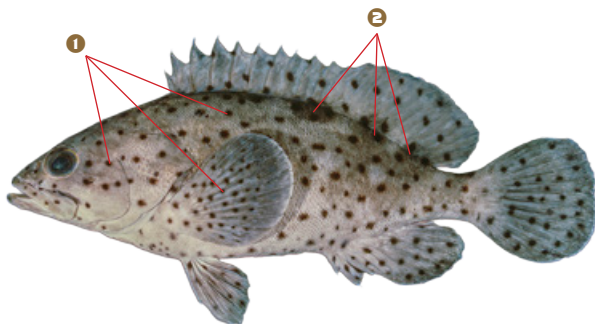
Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



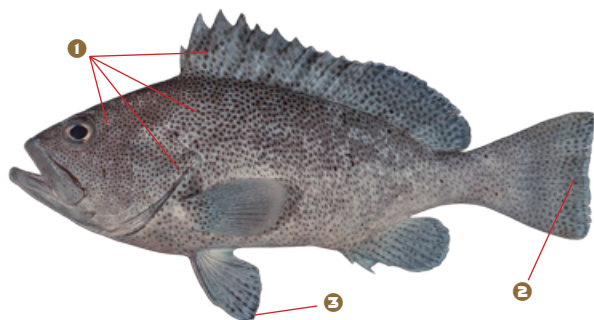
Dirty white to pale brown with **1** numerous small, widely spaced black spots on head, body and fins, and **2** dark saddles on back.

Max length: 50 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Speckled blue grouper, speckled grouper

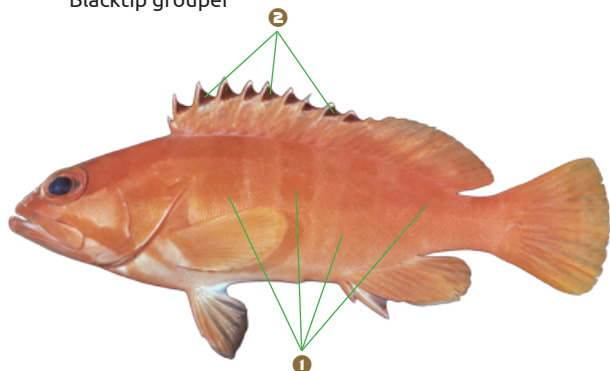


Light bluish-grey with ❶ numerous small black spots and scattered, irregularly shaped larger black spots on head, body and fins. ❷ Caudal fin typically with submarginal black band (faded in this image). ❸ Black tips on pelvic fins.

Max length: 122 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Blacktip grouper



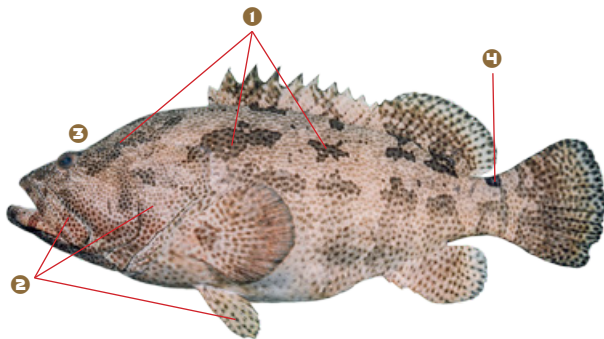
Highly variable from greenish-grey to yellowish-red or reddish-brown with ❶ five faint orangish-brown to dark red bars on body. ❷ Outer triangular part of each spiny dorsal membrane often black or deep red.

Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Epinephelus retouti* but with black to deep red triangular areas on membranes of spiny dorsal fin (spiny dorsal fin of *E. retouti* has red tips).

Brown-marbled grouper



Yellowish-brown to tan with ❶ irregularly shaped dark brown blotches and ❷ numerous small, close-set dark brown spots on head, body and fins. ❸ Prominent indentation at head profile above eyes. ❹ Small black saddle-like spot at base of caudal fin.

Max length: 120 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Epinephelus polyphkadion* but with prominent indentation at head profile above eyes (lacking in *E. polyphkadion*).

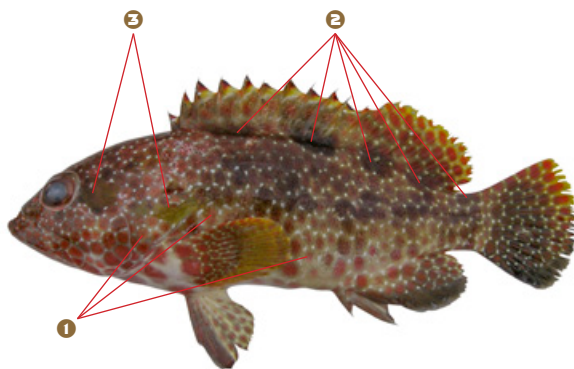
Starspotted grouper

White to light brown undercolour with **1** numerous brown to reddish-brown, hexagonal spots on head, body and fins. **2** Five groups of spots on back form dark saddles. **3** Distinctive yellow-brown spot behind eyes and large elongated patch of same colour on gill covers (these two spots sometimes join).

Max length: 27 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

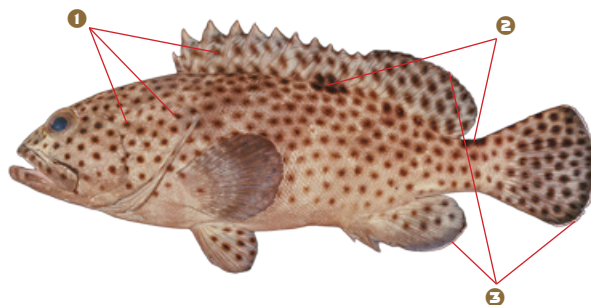


Blacksaddle grouper

Pale grey to brownish-grey with **1** dark brown to black spots on head, body and fins (may be absent on pectoral fins). **2** Dark brown to nearly black spot on back and a second spot at base of caudal fin. **3** White margins on dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 55 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



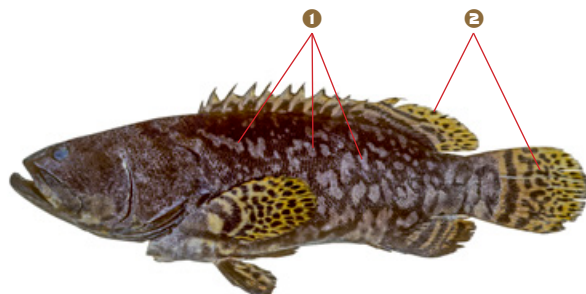
Giant grouper

Adults mottled grey-brown with **1** scattered, irregularly shaped white blotches and **2** numerous small black spots. Juveniles (not shown) yellow with irregular black vertical bars.

Max length: 270 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

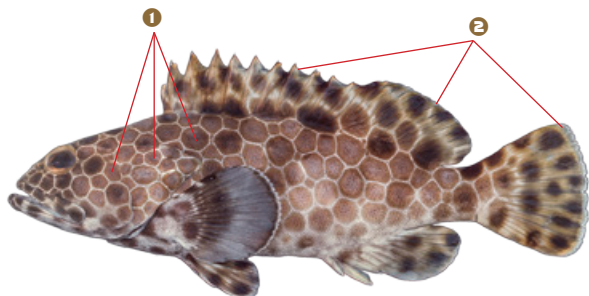
Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



EEM *Epinephelus macrospilos*

Serranidae / Groupers

Snubnose grouper



Dirty white to pale grey-brown with **1** numerous polygon-shaped brown spots on head, body and fins. **2** Yellowish-white margins on dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

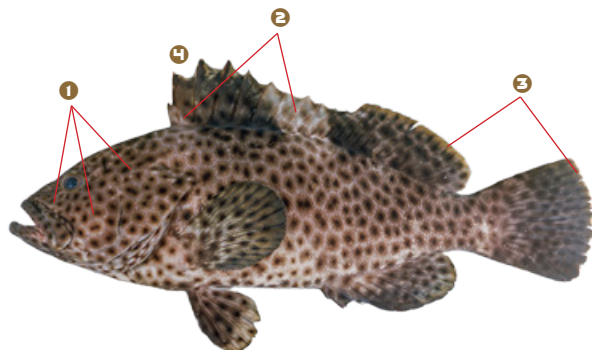
Max length: 50 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

EEC *Epinephelus maculatus*

Serranidae / Groupers

Highfin grouper



Light brown undercolour with **1** numerous reddish-brown spots on head, body and fins. **2** Pair of prominent pale saddles on fore-head and middle of back. **3** Yellow tint on fins (more evident in juveniles). **4** Relatively tall dorsal fin.

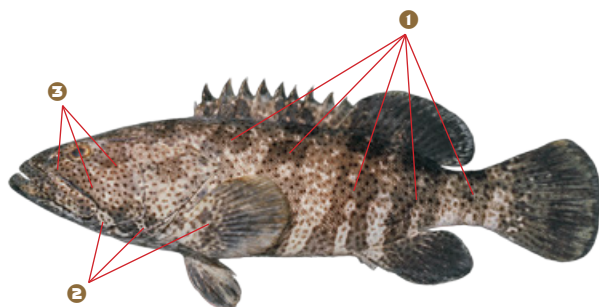
Max length: 60 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

MAR *Epinephelus malabaricus*

Serranidae / Groupers

Malabar grouper



Light grey to yellowish-brown with **1** five broad dark brown vertical bars and **2** numerous scattered pale spots and blotches on head and body. **3** Numerous small, well-separated black spots on head, body and fins.

Max length: 234 cm TL

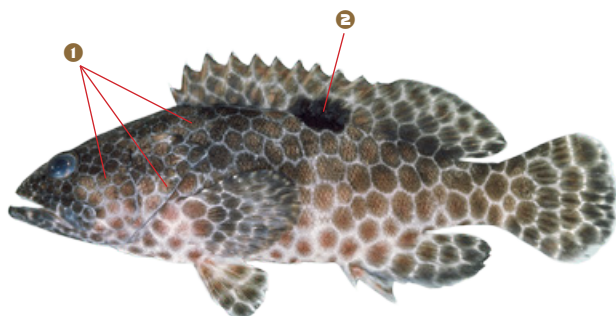
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

One-blotch grouper

Whitish- to bluish-grey with **1** numerous, close-set, orangish-brown polygonal spots on head, body and fins. **2** Merging spots on back form dark saddle under mid-dorsal fin.

Max length: 35 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

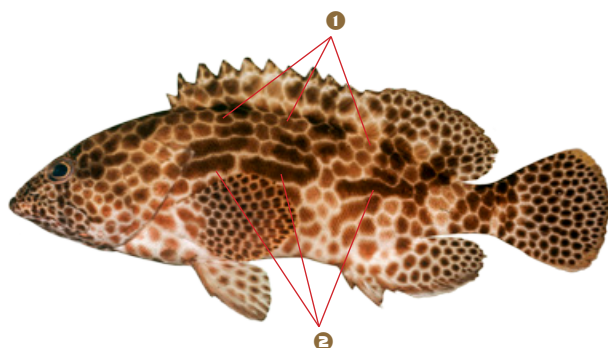


Honeycomb grouper

White to light brown undercolour with **1** numerous round to hexagonal-shaped dark brown spots on head, body and fins, **2** some of which may join to form short bands.

Max length: 32 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Netfin grouper

White with **1** grey and brown blotches and numerous close-set polygonal-shaped brown spots on head, body and fins.

Max length: 53 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

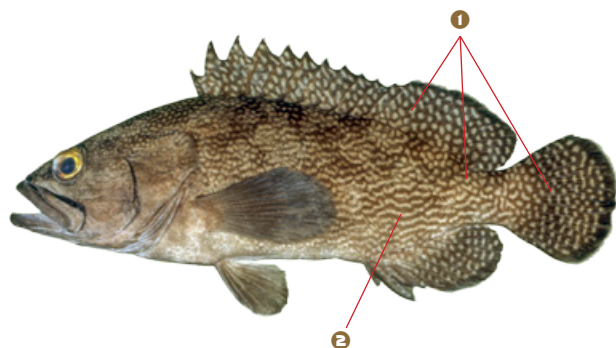
Photo: Jan Messersmith, Flickr



GPX *Epinephelus ongus*

Serranidae / Groupers

White-streaked grouper



Brown with **1** large white blotches and numerous small pale spots on head, body and fins.
2 Spots join to form wavy lines on larger individuals.

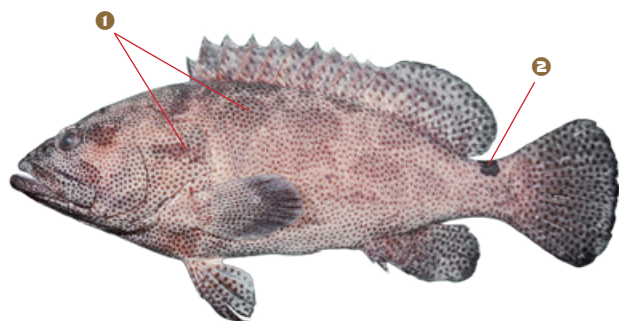
Max length: 40 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

EEX *Epinephelus polyphekadion*

Serranidae / Groupers

Camouflage grouper



Light brown with large, **1** irregularly shaped brown blotches on head and body, overlaid by numerous small, close-set dark brown spots on head, body and all fins. **2** Small black saddle at base of caudal fin.

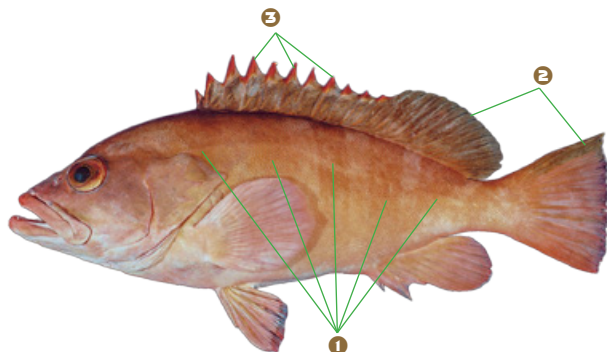
Max length: 90 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

EWR *Epinephelus retouti*

Serranidae / Groupers

Red-tipped grouper



Yellowish-orange to brownish-red, usually with **1** five faint dark vertical bars on body. **2** Soft dorsal and upper part of caudal fin grey-brown. **3** Tips of spiny dorsal fin red.

Max length: 50 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

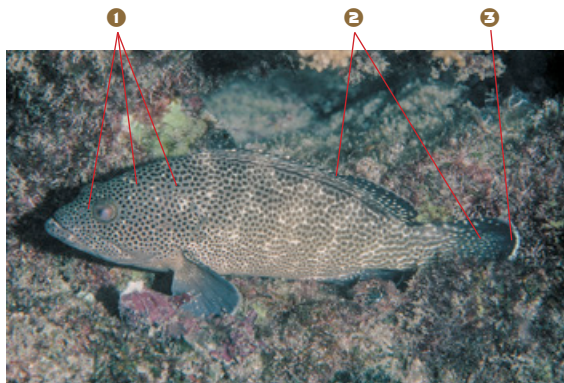
Similar to *Epinephelus fasciatus* but with red tips on spiny dorsal fin rays.

Surge grouper

White to tan head and body with **1** numerous small, close-set blackish-brown spots. **2** Dorsal, anal and caudal fins covered with white spots and with **3** a black band just before white margins.

Max length: 52 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

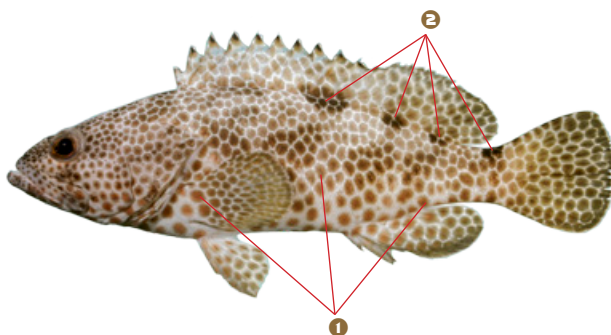


Foursaddle grouper

Whitish-brown undercolour with **1** numerous polygonal-shaped dark brown spots on head, body and fins. **2** Merging spots form four dark saddles on back.

Max length: 35 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

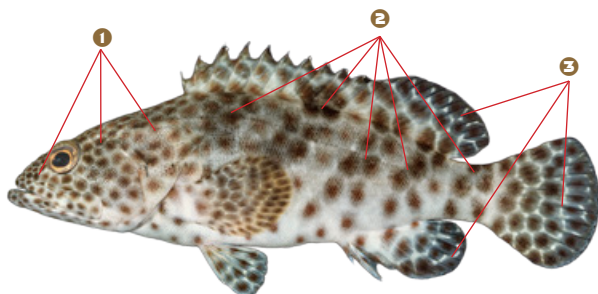


Greasy grouper

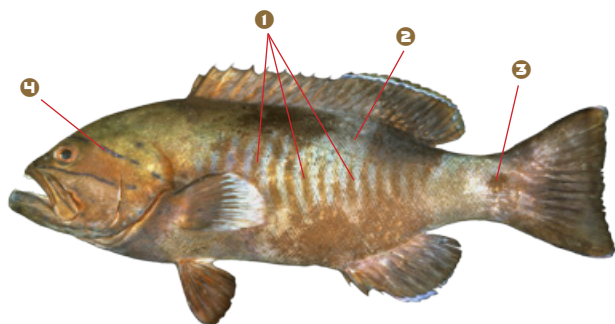
Pale brown upper body turning to dirty white on belly, with **1** reddish-brown to dark brown spots on head, body and fins. **2** Five faint dusky saddles on back. **3** Series of dark spots form dark margins on soft dorsal, anal and caudal fins.

Max length: 75 cm TL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Masked grouper

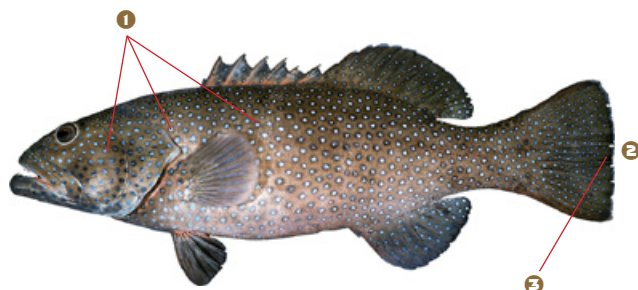


Greenish- to brownish-grey or orangish-brown, with **1** numerous short narrow dark brown to orange-brown bars on sides. **2** Large white square on mid-body and **3** white tail base with dark spot (all faded in this image). **4** Narrow blue lines on head.

Max length: 50 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Squairetail coralgroupers

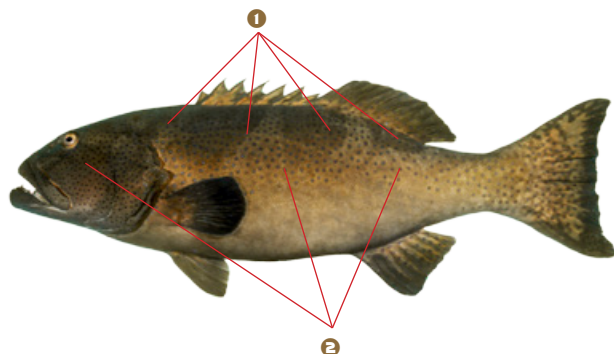


Whitish-grey to tan with **1** numerous small, dark-edged blue spots on head, body and fins. **2** Distinctive square-shaped caudal fin with **3** narrow white margin and dark band on submargin.

Max length: 80 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Blacksaddled coralgroupers (dark form)



Dark form grey to olive brown, **1** with 3-4 dark bars or saddles; **2** small blue spots on head body and fins.

Max length: 120 cm FL

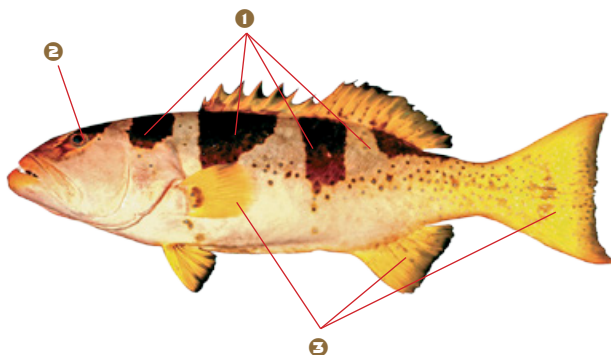
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MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Blacksaddled coralgrouper (pale form)

Pale form white with **1** four dark brown to black saddles on body, **2** dark band above eyes, and **3** yellow fins.

Max length: 120 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

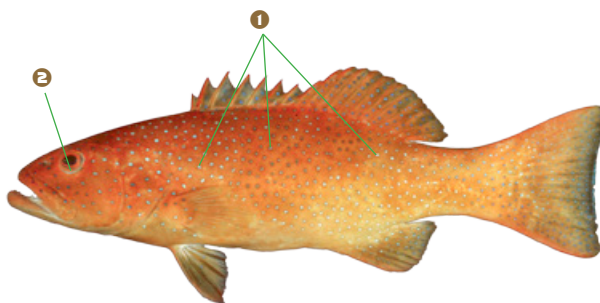


Leopard coralgrouper

Red or pale grey to brown, with **1** numerous dark-edged blue spots on head, body and fins, except pectoral fins. **2** Nearly complete blue ring around eyes.

Max length: 75 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Plectropomus maculatus* but with blue spots on head rather than short bars.

Spotted coralgrouper

Red or pale grey to brown with short blue bars on head and **1** numerous small blue spots on body and fins, except pectoral fins. **2** Blue margin on caudal fin.

Max length: 125 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

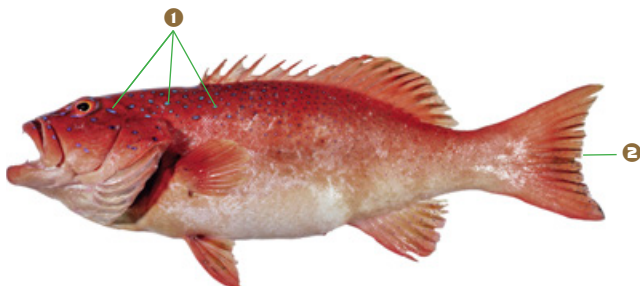
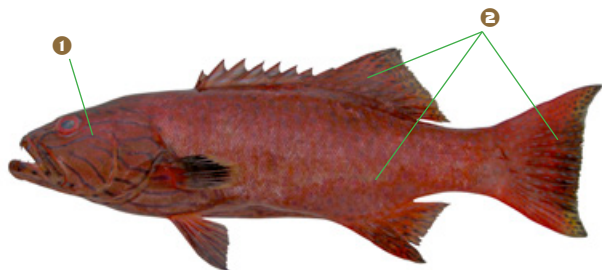


Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Similar to *Plectropomus leopardus* but with short blue bars on head rather than spots.

Highfin coral grouper



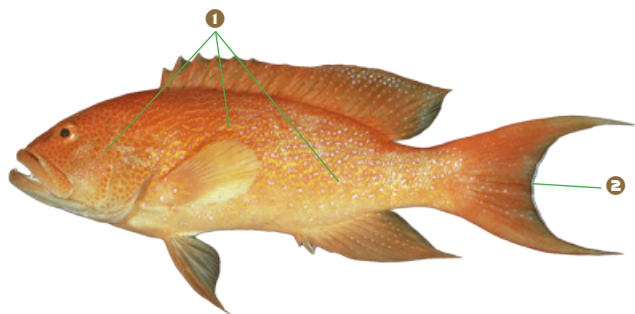
Reddish-brown with **1** blue lines on head. **2** Blue spots on body and fins, some of which join on mid-body to form vertical bars.

Max length: 75 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

White-edged lyretail



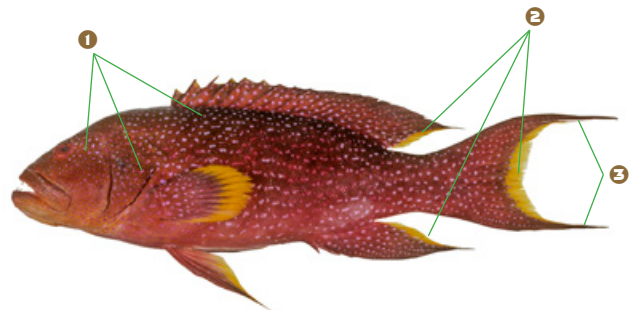
Brownish-orange with **1** red to violet spots on head, body and fins. **2** Lunate caudal fin with narrow white margin.

Max length: 60 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Variola louti* but with narrow white margin on caudal fin.

Yellow-edged lyretail



Orange-red to reddish-brown with **1** many small blue, violet, lavender or pink spots or dashes on head, body and fins. **2** Posterior margins of fins yellow. **3** Distinctive lunate caudal fin.

Max length: 80 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

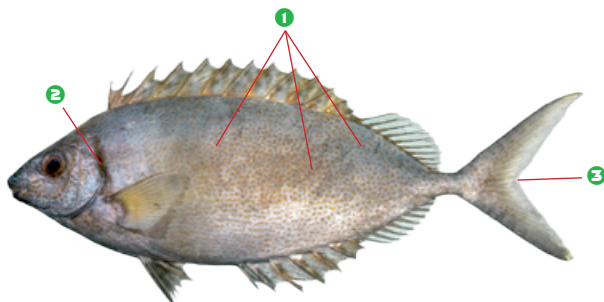
Similar to *Variola albimarginata* but with yellow margins on posterior of fins.

Streamlined spinefoot, forktail rabbitfish

Light blue to bluish-grey with
1 numerous small yellow spots
 and lines on head and body.
2 Short dark vertical bar on upper
 margin of gill covers. **3** Distinctive
 forked caudal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

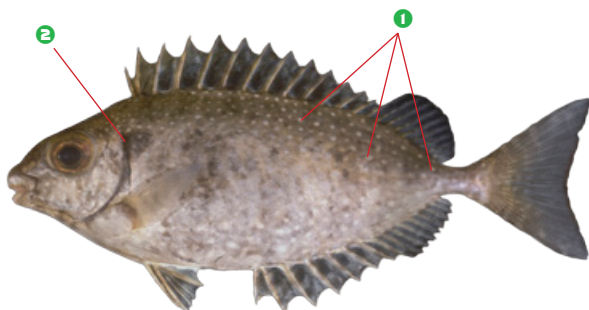


White-spotted spinefoot, white-spotted rabbitfish

Silvery-grey to greenish- or
 yellowish-brown with **1** numerous
 bluish-white spots on head and
 body. Often with **2** a dark patch
 behind gill covers.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



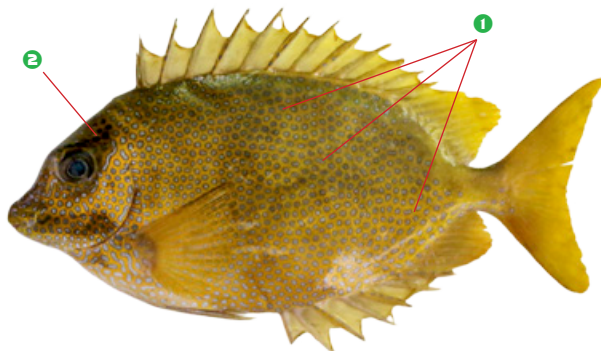
Blue-spotted spinefoot, coral rabbitfish

Yellow with **1** numerous dark-
 edged blue spots on head and
 body. **2** Dark triangular smudge
 over eyes. Occasionally with dark
 smudges on back.

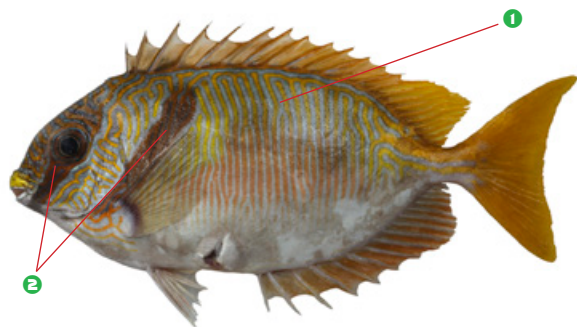
Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Brad Moore, SPC



Barred spinefoot, barred rabbitfish



Light blue upper body to white lower body with **1** vertical blue and yellow lines on body becoming horizontal on chest and base of caudal fin. **2** Pair of dark bands on head and forebody.

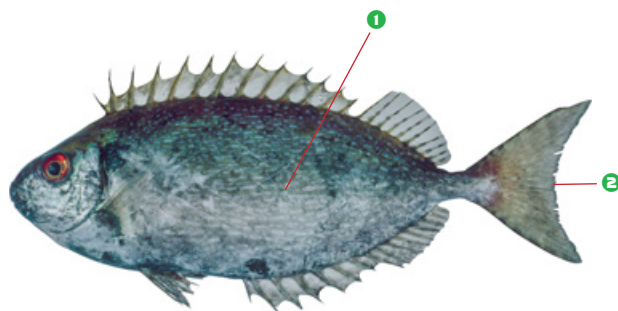
Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Biodiversity Institute of Ontario

Similar to *Siganus virgatus* (not shown) but with lines on body instead of spots.

Mottled spinefoot, dusky rabbitfish



Grey to bluish-grey or brownish-yellow upper body becoming paler on belly. **1** Small gold to bluish-white spots on sides and belly. **2** Slightly lunate caudal fin.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection

Goldlined spinefoot, golden rabbitfish



Pale bluish-grey with **1** numerous yellow-orange spots and **2** a bright yellow spot below rear base of dorsal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Similar to *Siganus lineatus* but is entirely spotted (*S. lineatus* has lines and spots on body).

Golden-lined spinefoot, lined rabbitfish

Pale bluish-grey with ❶ numerous yellow-orange wavy horizontal lines and occasionally spots on body. ❷ Bright yellow spot below rear base of dorsal fin.

Max length: 40 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



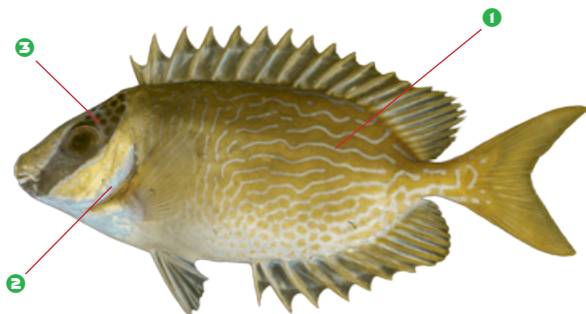
Similar to *Siganus guttatus* but with lines in addition to spots on body.

Masked spinefoot, masked rabbitfish

Yellow with ❶ wavy blue lines that are arranged vertically on forebody and horizontally on rear body. ❷ Yellow head grading to white on margin of gill covers. ❸ Single dark band across eyes.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Peppered spinefoot, fine-spotted rabbitfish

Dark purplish-brown with ❶ numerous small bluish-white or blue to brown spots. ❷ Dark edging on rear of dorsal, anal and caudal fin. ❸ Deeply forked caudal fin.

Max length: 30 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

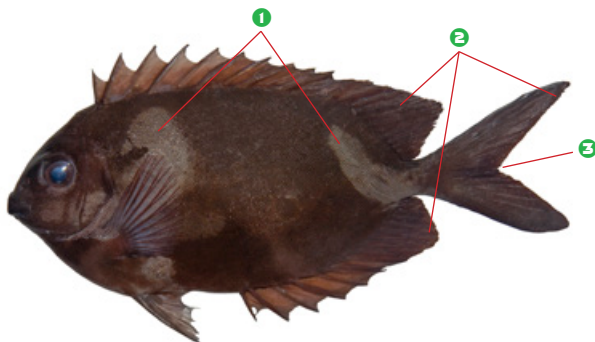
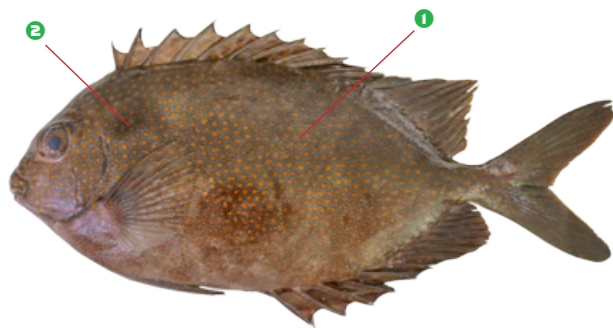


Photo: Biodiversity Institute of Onatrio

Goldspotted spinefoot, gold-spotted rabbitfish



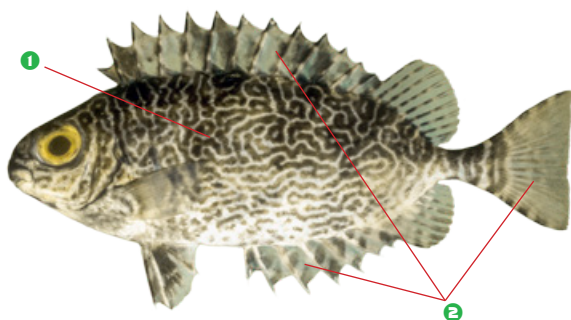
Pale brown to bluish-grey with **1** numerous dark-edged orange spots on head, body and caudal fin. **2** Dark blotch often present behind gill covers.

Max length: 35 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Brad Moore, SPC

Little spinefoot, scribbled rabbitfish

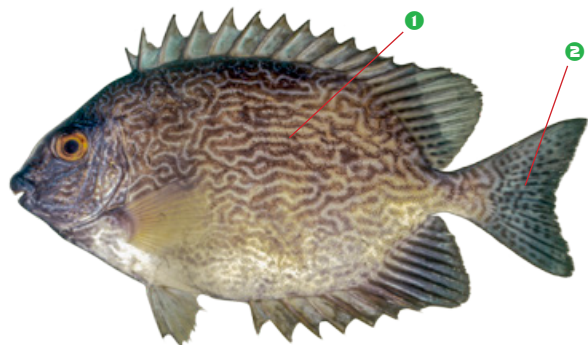


White with **1** a labyrinth of narrow brown bands over head and body. **2** Mottled pattern on fins.

Max length: 20 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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Vermiculated spinefoot, vermiculate rabbitfish



Bluish-white with **1** network of yellowish-brown lines on head and body. **2** Numerous small dark spots on caudal fin.

Max length: 44 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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Yellow body with ① white head and a black diagonal band extending from snout to dorsal fin. ② Black breast.

Max length: 25 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: Brad Moore, SPC



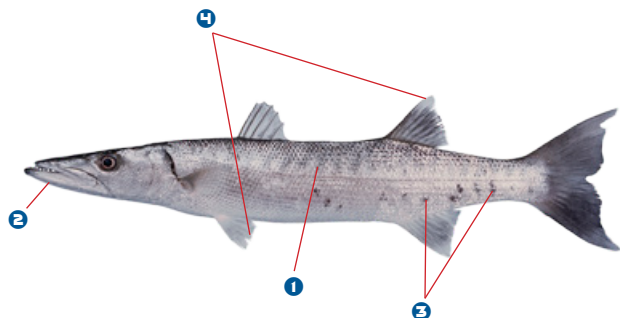
Foxface, *Siganus vulpinus*,
Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia.

Photo: Dwayne Meadows, NOAA Photo Library

GBA *Sphyraena barracuda*

Sphyraenidae / Barracudas

Great barracuda



Silvery with **1** faint bars on sides, especially towards caudal fin.

2 Large underslung jaw with prominent teeth. Usually with **3** scattered black blotches on lower body. **4** One or more fins tipped with white.

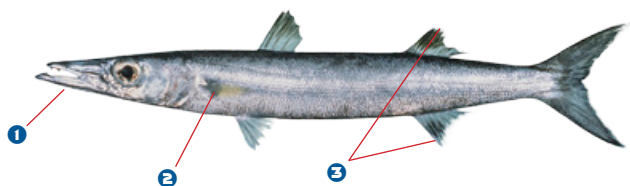
Max length: 170 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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TV	VU	WF	WS		

YBS *Sphyraena forsteri*

Sphyraenidae / Barracudas

Bigeye barracuda



Long cylindrical body and **1** large underslung jaw. Bluish-grey upper body and silvery on sides and belly. **2** Black blotch behind base of pectoral fins. **3** Rear dorsal and anal fins dark with white tips.

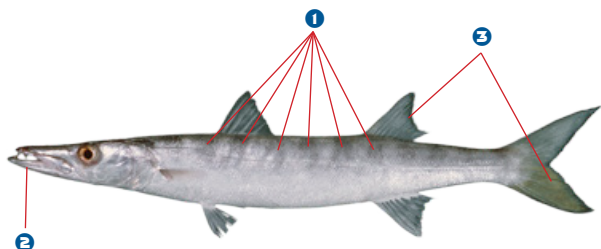
Max length: 70 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
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PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

BAC *Sphyraena jello*

Sphyraenidae / Barracudas

Pickhandle barracuda



Bluish-grey upper body and silvery on sides and belly, with about **1** 20 short, vertical bars on body that extend to just below lateral line. **2** Large underslung jaw with prominent teeth. **3** Second dorsal and caudal fins with yellow tints.

Max length: 140 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

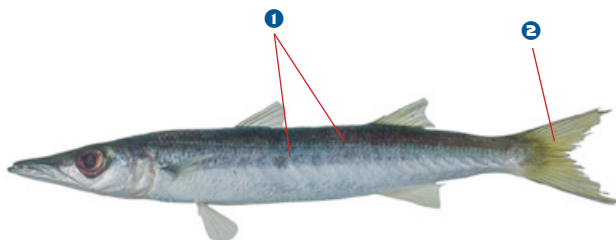
Similar to *Sphyraena genie* but bars on sides extend to just below lateral line (bars on sides of *S. genie* extend well below lateral line) and with yellow tints on dorsal and caudal fins (caudal fin in *S. genie* has black margin).

Long cylindrical body and underslung jaw. Silvery body with **1** two diffuse brown or brownish-yellow horizontal stripes. **2** Caudal fin with yellow tints.

Max length: 55 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



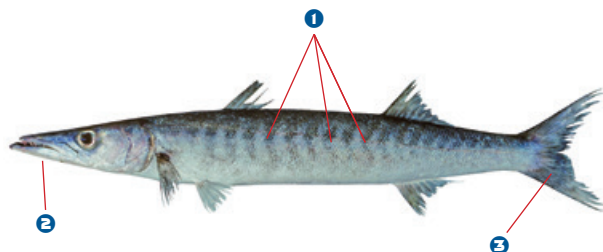
Similar to *Sphyraena flavicauda* (not shown) but lack short vertical bars on body (present in *S. flavicauda*). The exact distribution of *S. obtusata* is uncertain due to confusion with *S. flavicauda*.

Silvery-grey with **1** numerous prominent chevron-shaped dark bars on sides of body. **2** Large underslung jaw with prominent teeth. **3** Dark caudal fin.

Max length: 90 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
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TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



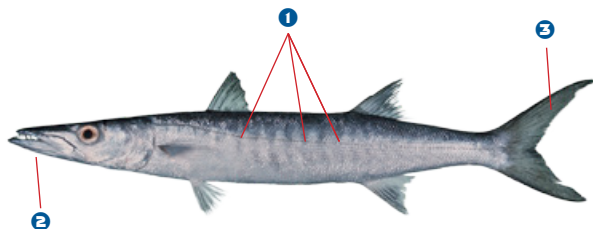
Similar to *Sphyraena qenie* but with more prominent chevron-shaped bars on sides of body. The exact distribution of *S. putnamae* is uncertain due to confusion with *S. qenie*.

Silvery-grey with about **1** 18–22 straight to slightly chevron-shaped dark bars on sides of body. **2** Large underslung jaw with prominent teeth. **3** Dark caudal fin with black margin.

Max length: 160 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		

Photo: CSIRO Australian National Fish Collection



Similar to *Sphyraena putnamae* but with almost straight bars on sides of body. The exact distribution of *S. qenie* is uncertain due to confusion with *S. putnamae*.

Jarbua terapon, crescent-banded grunter



Silvery with ❶ curved, horizontal brown bands on body, ❷ striped caudal fin with dark tip on upper lobe.

Max length: 32 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



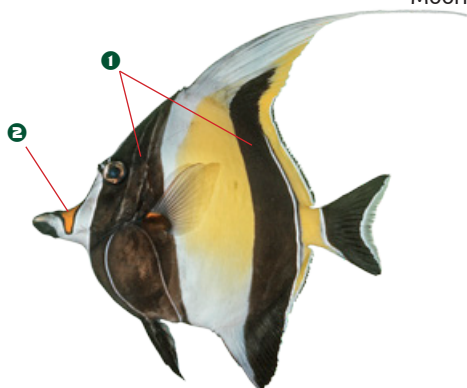
Blackfin barracuda, *Sphyraena genie*, Madang, Papua New Guinea.

Photo: Jan Messersmith, Flickr

White front body to yellow rear body, with ① two broad black bars. ② Yellow-orange saddle on snout.

Max length: 18 cm FL

AS	CK	FJ	FM	GU	KI
MH	MP	NC	NR	NU	PF
PG	PN	PW	SB	TK	TO
TV	VU	WF	WS		



Moorish Idol, *Zanclus cornutus*, Tanga, Tanzania.

Photo: Ken Clifton, Flickr

Further reading

This guide is intended to be used to assist with the identification of sharks, rays and bony fishes most commonly encountered in coastal fisheries catches, or sold at domestic fish markets, throughout the Pacific Islands region. This guide is unlikely to cover all of the species that occur in every landing or at every market stall – rarer species not presented here may occur in some catches on occasion, in which case another identification guide may be required. Moreover, this guide does not cover ornamental species (with the exception of those species also commonly consumed in the region), and, with some exceptions, the guide does not cover species targeted in oceanic longline fisheries, deep-bottom finfish fisheries or invertebrate fisheries. Below we list some of the many excellent identification guides developed for the region.

Other marine species identification guides available from the Pacific Community (SPC):

- Chapman L., Sharples P., Brogan D., Desurmont A., Beverly S. and Sokimi W. 2006. Marine species identification manual for horizontal longline fishermen. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- Chapman L., Desurmont A., Choi Y., Boblin P., Sokimi W. and Beverly S. 2008. Fish species identification manual for deep-bottom snapper fishermen. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- Pakoa K. and Barré C. 2013. Identification cards for marine invertebrate surveys in the Pacific Islands. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community). 2004. Pacific Island sea cucumber and beche-de-mer identification cards. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- SPC. 2005. Shark identification in Pacific tropical offshore fisheries. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- SPC. 2013. Deep-bottom fish identification cards for small-scale fishermen. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia.

Identification guides for elasmobranchs and teleosts in the Pacific Islands region:

- Allen G.R. 2009. Field guide to marine fishes of tropical Australia and South-East Asia. Welshpool, Western Australia: Western Australian Museum.
- Allen G.R., Steene R., Humann P., DeLoach N. 2003. Reef fish identification: tropical Pacific. Jacksonville, Florida: New World Publications, Inc.
- Last P.R. and Stevens J.D. 2009. Sharks and rays of Australia. Collingwood, Victoria: CSIRO Publishing.
- Lieske E. and Myers R. 2002. Coral reef fishes: Indo-Pacific and Caribbean (revised edition). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Myers R.F. 1999. Micronesia reef fishes: A comprehensive guide to the coral reef fishes of Micronesia (3rd edition). Guam, USA: Coral Graphics.
- Randall J.E. 2005. Reef and shore fishes of the South Pacific: New Caledonia to Tahiti and the Pitcairn Islands. Honolulu, Hawaii: University of Hawaii Press.
- Randall J.E., Allen G.R. and Steene R.C. 1997. Fishes of the Great Barrier Reef and Coral Sea (2nd edition). Honolulu, Hawaii: University of Hawaii Press.

General species identification guides relevant to the Pacific Islands region:

- Allen G.R. and Steene R. 1994. Indo-Pacific coral reef field guide. El Cajon, California: Odyssey Publishing Company.
- Humann P. and DeLoach N. 2010. Reef creature identification: tropical Pacific. Jacksonville, Florida: New World Publications, Inc.

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Deep-bodied silver-biddy	42	Foxface	127	Highfin grouper	116
<i>Diagramma pictum</i>	44	Fringelip mullet	80	Highfin parrotfish	99
Dogtooth tuna	106			<i>Himantura fai</i>	14
Dory snapper	71	G		<i>Hipposcarus longiceps</i>	94
Dotted sweetlips	46	<i>Gerres erythrourus</i>	42	Honeycomb grouper	117
Doublebar goatfish	83	<i>Gerres filamentosus</i>	42	Hound needlefish	27
Double-lined mackerel	105	<i>Gerres longirostris</i>	42	Humpback grouper	112
Doublespotted queenfish	35	<i>Gerres oblongus</i>	43	Humpback red snapper	71
Dusky parrotfish	99	<i>Gerres oyena</i>	43	Humpback unicornfish	21
Dusky rabbitfish	124	Giant grouper	115	Humphead wrasse	57
		Giant moray	87	Humpnose big-eye bream	67
E		Giant sweetlips	44	Humpnose unicornfish	23
<i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i>	35	Giant trevally	32	Hussar	69
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Elongate unicornfish	23	Globehead parrotfish	98	I	
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Emperor red snapper	74	<i>Gnathodentex aureolineatus</i>	60	Indian mackerel	106
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<i>Epibulus insidiator</i>	58	Golden spadefish	41	Island trevally	32
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<i>Epinephelus chlorostigma</i>	112	Golden-lined spinefoot	125	J	
<i>Epinephelus coeruleopunctatus</i>	113	Goldlined spinefoot	124	Japanese large-eye bream	60
<i>Epinephelus coioides</i>	113	Gold-saddle goatfish	84	Japanese parrotfish	92
<i>Epinephelus corallicola</i>	113	Gold-spotted rabbitfish	126	Jarboa terapon	130
<i>Epinephelus cyanopodus</i>	114	Goldspotted spinefoot	126		
<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i>	114	Gold-spotted sweetlips	45	K	
<i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i>	114	<i>Gracila albomarginata</i>	120	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	106
<i>Epinephelus hexagonatus</i>	115	<i>Grammatocygnus bilineatus</i>	105	Kawakawa	105

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<i>Kyphosus cinerascens</i>	54	<i>Lutjanus monostigma</i>	73	<i>Naso caesi</i>	22
<i>Kyphosus vaigiensis</i>	54	<i>Lutjanus quinquelineatus</i>	73	<i>Naso hexacanthus</i>	22
L		<i>Lutjanus rivulatus</i>	73	<i>Naso lituratus</i>	23
Large-mouthed nannygai	72	<i>Lutjanus rufolineatus</i>	74	<i>Naso lopezi</i>	23
Largescale mullet	80	<i>Lutjanus russellii</i>	74	<i>Naso tonganus</i>	23
Lattice soldierfish	50	<i>Lutjanus sebae</i>	74	<i>Naso unicornis</i>	24
<i>Leiognathus equulus</i>	59	<i>Lutjanus semicinctus</i>	75	<i>Naso vlamingii</i>	24
<i>Leiognathus fasciatus</i>	59	<i>Lutjanus timoriensis</i>	75	Needlescales queenfish	36
Lemonfish	48	<i>Lutjanus vitta</i>	75	<i>Neoniphon opercularis</i>	50
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<i>Lethrinus atkinsoni</i>	62	Malabar grouper	116	One-blotch grouper	117
<i>Lethrinus erythracanthus</i>	62	Mangrove jack	69	One-spot snapper	73
<i>Lethrinus erythropterus</i>	62	Mangrove red snapper	69	Orange-dotted tuskfish	57
<i>Lethrinus genivittatus</i>	63	Manybar goatfish	85	Orange-socket surgeonfish	15
<i>Lethrinus harak</i>	63	Many-spotted sweetlips	44	Orangespine unicornfish	23
<i>Lethrinus laticaudis</i>	63	Marbled parrotfish	94	Orangespot surgeonfish	19
<i>Lethrinus lentjan</i>	64	Marr's fusilier	29	Orange-spotted emperor	62
<i>Lethrinus miniatus</i>	64	Masked grouper	120	Orange-spotted grouper	113
<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>	64	Masked rabbitfish	125	Orangespotted trevally	30
<i>Lethrinus obsoletus</i>	65	Masked spinefoot	125	Orange-striped emperor	65
<i>Lethrinus olivaceus</i>	65	<i>Megalops cyprinoides</i>	78	Orbicular batfish	41
<i>Lethrinus ornatus</i>	65	Midnight snapper	76	Oriental sweetlips	47
<i>Lethrinus rubrioperculatus</i>	66	Milkfish	38	Ornate emperor	65
<i>Lethrinus semicinctus</i>	66	Mimic surgeonfish	20	Oxeye scad	36
<i>Lethrinus variegatus</i>	66	Moluccan snapper	70	P	
<i>Lethrinus xanthochilus</i>	67	<i>Monodactylus argenteus</i>	79	Pacific bullethead parrotfish	93
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<i>Liza vaigiensis</i>	80	Moorish idol	131	Paddletail	71
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Longfin African conger	39	Mottled spinefoot	124	Painted sweetlip	46
Longfin batfish	41	Moustache conger	39	Painted sweetlips	44
Longfin emperor	62	<i>Mugil cephalus</i>	81	Palecheek parrotfish	92
Longnose trevally	31	<i>Mulloidichthys flavolineatus</i>	82	Palelipped surgeonfish	17
Longspine emperor	63	<i>Mulloidichthys vanicolensis</i>	82	Palenose parrotfish	101
Longtail silver-biddy	42	<i>Myripristis adusta</i>	48	<i>Parupeneus barberinoides</i>	82
Lowfin drummer	54	<i>Myripristis amaena</i>	48	<i>Parupeneus barberinus</i>	83
<i>Lutjanus adetii</i>	69	<i>Myripristis berndti</i>	48	<i>Parupeneus ciliatus</i>	83
<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	69	<i>Myripristis kuntze</i>	49	<i>Parupeneus crassilabris</i>	83
<i>Lutjanus bohar</i>	69	<i>Myripristis murdjan</i>	49	<i>Parupeneus cyclostomus</i>	84
<i>Lutjanus bouton</i>	70	<i>Myripristis pralinia</i>	49	<i>Parupeneus heptacanthus</i>	84
<i>Lutjanus carponotatus</i>	70	<i>Myripristis violacea</i>	50	<i>Parupeneus indicus</i>	84
<i>Lutjanus ehrenbergii</i>	70	<i>Myripristis vittata</i>	50	<i>Parupeneus insularis</i>	85
<i>Lutjanus fulviflamma</i>	71	N		<i>Parupeneus multifasciatus</i>	85
<i>Lutjanus fulvus</i>	71	Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel	107	<i>Parupeneus pleurostigma</i>	85
<i>Lutjanus gibbus</i>	71	<i>Naso annulatus</i>	21	Peacock grouper	108
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Pink ear emperor	64	Saddletail snapper	72	<i>Siganus spinus</i>	126
Pink squirrelfish	52	Sailfin snapper	76	<i>Siganus vermiculatus</i>	126
Pink whipray	14	Sailfin surgeonfish	24	<i>Siganus vulpinus</i>	127
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<i>Platax teira</i>	41	<i>Sargocentron caudimaculatum</i>	51	Silvertip shark	10
<i>Plectorhinchus albivittatus</i>	44	<i>Sargocentron cornutum</i>	51	Singapore parrotfish	100
<i>Plectorhinchus chaetodonoides</i>	44	<i>Sargocentron spiniferum</i>	52	Sixblotch hind	110
<i>Plectorhinchus chrysotaenia</i>	45	<i>Sargocentron tiere</i>	52	Sixfinger threadfin	88
<i>Plectorhinchus flavomaculatus</i>	45	<i>Sargocentron tiereoides</i>	52	Skipjack tuna	106
<i>Plectorhinchus gibbosus</i>	45	<i>Sargocentron violaceum</i>	53	Sleek unicornfish	22
<i>Plectorhinchus lessonii</i>	46	Sawtooth barracuda	129	Slender emperor	66
<i>Plectorhinchus lineatus</i>	46	Scalloped hammerhead	12	Slender grouper	108
<i>Plectorhinchus picus</i>	46	Scarlet soldierfish	49	Slender silver-biddy	43
<i>Plectorhinchus vittatus</i>	47	<i>Scarus altipinnis</i>	95	Slender unicornfish	23
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<i>Plectropomus laevis</i> (dark form)	121	<i>Scarus dimidiatus</i>	96	Small spotted dart	37
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<i>Plectropomus maculatus</i>	121	<i>Scarus frenatus</i>	97	Snubnose chub	54
<i>Plectropomus oligacanthus</i>	122	<i>Scarus ghobban</i>	98	Snubnose dart	37
<i>Polydactylus sexfilis</i>	88	<i>Scarus globiceps</i>	98	Snubnose grouper	116
<i>Priacanthus blochii</i>	89	<i>Scarus longipinnis</i>	99	Spangled emperor	64
<i>Priacanthus hamrur</i>	89	<i>Scarus niger</i>	99	Spanish flag	70
<i>Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus</i>	26	<i>Scarus oviceps</i>	100	Speckled blue grouper	114
<i>Pterocaesio marri</i>	29	<i>Scarus prasiognathos</i>	100	Speckled grouper	114
<i>Pterocaesio tile</i>	29	<i>Scarus psittacus</i>	101	<i>Sphyaena barracuda</i>	128
<i>Pterocaesio trilineata</i>	29	<i>Scarus quoyi</i>	101	<i>Sphyaena forsteri</i>	128
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Q		<i>Scarus rubroviolaceus</i>	102	<i>Sphyaena obtusata</i>	129
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R		<i>Scarus xanthopleura</i>	104	Splitlevel hogfish	55
Rainbow runner	35	Scissortail fusilier	28	Spotcheek emperor	66
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Red bass	69	<i>Scomberoides tol</i>	36	Spotted coral grouper	121
Red emperor	74	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	107	Spotted oceanic triggerfish	26
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Redbreasted wrasse	56	<i>Selar boops</i>	36	Squaretail mullet	80
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Redlip parrotfish	102	<i>Seriola dumerili</i>	37	Starspotted grouper	115
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Rusty jobfish	68	<i>Siganus lineatus</i>	125	<i>Strongylura incisa</i>	27

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Threespot squirrelfish	51	Yellowbarred parrotfish	96
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Tille trevally	34	Yellowfin parrotfish	96
Timor snapper	75	Yellowfin surgeonfish	20
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