

Eggs have a diameter of 0.77 to 0.85 mm and hatch in 20 to 27 hours (at 23 to 27°C). Estimated maximum age: 10 to 16 years.

**Size :** Maximum total length about 100 cm; common to 60 cm. Matures at about 30 to 40 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries :** This is one of the most important lutjanids in the Gulf fishery in terms of weight and value. In 1983 a total catch of 5 514 metric tons was reported to FAO (Fishing Area 31). Caught with bottom longlines, handlines, and bottom trawls. Marketed fresh and frozen.

**Local Names :** CUBA: Pargo colorado; MEXICO: Guachinango del Golfo.

**Literature :** Rivas (1966); Anderson (1967); Fischer (ed.) (1978).

**Remarks :** Sometimes referred to as Lutjanus aya by past authors, but Rivas (1966) provided evidence that indicates Bodianus aya Bloch (1790:45) is not a lutjanid, but probably a sciaenid.

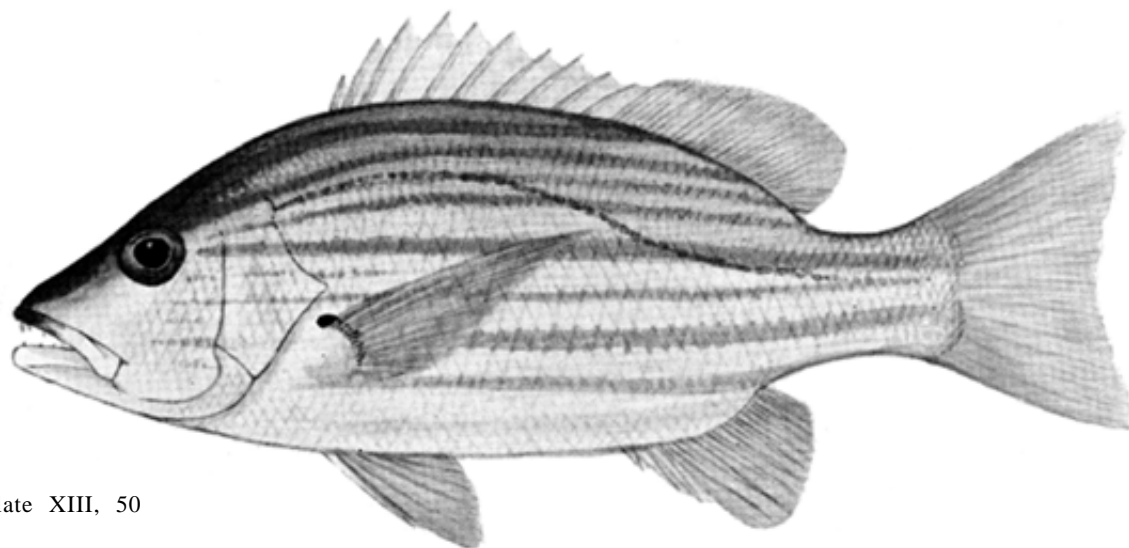
**Lutjanus carponotatus** (Richardson, 1842)

LUT Lut 49

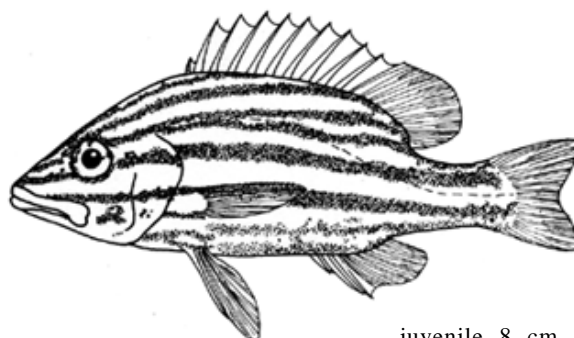
Mesoprion cerponotatus Richardson, 1842, Ann.Mag.Nat.Hist., 9:28 (Port Essington, Australia).

**Synonyms :** Mesoprion chrysotaenia Bleeker (1851); Mesoprion naborer Thiollère (in Montrouzier, 1856).

**FAO Names :** En- Spanish flag snapper; Fr - Vivaneau drapeau; Sp - Pargo abanderado.



See Plate XIII, 50



juvenile 8 cm

**Diagnostic Features :** Body moderately deep (greatest depth 2.4 to 2.7 times in standard length). Snout somewhat pointed, dorsal profile of head steeply sloped; preorbital bone about equal to eye diameter, or slightly wider; preopercular notch and knob poorly developed; vomerine tooth patch triangular, with a medial posterior extension, or diamond-shaped; tongue with a patch of granular teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 8 to 11, total rakers on first arch 15 to 18. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 14 to 16 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 9 soft rays; posterior profile of dorsal and anal fins rounded; pectoral fins with 15 to 17 rays; caudal fin emarginate. Scale rows on back rising obliquely above lateral line.

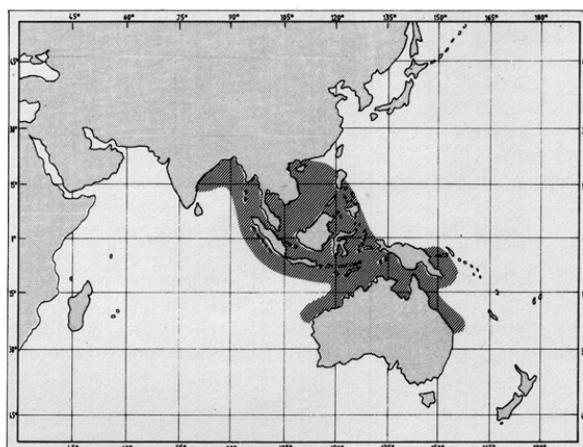
**Colour:** back and upper sides blue-grey or brownish; lower sides and belly white or yellow-white; a series of 8 or 9 orange, yellow, or golden-brown stripes on sides; fins yellowish; pectoral fin with a distinct black spot at base of uppermost rays and in axil. Trawl-captured specimens from deeper water may be pink with yellow stripes.

**Geographical Distribution :** Western Pacific and northeastern Indian Ocean, from northern Australia to India.

**Habitat and Biology :** Inhabits coral reefs in both sheltered lagoons and on outer reef slopes in depths between about 2 and 35 m. Also trawled to about 80 m depth. Often seen in schools of up to 20 to 30 individuals.

**Size :** Maximum total length about 40 cm; common to 30 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries :** Occasionally seen in markets. More important as a subsistence or recreational fish. Caught mainly with handlines or rod and reel (off Australia); also with traps and gill nets. Marketed fresh.



**Local Names :** AUSTRALIA: Spanish flag, Stripey; THE PHILIPPINES: Manila, Manilan-on, Maya-maya.

**Literature :** Grant (1982); Gloerfelt-Tarp & Kailola (1984); Allen & Talbot (1985).

**Remarks :** Sometimes referred to as L. chrysotaenia by previous authors.

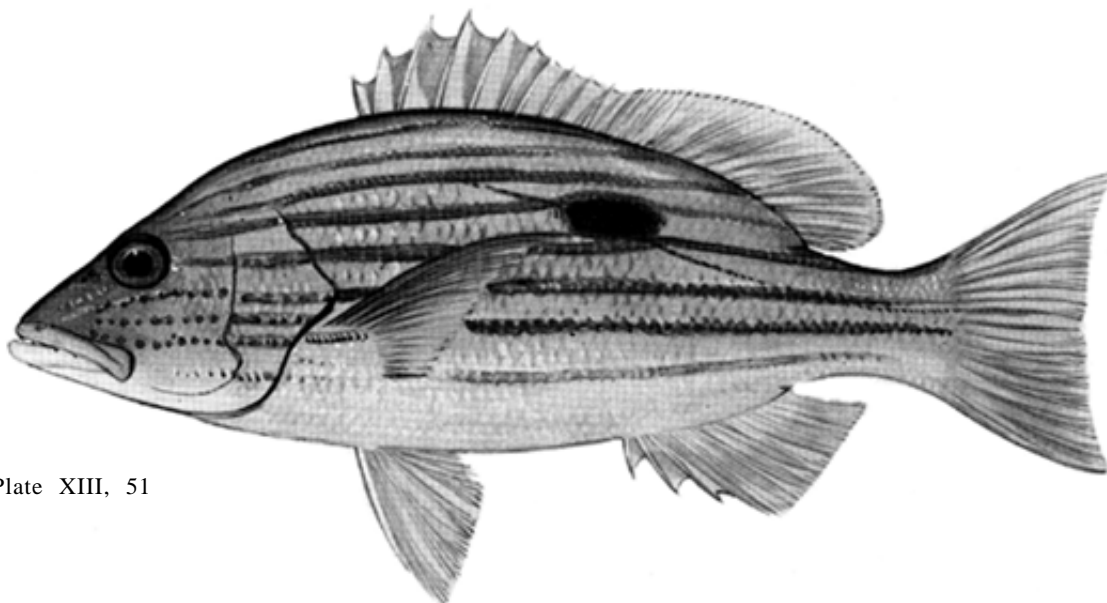
**Lutianus coeruleolineatus** (Rüppell, 1838)

LUT Lut 32

DiaCOPE coeruleo-lineata Rüppell, 1838, Neve Wirbelth., Fische:93 (Massaua and Djedda, Red Sea).

**Synonyms :** None.

**FAO Names :** En- Blueline snapper; Fr - Vivaneau strié; Sp - Pargo estriado.



See Plate XIII, 51

**Diagnostic Features :** Body moderately deep (greatest depth 2.4 to 2.6 times in standard length). Snout somewhat pointed, dorsal profile of head moderately sloped; preorbital bone slightly narrower than eye diameter; preopercular notch and knob poorly developed; vomerine tooth patch crescentic, without a medial posterior extension; tongue smooth, without teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 14 or 15, total rakers on first arch 21 to 23. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 12 to 14 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 or 9 soft rays; posterior profile of dorsal and anal fins rounded; pectoral fins with 16 or 17 rays; caudal fin emarginate. Scale rows on back rising obliquely above lateral line. Colour: back brownish; sides yellow, grading to white on belly; 7 or 8 blue longitudinal stripes on sides, the upper 4 slanting posteriorly toward dorsal fin base; a large blackish spot on back below anterior portion of soft dorsal fin; blue spots and broken lines on head; fins yellowish.

**Geographical Distribution :** Seas surrounding the Arabian Peninsula except the northern Red Sea and the "Gulf".

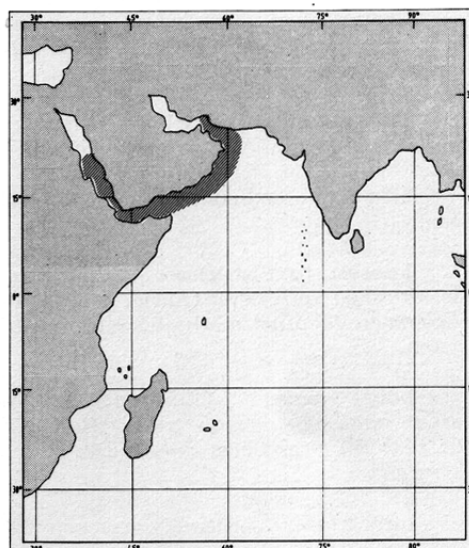
**Habitat and Biology :** Inhabits coral reefs at depths between about 10 and 20 m. Occurs solitarily or in small groups.

**Size :** Maximum total length about 35 cm; common to 20 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries :** Regularly found in fish markets along the Arabian coast, but in small numbers. An important part of the subsistence fishery caught mainly with handlines, traps and gill nets; occasionally trawled. Marketed mostly fresh.

**Local Names :** -

**Literature :** Randall (1983); Fischer & Bianchi (eds) (1984); Allen & Talbot (1985).



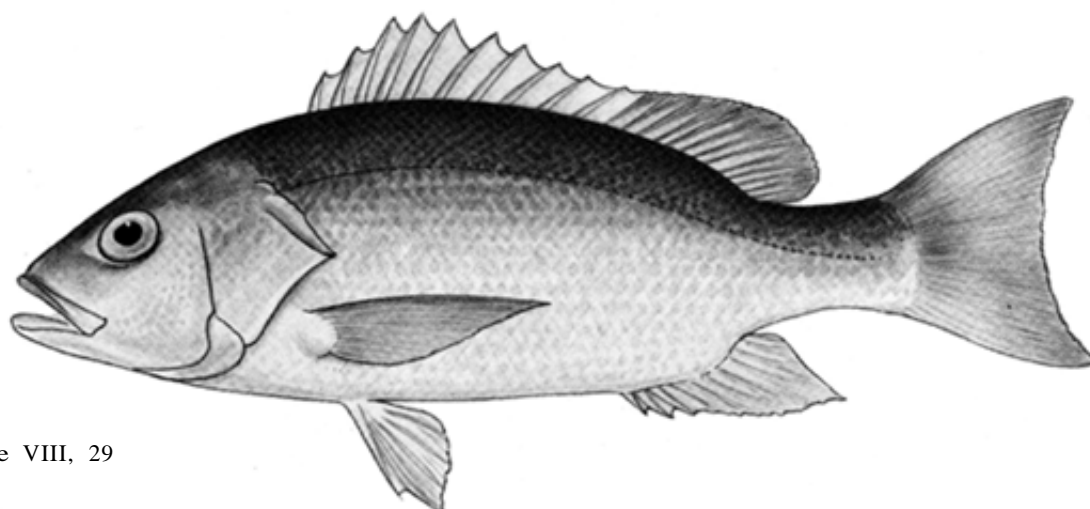
**Lutjanus colorado** Jordan & Gilbert, 1882

LUT Lut 50

Lutjanus colorado Jordan & Gilbert, 1882, Proc.U.S.Nat.Mus., 1881:338, 351, 355 (Mazatlán, Mexico).

**Synonyms :** None.

**FAO Names :** En - Colorado snapper; Fr - Vivaneau amarante; Sp - Pargo rojo.



See Plate VIII, 29

**Diagnostic Features :** Preopercular notch and knob weak; vomerine tooth patch crescentic, without a medial posterior extension; tongue with one or more patches of granular teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 11 or 12. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 13 or 14 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 (occasionally 7) soft rays; posterior profile of dorsal and anal fins angular; pectoral fins with 16 or 17 rays; caudal fin truncate. Colour: body and fins mostly red; sometimes a blue streak under eye. Young specimens are barred.