**Diagnostic Features**: Body moderately deep (greatest depth 2.5 to 3.0 times in standard length). Dorsal profile of head sloped; mouth relatively small, length of upper jaw smaller than distance between base of last dorsal and anal rays; preorbital bone usually narrower than eye diameter; preopercular notch and knob poorly developed; vomerine tooth patch crescentic or triangular, without a medial posterior extension; tongue smooth, without teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 13 or 14, total rakers on first arch 18 or 19. 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: overall pink or red, including fins; juveniles with a broad, oblique, black band extending from mouth to beginning of dorsal fin and a large black spot at base of caudal fin; frequently with narrow red stripes.

**Geographical Distribution**: Widespread in the Indo-West Pacific from Australia and New Guinea to the Gulf of Oman, and northward to southern Japan.

**Habitat and Biology**: Inhabits trawling grounds and reefs to depths of at least 100 m.

**Size**: Maximum total length about 60 cm; common to 45 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries**: An excellent foodfish, appearing regularly in markets, but usually in small quantities. Caught mainly with handlines and bottom trawls. Marketed fresh or dried-salted.

**Local Names**: AUSTRALIA: Saddle-tailed sea-perch; TANZANIA: Changu; THE PHILIPPINES: Ahaan, Dapak, Pulakau.


**Remarks**: This species has been referred to as *Lutjanus malabaricus* (non Schneider) or *L. altifrontalis* by many recent authors.

**Lutjanus fulgens** (Valenciennes, 1830)


**Synonyms**: *Lutjanus maltzani* Steindachner (1882).

**FAO Names**: En - Golden African snapper; Fr - Vivaneau doré; Sp - Pargo dorado africano.
Diagnostic Features: Body moderately slender. Head blunt, snout short, much shorter than eye diameter; eye very large; preorbital bone narrow, its width less than half the eye diameter; maxilla extending to about mid-eye level; preopercular notch and knob weak; vomerine tooth patch triangular, with a pronounced median posterior extension. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 13 or 14 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins short, not reaching level of anus; caudal fin emarginate. Scales moderate-sized, about 43 to 46 in lateral line; scale rows on back parallel to lateral line; scales between lateral line and base of dorsal fin (at middle of spinous portion) 4½ to 5; scale rows on cheek 5. Colour: back and sides vivid pink; silvery white on lower sides and belly; sides with horizontal golden bands, one per scale row.

Geographical Distribution: West African coast, primarily between Nigeria and Senegal, and in the Gulf of Guinea; also at the Cape Verde Islands.

Habitat and Biology: Occurs on rocky bottoms to at least 60 m depth; also found in deeper offshore waters. Feeds on fishes and crustaceans.

Size: Maximum total length about 60 cm; common to 50 cm.

Interest to Fisheries: Important in local subsistence fisheries. Most common from May to October off Senegal. Caught with handlines and trawl nets.

Local Names: IVORY COAST: Edion-si, Késan, Kpéna; SENEGAL: Madam Simèr, Mame Simèr; TOGO: Haha.


*Lutjanus fulviflamma* (Forsskål, 1775)


Synonyms: Centropomus hober Lacepède (1803); *Lutjanus unimaculatus* Quoy & Gaimard (1824); *Mesoprion auro-lineatus* Cuvier (in C. & V., 1830); *Mesoprion terubuan* Thiollière (in Montrouzier, 1856); *Mesoprion aureovittatus* Macleay (1879).
FAO Names: En - Blackspot snapper; Fr - Vivaneau gibelot; Sp - Pargo tintero.

See Plate XIV, 56

Diagnostic Features: Body moderately deep to somewhat slender (greatest depth 2.6 to 2.9 times in standard length). Dorsal profile of head moderately sloped; preorbital bone about equal in width to eye diameter or slightly less; preopercular notch and kob 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) 9 to 12, total rakers on first arch 16 to 19. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 12 to 14 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; posterior profile of dorsal and anal fins rounded to somewhat angular; pectoral fins with 15 to 17 rays; caudal fin truncate or slightly emarginate. Scale rows on back rising obliquely above lateral line. Colour: back and upper sides brown; lower sides whitish or light brown; whitish to yellow on belly; a series of 6 or 7 yellow stripes on sides; a prominent black spot at level of lateral line below base of anterior part of soft portion of dorsal fin; fins yellowish.

Geographical Distribution: Widespread in the Indo-Pacific from Samoa to East Africa, and from Australia northward to the Ryukyu Islands.

Habitat and Biology: Inhabits coral reefs at depths between about 3 and 35 m. Juveniles sometimes found in brackish water of mangrove estuaries or in the lower reaches of freshwater streams. Feeds mainly on fishes, shrimps, crabs and other crustaceans. At New Caledonia and East Africa spawning occurs mainly from August to March (spring and summer).

Size: Maximum total length about 35 cm; common to 25 cm. Matures at about 20 to 25 cm.

Interest to Fisheries: A small species, commonly utilized in subsistence fisheries and also seen frequently in markets, usually fresh. Caught mainly with handlines, traps and gill nets.


Lutjanus fulvus (Schneider, 1801)

Holocentrus fulvus Schneider (in Bloch & Schneider), 1801, Syst. Ichth.:318 (Tahiti).

Synonyms: Diacope vaigiensis Quoy & Gaimard (1824); Diacope marginata Cuvier (in C. & V., 1828); Diacope immaculata Cuvier (in C. & V., 1828); Diacope xanthopus Cuvier (in C. & V., 1829); Diacope flavipes Valenciennes (in C. & V., 1830); Diacope analis Valenciennes (in C. & V., 1830); Diacope aurantica Valenciennes (in C. & V., 1830); Mesoprion argentus Hombron & Jacquinot (in Jacquinot & Guichenot, 1853); Mesoprion maus Thiollière (in Montoulieu, 1856); Mesoprion gaimardi Bleeker (1859); Mesoprion kagoshima Steindachner & Doederlein (1883); Mesoprion marginipinnis Macleay (1883); Genyoroge nigricauda De Vis (1885a); Lutjanus marginatoides Kendall & Goldsborough (1911).

FAO Names: En - Blacktail snapper; Fr - Vivaneau queue noire; Sp - Pargo rabo negro.

See Plate XV, 57

Diagnostic Features: Dorsal profile of head steeply sloped; preorbital bone about equal in width to eye diameter; preopercular notch and knob well developed; vomerine tooth patch crescentic, without a medial posterior extension; tongue smooth, without teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 10 to 13, total rakers on first arch 16 to 20. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 14 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; posterior profile of dorsal and anal fins rounded; pectoral fins with 16 rays; caudal fin slightly emarginate. Scale rows on back rising obliquely above lateral line. Colour: back and sides grey to brown; often with a series of narrow yellow or golden-brown stripes, one per scale rows, on sides; belly and underside of head whitish; dorsal fin brown to reddish, with a narrow blackish band near margin, broader on soft part of dorsal; caudal fin blackish, dorsal and caudal fins with a narrow white border; pelvic and anal fins yellowish.

Geographical Distribution: Widespread in the Indo-Pacific from the Marquesas and Line Islands to East Africa, and from Australia to southern Japan. Introduced to the Hawaiian Islands.

Habitat and Biology: Inhabits coral reefs in lagoons and on outer reef slopes in about 2 to 40 m depth. Juveniles sometimes found in shallow mangrove swamps and the lower parts of freshwater streams. Feeds at night on fishes, shrimps, crabs, holothurians and cephalopods. Spawning occurs throughout the year, at least in lower latitudes.

Size: Maximum total length about 40 cm; common to 25 cm. Matures at about 20 to 30 cm.