

Geographical Distribution : Tropical western Atlantic Ocean extending northward to North Carolina and south to about Rio de Janeiro. Particularly abundant off eastern Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, and in the Gulf of Campeche.

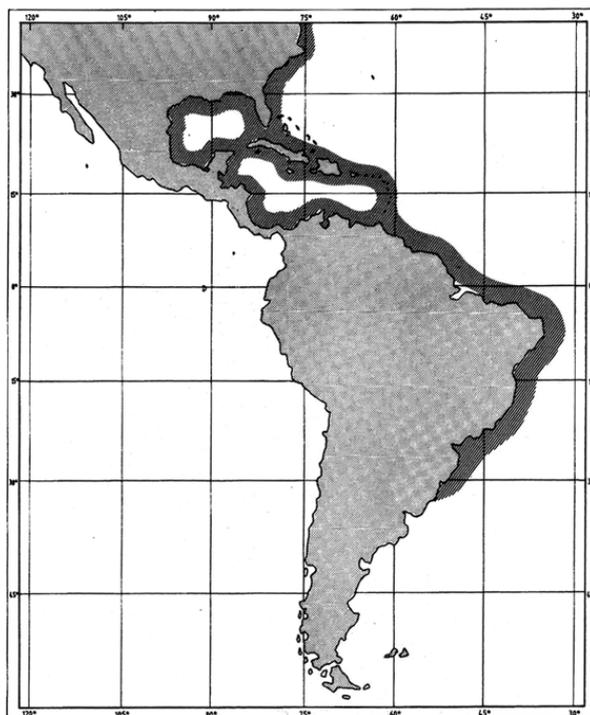
Habitat and Biology : Found in moderately deep waters, most commonly over rocky bottom near the edge of the continental and island shelves. Young specimens occur in shallower depths (below 25 m). Often forms large schools, particularly the young. Feeds on fishes, shrimps, crabs, polychaetes, other benthic invertebrates, cephalopods and planktonic organisms. Spawning occurs over most of the year with peak activity during spring and summer, at least in the northern part of the range (Puerto Rico to the Carolinas). Estimated maximum age: 10 years.

Size : Maximum total length about 60 cm; common to 35 cm. Matures at about 19 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : This species may have potential as a source of fishmeal, although the flesh is of good quality. Caught mainly with simple or multiple handlines and traps; occasionally large numbers of primarily young specimens are taken with beam trawls. Marketed fresh and frozen.

Local Names : COLOMBIA: Camaronero, Pargo colorado; CUBA: Cazón de lo alto, Cotorro; MARTINIQUE: Ti-yeux; MEXICO: Besugo; PUERTO RICO: Besugo, Rubio, Tumaro; VENEZUELA: Cunaro.

Literature : Jordan & Evermann (1896); Anderson (1967); Fischer (ed.) (1978); Uyeno *et al.* (1983).



Symphorichthys Munro, 1967

LUT Sympho

Genus : Symphorichthys Munro, 1967:310. Type-species Mesoprion nematophorus Bleeker, 1860, by original designation.

Synonyms : None.

A single species in the genus - see Symphorichthys spilurus.

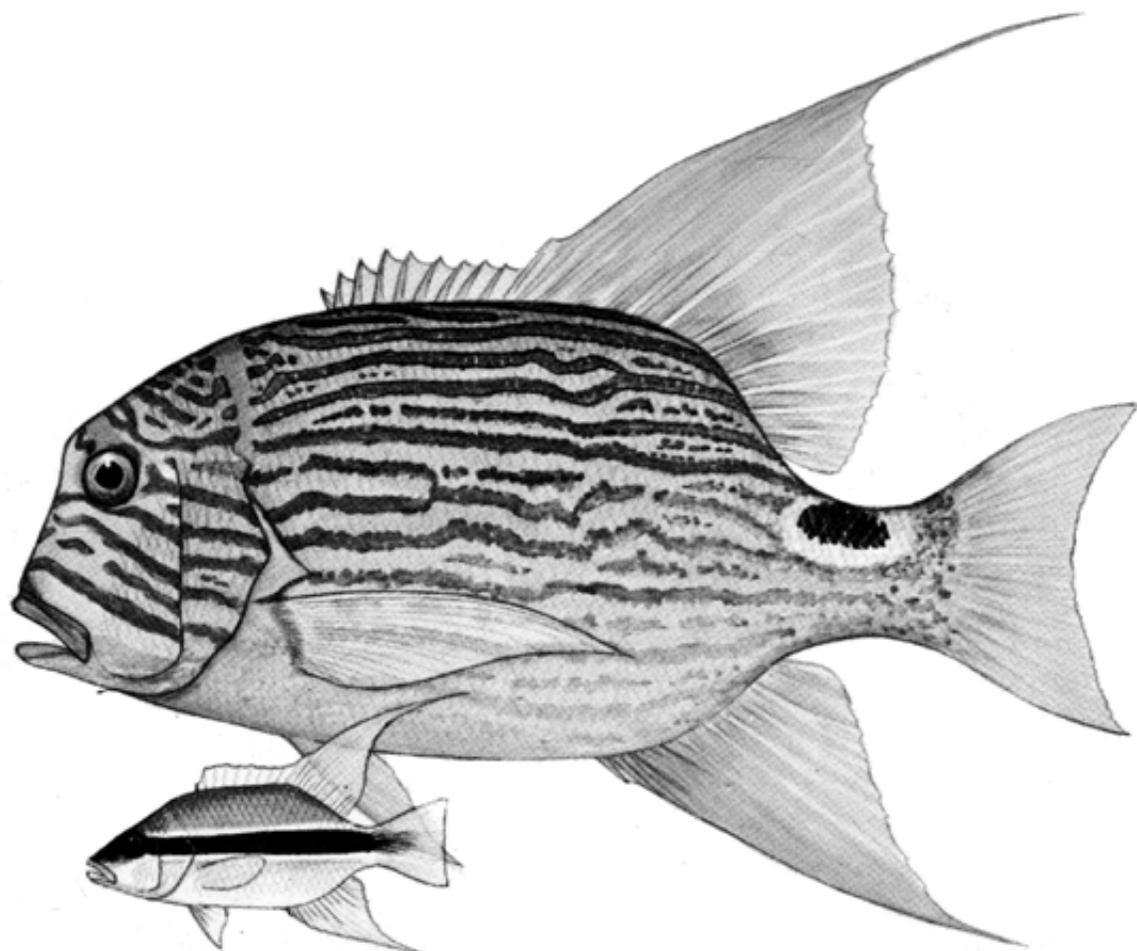
Symphorichthys spilurus (Günther, 1874)

LUT Sympho 1

Symphorus spilurus Günther, 1874, Journ.Mus.Godeffroy, 2-3 (5-6):61 (Pelew Islands).

Synonyms : None.

FAO Names : En - Sailfin snapper; Fr - Vivaneau voilier; Sp - Pargo Velero.



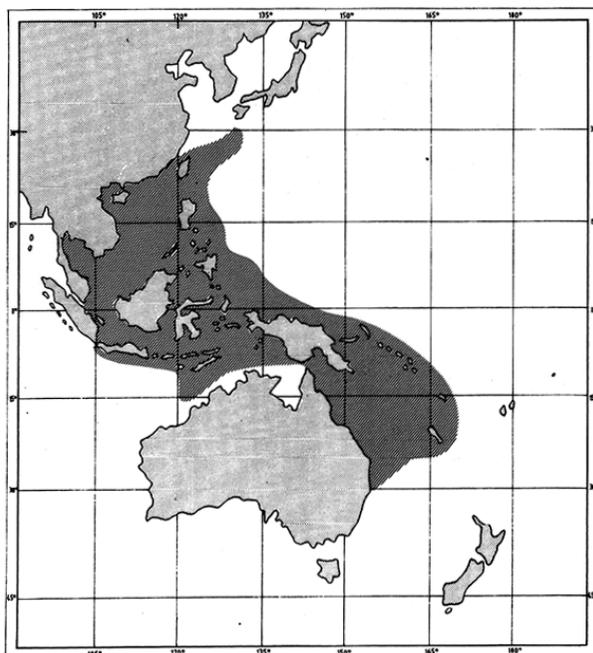
See Plate XXVIII, 102, 102a juvenile

Diagnostic Features : Body deep, laterally compressed. Head profile rounded with an angular forehead and a steep snout; preorbital bone broader than eye; preopercular notch and knob absent; mouth reaching below front part of eye; upper jaw with a row of submolar teeth, lower jaw with about 3 rows of smaller submolars; also front of both jaws with an outer row of short conical canines, slightly larger than the other teeth; vomer toothless; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 4 to 6; total rakers on first arch 14 or 15. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 14 to 18 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 to 11 soft rays; one or more anterior soft rays of dorsal and anal fins produced into long filaments; pectoral fin long, reaching level of anus or beyond, with 16 rays; caudal fin emarginate. Scales moderate-sized, about 53 to 59 in lateral line; scale rows on back parallel to lateral line. Colour: overall yellowish, with a series of bright blue stripes on sides and head; a prominent black spot with a pale margin on upper edge of caudal peduncle. Juveniles light brown above and white below with broad black stripe along middle of sides.

Geographical Distribution : Western margin of the tropical Pacific Ocean including New Caledonia, the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, New Guinea, Admiralty Islands, Palau Islands, the Philippines, and the Ryukyu Islands; also known from Rowley Shoals in the eastern Indian Ocean off Broome, Western Australia.

Habitat and Biology : Found over sand bottoms in the vicinity of coral reefs at depths between about 5 and 60 m. Usually seen solitarily. Feeds on fishes and sand-dwelling crustaceans and molluscs.

Size : Maximum total length about 60 cm; common to 35 cm.



Interest ta Fisheries : Occasionally seen in markets, usually fresh. Caught mainly with handlines and bottom trawls.

Local Names : AUSTRALIA: Blue-lined sea-bream; JAPAN: Irezumi-fuedai; PALAU: Edui; THE PHILIPPINES: Darag-darag, Lagan, Malaponte, Maya-maya.

Literature : Fowler (1933); Weber & De Beaufort (1936); Munro (1967); Grant (1982); Masuda *et al.* (1984).

Symphorus Günther, 1872

LUT Symphor

Genus : Symphorus Günther, 1872:438 Type-species Symphorus taeniolatus Günter, 1872 (= Symphorus nematophorus / Bleeker, 1860 /, by original designation.

Synonyms : None.

A single species in the genus - see Symphorus nematophorus.

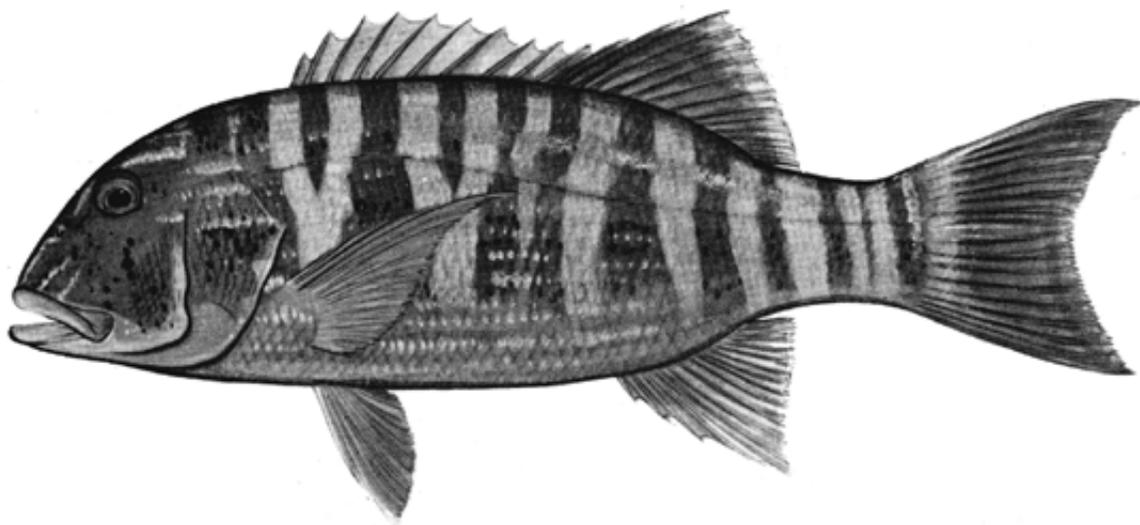
Symphorus nematophorus (Bleeker, 1860)

LUT Symphor 1

Mesoprion nematophorus Bleeker, 1860, Act.Soc.Sci.Ind.Néerland., 8:56 (Celebes).

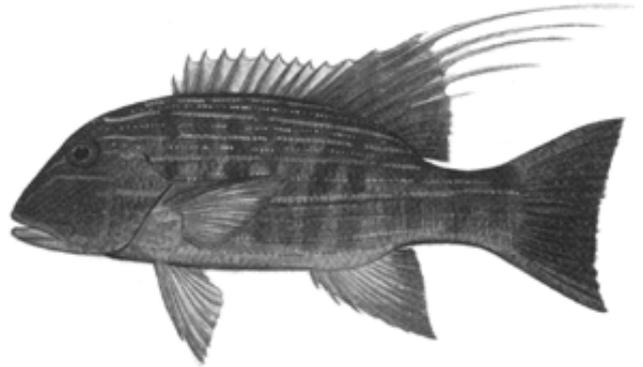
Synonyms : (From Munro, 1967) Symphorus taenilatus Günther (1872); Symphorus forsteri Fowler (1933).

FAO Names: En - Chinamanfish; Fr - Vivaneau diable; Sp - Pargo diablo.



See Plate XXVIII, 103

Diagnostic Features : Body deep, laterally compressed. Head profile steep; preorbital bone broader than eye; a deep groove between eye and nostrils; preopercular notch and knob absent; mouth large, extending to below middle of eye; teeth in jaws in narrow bands, with the outer ones enlarged; canine teeth present at front of upper jaw; vomer toothless; tongue with a patch of granular teeth; gill rakers on lower limb of first arch (including rudiments) 13; total rakers on first arch 18. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 15 or 16 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 9 soft rays; one or more anterior dorsal soft rays produced into long filaments in young specimens; pectoral fins long, reaching level of anus, with 16 rays; caudal fin emarginate. Scales moderate-sized about 49 to 55 in lateral line; scale rows on back parallel to lateral line. Colour: adults mainly reddish, frequently with lighter blotching or transverse bars; young brown on back and upper sides yellowish below with bright blue stripes on side.



juvenile

See Plate XXVIII. 103a

Geographical Distribution : Tropical western Pacific Ocean throughout the Indo-Australian Archipelago (New Guinea and Australia to the Malay Peninsula) and northward to the Ryukyu Islands.

Habitat and Biology : Inhabits coral reefs from shallow water to depths of at least 50 m. Occurs solitarily. Feeds mainly on fishes.

Size : Maximum total length about 80 cm; common to 45 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : Frequently seen in markets, usually fresh. The flesh is excellent eating but in Queensland it is considered dangerous due to ciguatera poisons. Caught mainly with hook-and-line; also speared by divers.

Local Names : AUSTRALIA: Chinaman-fish; JAPAN: Itohiki-fuedai; NEW CALEDONIA: Barbillon; THE PHILIPPINES: Malaponte, Sampak bakal, Tagpian.

Literature : Fowler (1931); Munro (1967); Grant (1982); Masuda *et al.* (1984).

