

Scolopsis bimaculatus Rüppell, 1828

Fig. 199, Plate VII, a

NEMIP Scol 5

Scolopsis bimaculatus Rüppell, 1828-31 (1828), *Fische des Rothen Meers*: 8, pl. 2, fig. 2 (Massowah, Red Sea).

Synonyms: None.

FAO Names: En - Thumbprint monocle bream. Fr - Mamila Saint Pierre. Sp - Besugato de San Pedro.

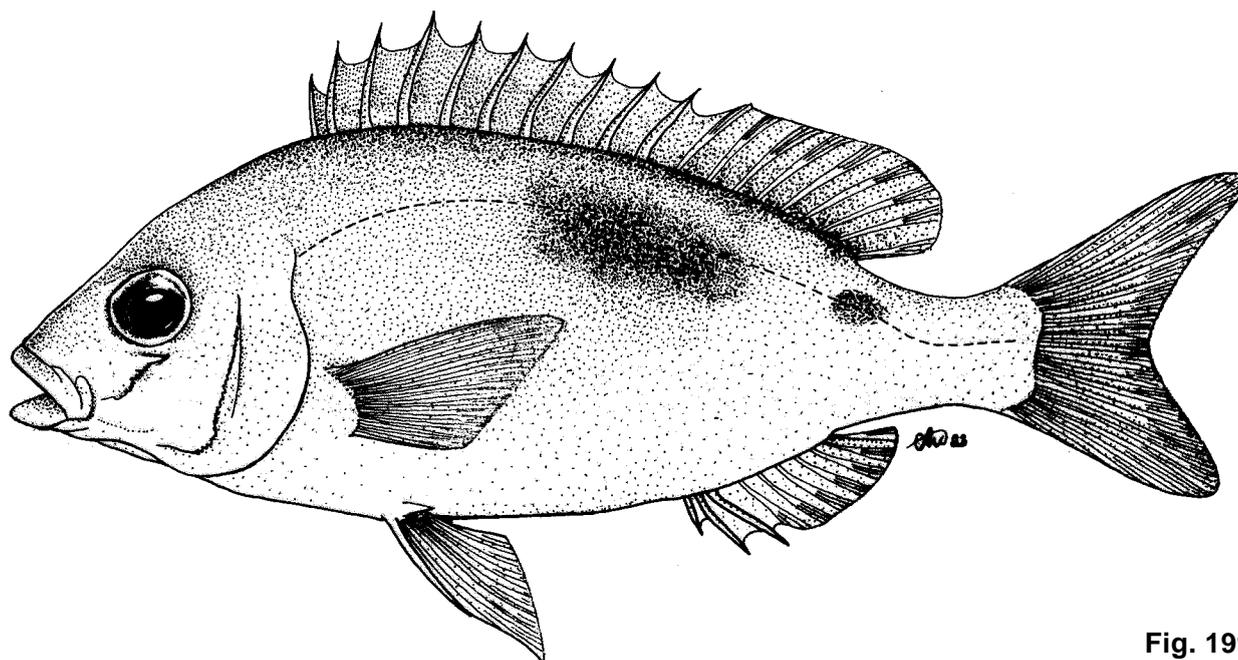


Fig. 199

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 2.6 to 3.3 in SL; snout length about equal to diameter of eye; head scales reaching forward to level of posterior nostrils; lower limb of preopercle scaly; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 1.5 to 4.4 in eye diameter; lateral-line scales 45 to 48 (usually 45 to 47); pectoral-fin rays ii, 15 to 17 (usually ii, 16); pelvic fins long, reaching to between level of anus and origin of anal fin; caudal fin forked. **Colour:** body pale grey, whitish on ventral surface; an elongate brownish blotch (or pair of blotches) on upper part of side, beginning beneath seventh or eighth dorsal spine and intersected by lateral line; a blue stripe joining eyes.

Geographical Distribution: Western Indian Ocean from Muscat to Delagoa Bay, Mozambique, including the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and the Bay of Bengal (Fig. 200).

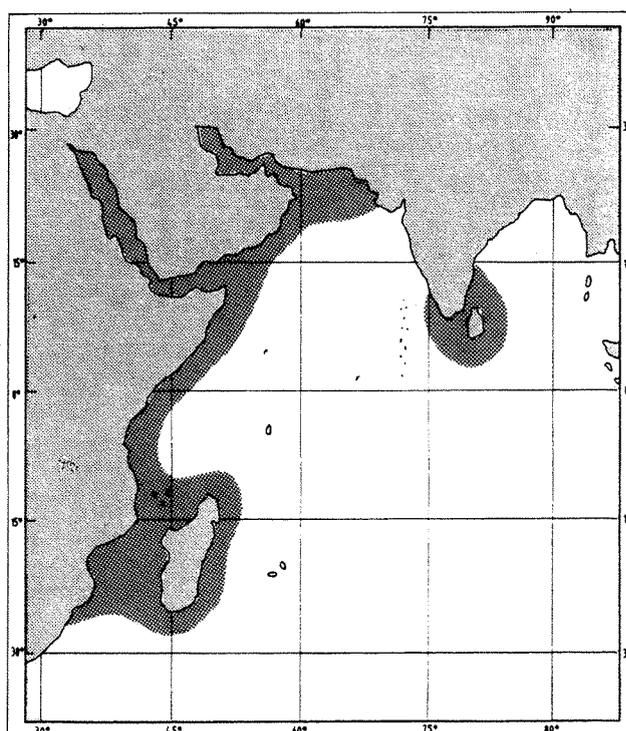


Fig. 200

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species, found in inshore waters usually on coral reefs or sand or mud bottoms close to reefs, in depths to 60 m. In Kenya, mature females occur all year round but there appear to be two peaks in spawning, in March to May and September to November (Nzoika, 1985b). *S. bimaculatus* feeds on crustaceans, molluscs, echinoderms, and fish.

Size: Maximum size is 25 cm SL, commonly 13 cm SL.

Interest to Fisheries: Taken by bottom trawls, handlines, traps and gill nets. An important artisanal catch species in Kenya. No major fishery exists.

Local Names: SRI LANKA: Pol ranna (Sinhalese). BAHRAIN: Ebzaymee. SOUTH AFRICA: Dubbelvek-stekelwang, double blotch spinecheek. MADAGASCAR: Ambity. TANZANIA: Sururu (Tanga), Changu-chole (Mafia).

Literature: Munro (1955); Randall *et al.* (1978); Fischer & Bianchi (1984); Bauchot & Bianchi (1984); Bianchi (1985a, 1985b); Al-Baharna (1986); Kuronuma & Abe (1986, as *S. phaeops*); Smith & Heemstra (1986); Allen & Steene (1987).

Scolopsis ciliatus (Lacépède, 1802)

Fig. 201, Plate VII, b

NEMIP Scol 10

Holocentrus ciliatus Lacépède, 1802, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 4: 333 (no locality given).

Synonyms: *Scolopsides lycogenis* Cuvier *in* C. & V. (1830a); *Lycogenis argyrosoma* Kuhl & Van Hasselt *in* C. & V. (1830a) (name in synonymy); ?*Scolopsis specularis* De Vis (1882); *Scolopsis luzonia* Jordan & Seale (1907).

FAO Names: En - Saw-jawed monocle bream.

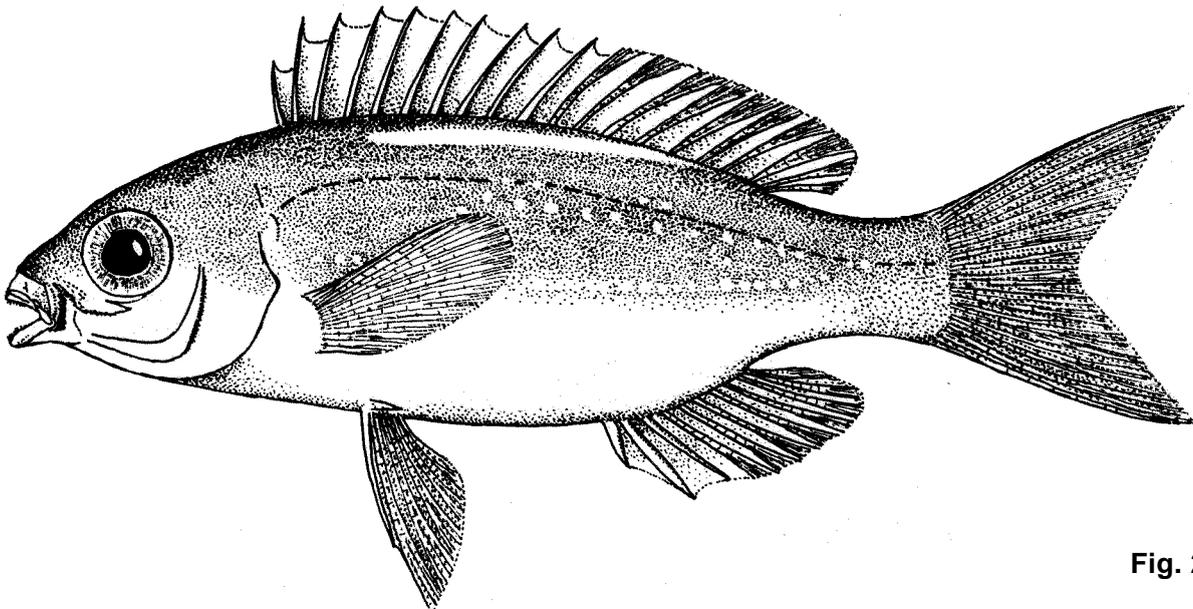


Fig. 201

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 3.0 to 3.4 in SL; snout length a little less than diameter of eye; maxillary denticulate along its external edge; head scales reaching forward to or just in front of level of anterior nostrils; lower limb of preopercle scaly; antrorse suborbital spine present beneath eye; suborbital depth 2.7 to 5.0 in eye; lateral-line scales 41 to 43 (usually

43); pectoral-fin rays ii, 14 to 16 (usually 11, 15); pelvic fins long, reaching to or just beyond level of anus; caudal fin forked. **Colour:** body olive above, white below; a silvery-white stripe on the back beneath the dorsal fin; a row of golden-yellow spots midlaterally from behind tip of pectoral fin to caudal peduncle; caudal fin with upper and lower edges reddish.

Geographical Distribution: Andaman Sea and western Pacific, including the Ryukyu Islands, Philippines, Indonesia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (Fig. 202).

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species, found on sandy bottoms close to coral reefs. Occurs often in small groups. Feeds on benthic invertebrates and small fishes.

Size: Maximum size is 13.5 cm SL, commonly 10 cm SL.

Interest to Fisheries: Appears occasionally in small numbers in local markets. Also taken incidentally by trawlers in the Gulf of Thailand. No major fishery exists.

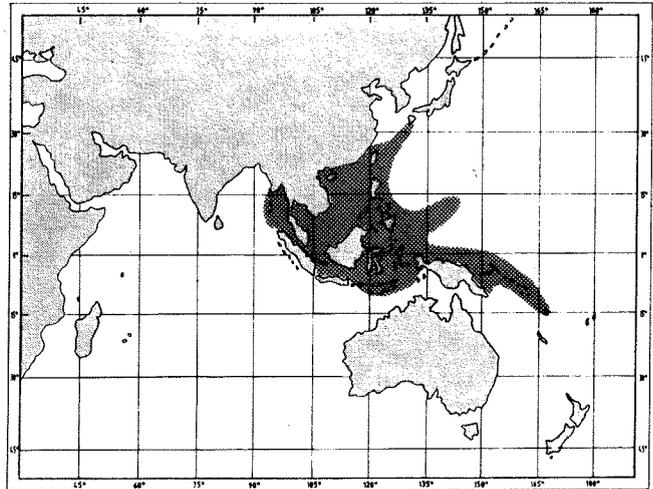


Fig. 202

Local Names: PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Matabibi (Port Moresby). PHILIPPINES: Silay sa bato (Visayan), Buruba, Tagisang lawin (Tagalog). INDONESIA: Kapa-kapa (Butan), Pasir-pasir (W. Java), Ranta pute (S. Celebes - Badjo), Mata pute (Muna), Palosi pinhiti (Ceram - Wahi), Sidemo (Ambon), Sasoi (Ambon - Hitu), Ija putilo ote (Ambon - Luhu), Kebinutu (Geser). THAILAND: Pla Sai Khao.

Literature: Fourmanoir & Laboute (1976); Rau & Rau (1980); Schroeder (1980); Gloerfelt-Tarp & Kailola (1984); Allen & Steene (1987); Myers (1989).

Scolopsis frenatus (Cuvier, 1830)

Fig. 203, Plate VII, c,d

NEMIP Scol 6

Scolopsides frenatus Cuvier in C & V., 1830a, Hist nat. poiss., 5: 343 (Seychelles, Mauritius).

Synonyms: *Scolopsides phaeops* Bennett (1832).

FAO Names: En - Bridled monocle bream. Fr - Mamila de Seychelles. Sp - Besugato de Seychelles.

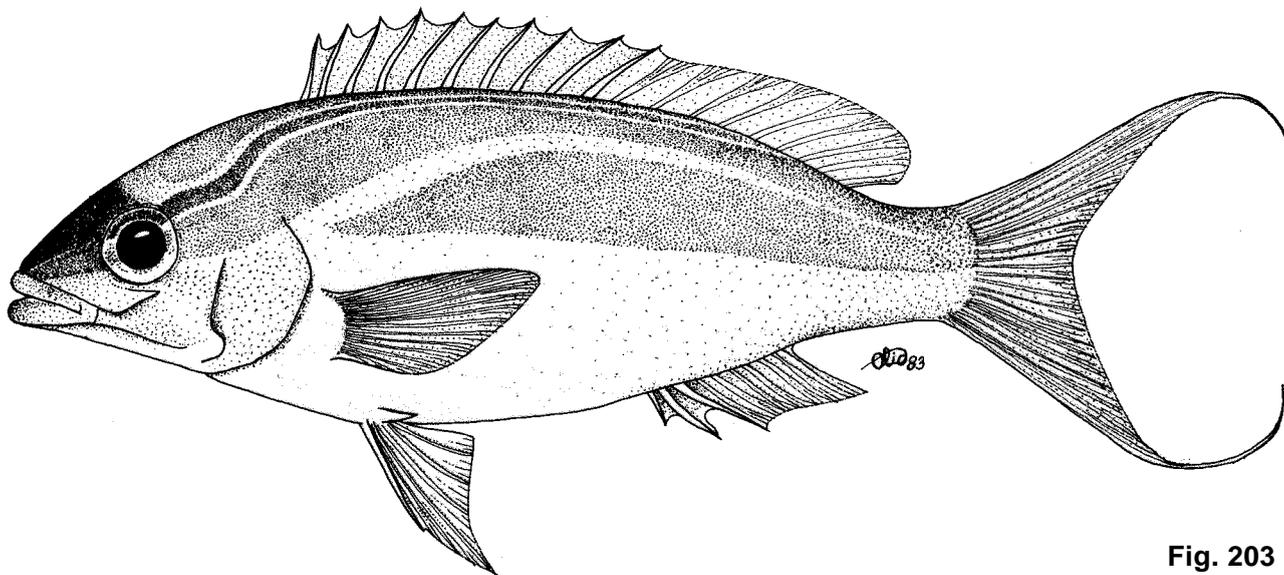


Fig. 203

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 3.0 to 3.5 in SL; snout length about equal to diameter of eye; head scales reaching to between anterior margin of eyes and posterior nostrils; lower limb of preopercle naked; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 1.9 to 5.7 in eye; lateral-line scales 42 to 49 (usually 45 to 48); pectoral-fin rays ii, 15; pelvic fins long, reaching to or just beyond level of anus; caudal fin forked, lobes falcate, upper lobe slightly longer than lower lobe in larger specimens. **Colour:** blue or olive green on back, white below; a yellow stripe from top of snout, through upper part of eye and arching on back to upper part of caudal peduncle; this stripe edged dark green above, from behind eye to beneath third or fourth dorsal spine; a narrow yellow stripe from on top of head running along base of dorsal fin, this stripe disappearing with age; snout dusky; a narrow blue stripe from tip of snout to anteroventral edge of eye. Juveniles blue on upper half of body, white below; a narrow lemon-yellow stripe on either side of dorsal midline, and broader lemon-yellow stripe from top of snout to upper half of caudal peduncle (Plate VII, D).

Geographical Distribution: Western Indian Ocean, including the Seychelles, Chagos Archipelago, Mauritius, Reunion and Madagascar (Fig. 204).

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species found on sandy bottoms close to coral reefs. Occurs in small groups.

Size: Maximum size is 21 cm SL, commonly 17cmSL.

Interest to Fisheries: No major fishery exists.

Local Names: SEYCHELLES: Ivano, Zaneau. MADAGASCAR: Tsy matahotra varatra, Ambity.

Literature: Smith & Smith (1963); Kuronuma & Abe (1972); Randall *et al.* (1978); Fischer & Bianchi (1984); Allen & Steene (1987).

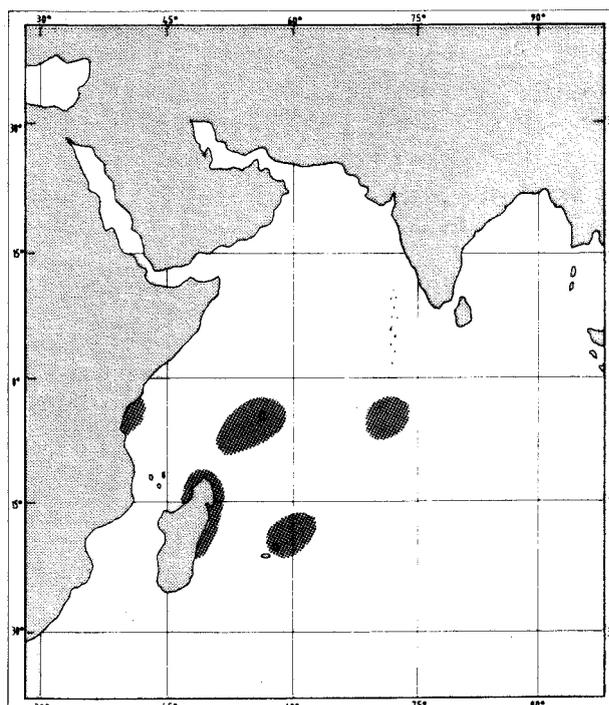


Fig. 204

Scolopsis ghanam (Forsskål, 1775)

Fig. 205, Plate VII, e

NEMIP Scol 7

Sciaena ghanam Forsskål, 1775, Descrip. Animal.: xii, 50 (Djedda and Lohaja, Red Sea).

Synonyms: *Scolopsis ocellaris?* Ehrenberg in Rüppell (1828-31 [1828]) (name in synonymy).

FAO Names: En - Arabian monocle bream. Fr - Mamila arabe. Sp - Besugato de Arabia.

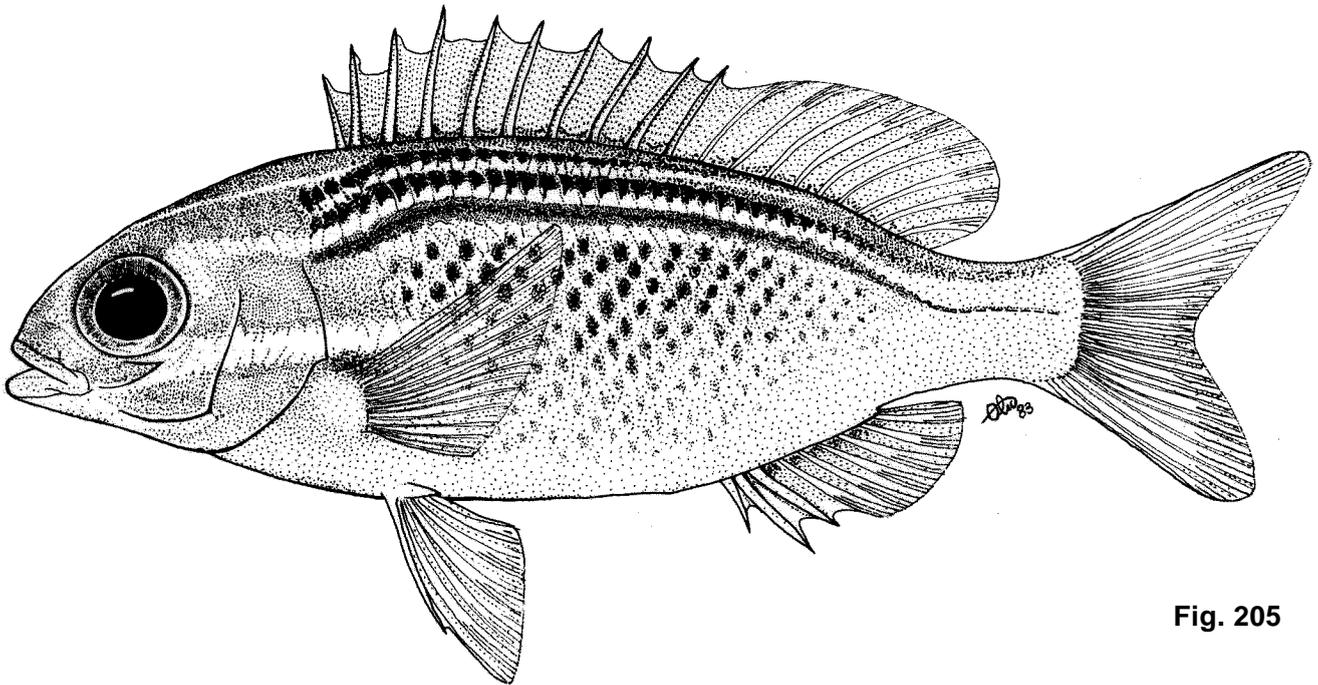


Fig. 205

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 2.9 to 3.3 in SL; snout length less than diameter of eye; head scales reaching forward to level of middle of eyes; lower limb of preopercle naked; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 2.8 to 6.2 in eye; lateral-line scales 44 to 47 (usually 45 to 47); pectoral-fin rays ii, 13 to 16 (usually ii, 14); pelvic fins long, reaching to or just beyond level of anus; caudal fin forked. **Colour:** body silvery-grey with numerous black or dark brown spots on sides; spots above the lateral line forming 2 or 3 narrow brown or black stripes with white interspaces between; a pearly-white stripe from below eye to upper edge of pectoral base.

Geographical Distribution: Indian Ocean, including the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea, East African Coast to Delagoa Bay, Madagascar, and the Andaman Islands (Fig. 206).

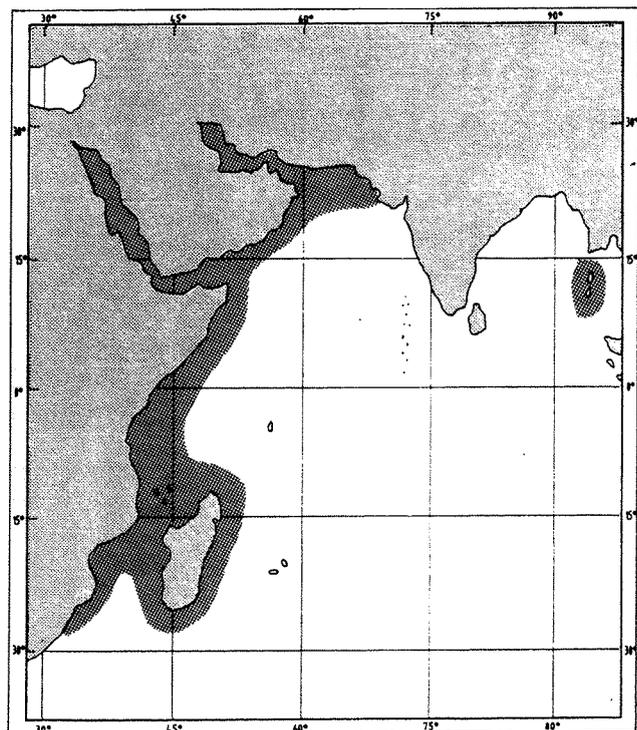


Fig. 206

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species, found in inshore waters usually on shallow sandy bottoms close to coral reefs. Very abundant in the Persian Gulf. In the Zanzibar Channel, females with mature ova occur all year round, but most spawning appears to occur from September to January, with a recovery period from March to May (Nzoika, 1985a). Feeds on crustaceans, molluscs, echinoderms and fish.

Size: Maximum size is 15 cm SL, commonly 12 cm SL.

Interest to Fisheries: Taken by bottom trawls, handlines, traps and gill nets. Appears in small numbers in local markets. No major fishery exists.

Local Names: BAHRAIN: Zarra'a. SAUDI ARABIA: Abu m'sammer (Jeddah). KUWAIT: Ebzaimy. SOUTH AFRICA: Bleekband-stekelwang, palebanded spinecheek. MADAGASCAR: Ambity.

Literature: Randall *et al.* (1978); Fischer & Bianchi (1984); Bauchot & Bianchi (1984); Bianchi (1985a, 1985b); Al-Baharna (1986); Kuronuma & Abe (1986); Smith & Heemstra (1986); Allen & Steene (1987).

Scolopsis lineatus Quoy & Gaimard (1824)

Fig. 207, Plate VII, f,g

NEMIP Scol 11

Scolopsis lineatus Quoy & Gaimard, 1824, *Voy. "Uranie," Zool.*: 322, (Waigiui; Guebe Island).

Synonyms: *Scolopsides cancellatus* Cuvier *in* C. & V. (1830a).

FAO Names: En - Striped monocle bream. Fr - Scolopsis rayé.

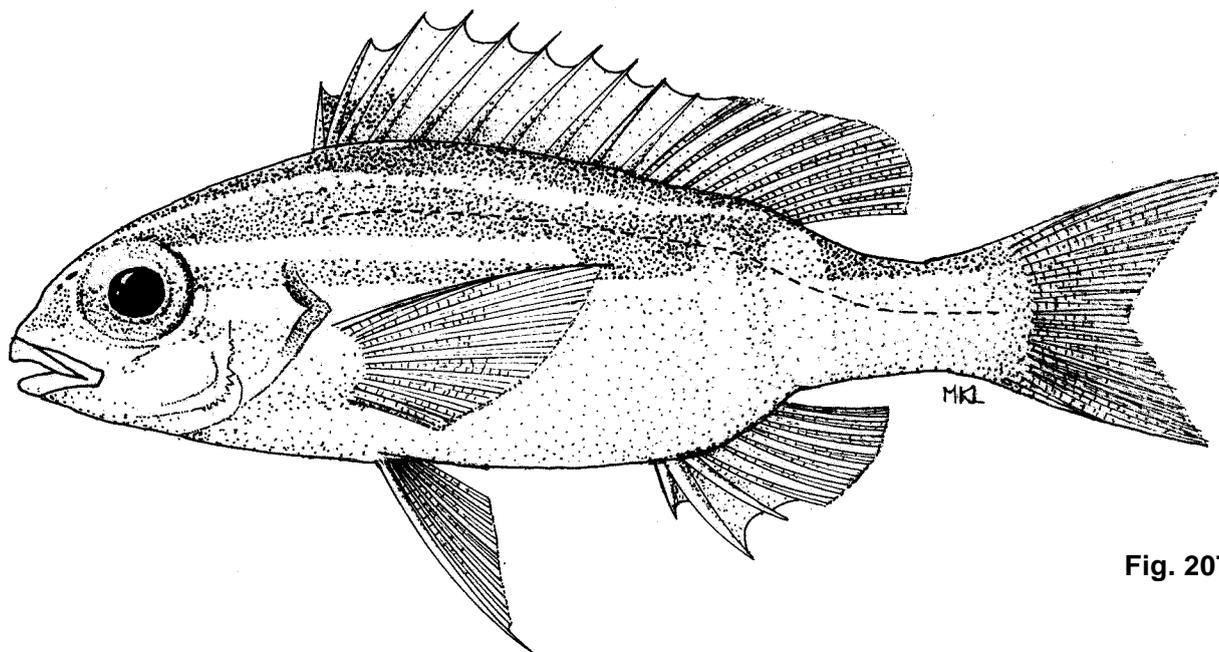


Fig. 207

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 2.8 to 3.3 in SL; snout length less than diameter of eye; head scales reaching forward to or just in front of level of anterior margin of eye; lower limb of preopercle naked; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 2.8 to 4.9 in eye diameter;

lower limb of preopercle naked; lateral-line scales 40 to 46 (usually 42 or 43); pectoral-fin rays ii, 12 to 15 (usually ii, 14); pelvic fins long, reaching beyond level of anus; caudal fin forked. **Colour:** body olive brown above, silvery-white below; 3 yellowish-white stripes, the uppermost along the dorsal profile, the next from the eye to the end of the dorsal-fin base, the lower one midlaterally; with age the stripes becoming obscure posteriorly and interconnected in a lattice-like pattern with vertical whitish bars; fins white. Juveniles white, with 3 black bands on upper half of body, interspace between lower pair of bands yellow; black spot between first three dorsal spines (Plate VII, g).

Geographical Distribution: West Pacific from the Ryukyu Islands to the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu, and the southeastern Indian Ocean including the Cocos-Keeling Islands and north-western Australia. Record from the Andaman Islands (Day, 1870) is unconfirmed (Fig. 208).

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species, common on coral reefs usually associated with sandy areas, in depths to 20 m. Occurs in pairs or small groups. Feeds on small fishes and crustaceans.

Size: Maximum size is 18 cm SL, commonly 13 cm SL.

Interest to Fisheries: Appears occasionally in small numbers in local markets. No major fishery exists.

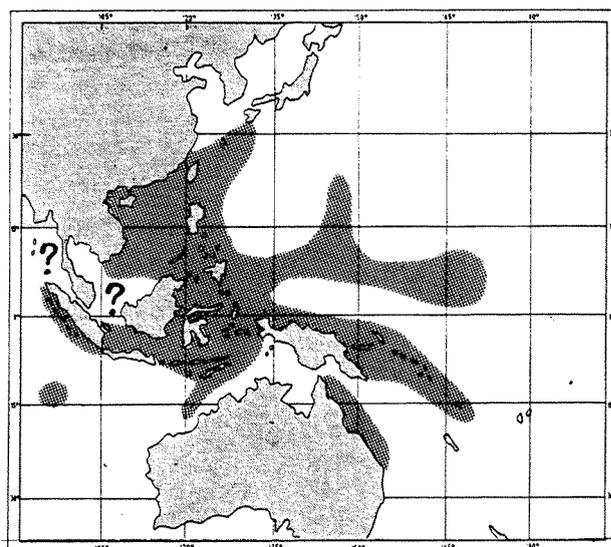


Fig. 208

Local Names: PHILIPPINES: Silay (Cuyonin), Salingukod (Visayan), Buruba, Tagisang lawin (Tagalog). GUAM: Sihig, Black-and-white monocle bream. INDONESIA: Pasir-pasir. JAPAN: Yokosuji-tamagashira, Yokoshima-tamagashira. AUSTRALIA: Lined spine-cheek, Latticed monocle bream (Queensland).

Literature: The following refer to this species as *S. cancellatus*: Masuda *et al.* (1975, 1984); Fourmanoir & Laboute (1976); Rau & Rau (1980); Schroeder (1980); Grant (1982); Amesbury & Myers (1982); Gloerfelt-Tarp & Kailola (1984); Shen (1984). Myers (1989) correctly uses the name *S. lineatus*.

Remarks: This species has been referred to by most authors as *S. cancellatus*, a junior synonym of *S. lineatus*. Juveniles are very similarly coloured to juveniles of *S. bilineatus*, but in *S. lineatus* the interspace between the top pair of lateral stripes is white.

Scolopsis margaritifer (Cuvier, 1830)

Fig. 209, Plate VII, h; VIII, a

NEMIP Scol 12

Scolopsides margaritifer Cuvier *in* C. & V., 1830a, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5: 337 (Waigiou).

Synonyms: *Scolopsides pectinatus* Kuhl & Van Hasselt *in* C. & V. (1830a); *Scolopsis leucotaenia* Bleeker (1852a); *Scolopsides leucotaenioides* Bleeker (1855); *Scolopsis macrophthalmus* Ramsay & Ogilby (1886).

FAO Names: En - Pearly monocle bream.

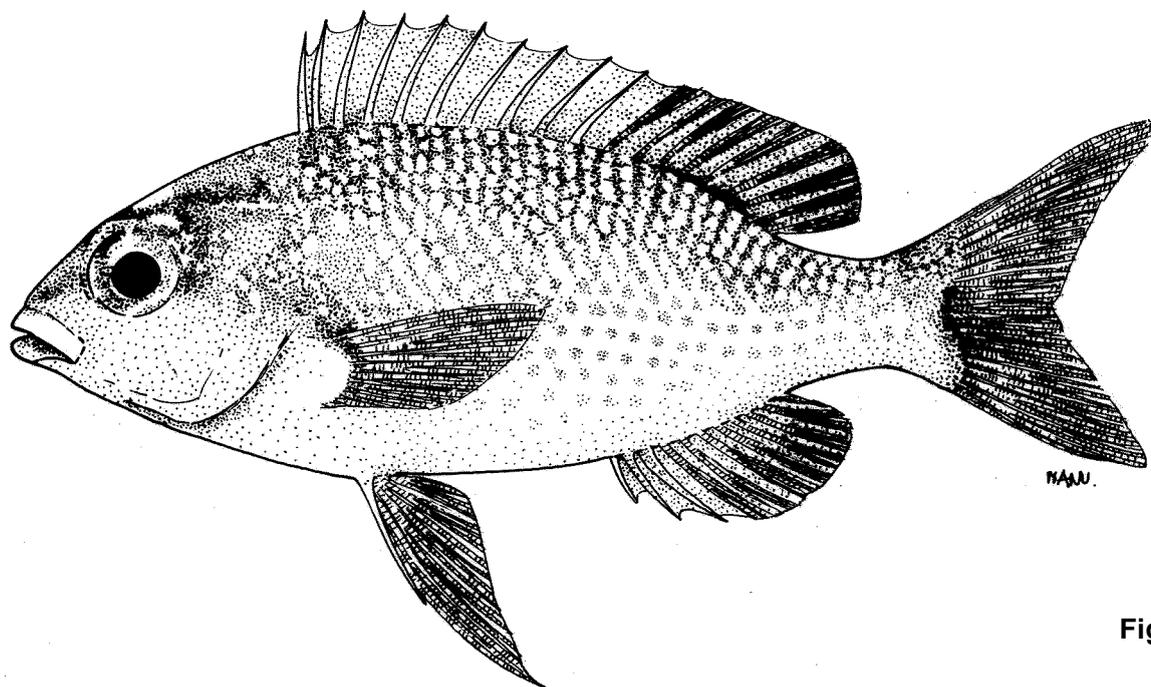


Fig. 209

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 2.4 to 3.8 in SL; snout length less than diameter of eye; head scales reaching to or almost to posterior nostrils; lower limb of preopercle scaly; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 2.3 to 7.0 in eye diameter; lateral-line scales 35 to 39 (usually 37 or 38); pectoral-fin rays ii, 14 or 15 (usually ii, 14); pelvic fins long, reaching almost to or beyond level of origin of anal fin; caudal fin forked. **Colour:** olive above, white below; centre of scales with pearly or yellowish spots, forming longitudinal and transverse lines; 2 pearly stripes on snout in front of eyes; fins yellowish; lower lobe of caudal fin reddish. Juveniles white, with a narrow black stripe along back (lacking in some specimens) and black midlateral stripe; some specimens with ventral half of body yellowish; a black spot between first four dorsal spines (Plate VIII, a).

Geographical Distribution: West Pacific from the South China Sea to Vanuatu, and north-western Australia (Fig. 210).

Habitat and Biology: A benthic species found on sand bottoms close to reefs, in depths to 20 m. Usually solitary. Feeds on crustaceans, polychaete worms, molluscs and small fishes. Juveniles appear to be Batesian mimics of poison-fanged blenniids (*Meiacanthus*).

Size: Maximum size is 17.5 cm SL, commonly 15 cm SL.

Interest to Fisheries: Appears occasionally in small numbers in local markets. Caught incidentally by trawlers in the Gulf of Thailand. No major fishery exists.

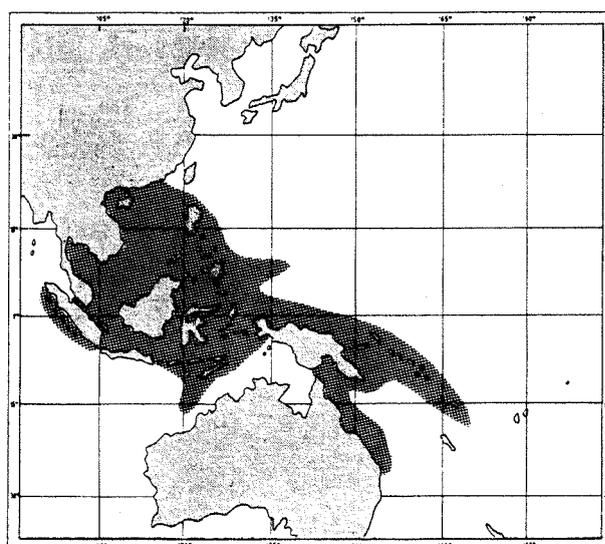


Fig. 210

Local Names: PHILIPPINES: Silay (Visayan), Katambak, Buruba, Tagisang lawin (Tagalog). INDONESIA: Sero malam, Pasir manuk (Java). AUSTRALIA: Pearly spine-cheek (Queensland). PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Degari (Port Moresby).

Literature: Masuda *et al.* (1975, 1984); Rau & Rau (1980); Schroeder (1980); Gloerfelt-Tarp & Kailola (1984); Myers (1989).

Scolopsis monogramma (Kuhl & Van Hasselt, 1830)

NEMIP Scol 13

Fig. 211, Plate VIII, b

Scolopsides monogramma Kuhl & Van Hasselt in C. & V., 1830a, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5: 338 (Java, Batavia).

Synonyms: *Scolopsis regina* Whitley (1937).

FAO Names: En - Monogrammed monocle bream.

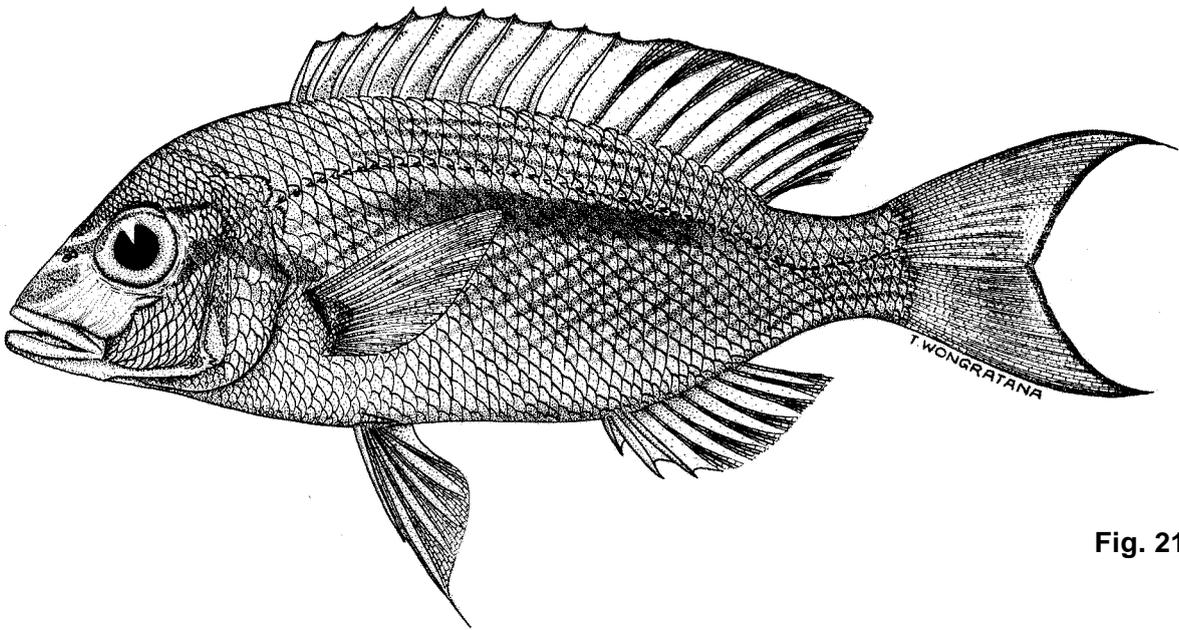


Fig. 211

Diagnostic Features: Body depth 2.5 to 3.0 in SL; snout length greater than diameter of eye; head scales reaching to between anterior margin of eyes and posterior nostrils; lower limb of preopercle scaly; antrorse suborbital spine absent; suborbital depth 1.2 to 2.1 in eye diameter; lateral-line scales 46 to 49 (usually 47 or 48); pectoral-fin rays ii, 15 to 17 (usually ii, 16); pelvic fins long, reaching almost to level of origin of anal fin; caudal fin forked or lunate, upper lobe a little longer than lower (lobes produced to form short filamentous extensions in larger specimens). **Colour:** greyish on back, white below; brown longitudinal steaks on back above lateral line, and oblique yellow streaks below lateral line; a brown midlateral stripe, expanded in the middle; 3 blue stripes on snout; uppermost joining eyes above nostrils, middle stripe joining eyes through nostrils, lower stripe from eye to tip of snout; interspaces between stripes yellow; a blue stripe on preopercle behind eye; a blue chevron-shaped stripe running upwards onto opercle from below eye and bending downwards towards pectoral-fin base; space between stripes on preopercle and opercle yellow; a brown bar at base of pectoral fin; unpaired fins pale yellow, edged with blue.