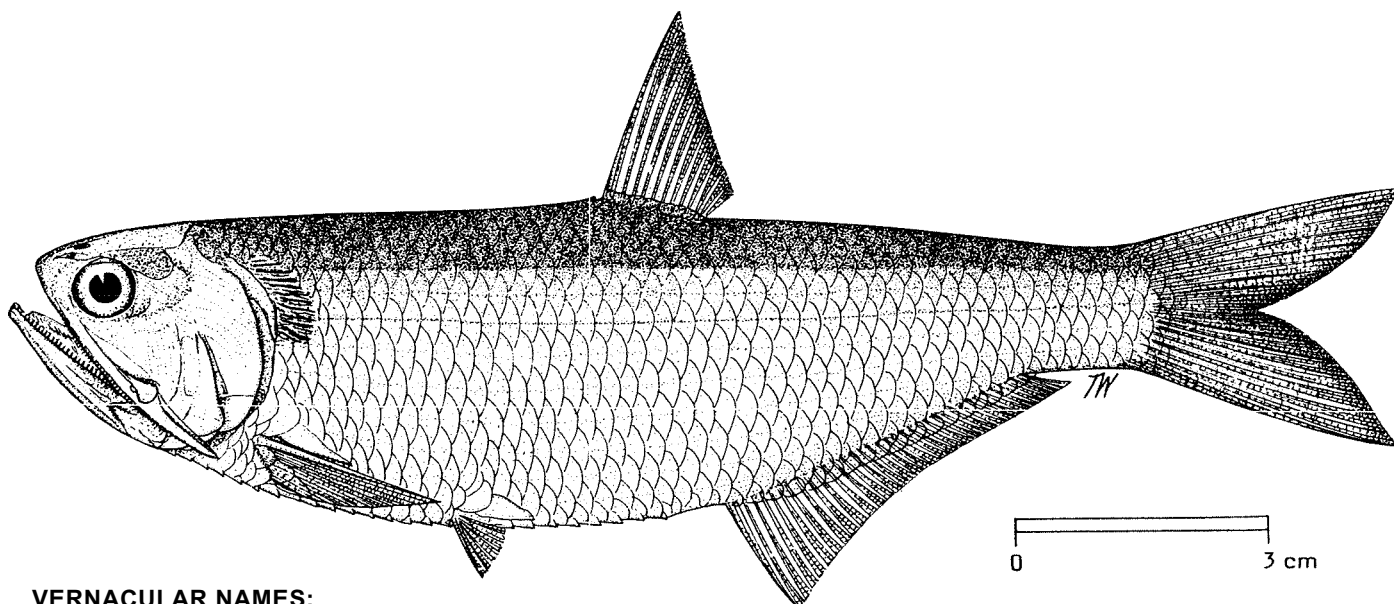


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: ENGRAULIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)*Thryssa hamiltonii* (Gray, 1835)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: *Thrissocles hamiltonii*: Fowler, 1941

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :           En - Hamilton's thryssa  
                   Fr - Anchois-moustache mamata  
                   Sp - Bocarte bolinado

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body fusiform, fairly strongly compressed; belly with a sharp keel of scutes from isthmus (between gill openings on underside of head) to anus. Tip of snout above level of eye centre; maxilla short, reaching to gill opening or just beyond; gillrakers 11 to 15 on lower limb of first gill arch. Anal fin long, usually with 34 to 37 branched rays.

Colour: back blue/green or brown, with dark median bands or lines, flanks silvery; a black venulose area behind gill opening.

## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

*Thryssa malabarica*: more gillrakers, usually 17 to 19 (11 to 15 in *T. hamiltonii*); also, no dark median band or lines on back.

*Thryssa polybranchialis*: more gillrakers, 25 to 27.

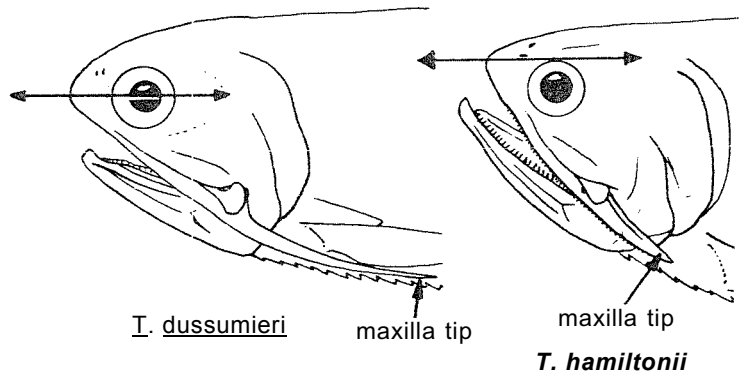
*Thryssa dayi* and *T. whiteheadi*: more branched anal fin rays, usually 40 to 45 (only 34 to 37 in *T. hamiltonii*).

Other Thryssa species: tip of snout at level of eye centre. Furthermore, maxilla long, extending beyond pectoral fin base in T. dussumieri, T. mystax, T. setirostris and T. vitrostris, and no scutes before pectoral fin in T. balaema.

Stolephorus species and Engraulis japonicus: body subcylindrical or only slightly compressed; scutes absent (Engraulis) or needle-like, but never present behind pelvic fin base (Stolephorus).

**SIZE:**

Maximum: 20 cm; common to 17 cm.



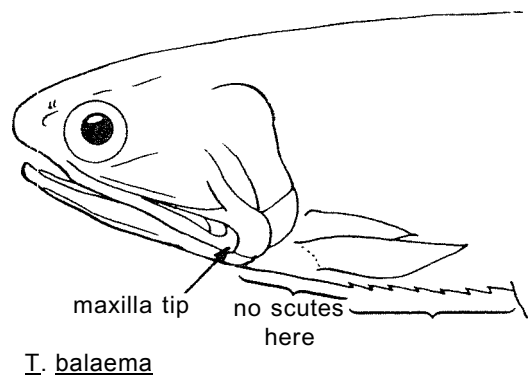
**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Western coasts of India; elsewhere, eastward to Southeast Asia, Papua New Guinea and northern coast of Australia.

Pelagic in coastal waters, perhaps also estuaries.

**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

Caught throughout its range; with other species of Thryssa, it forms significant catches in Kerala.

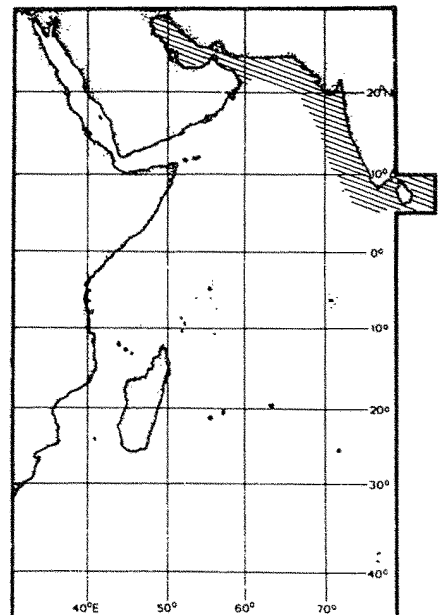


**CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:**

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

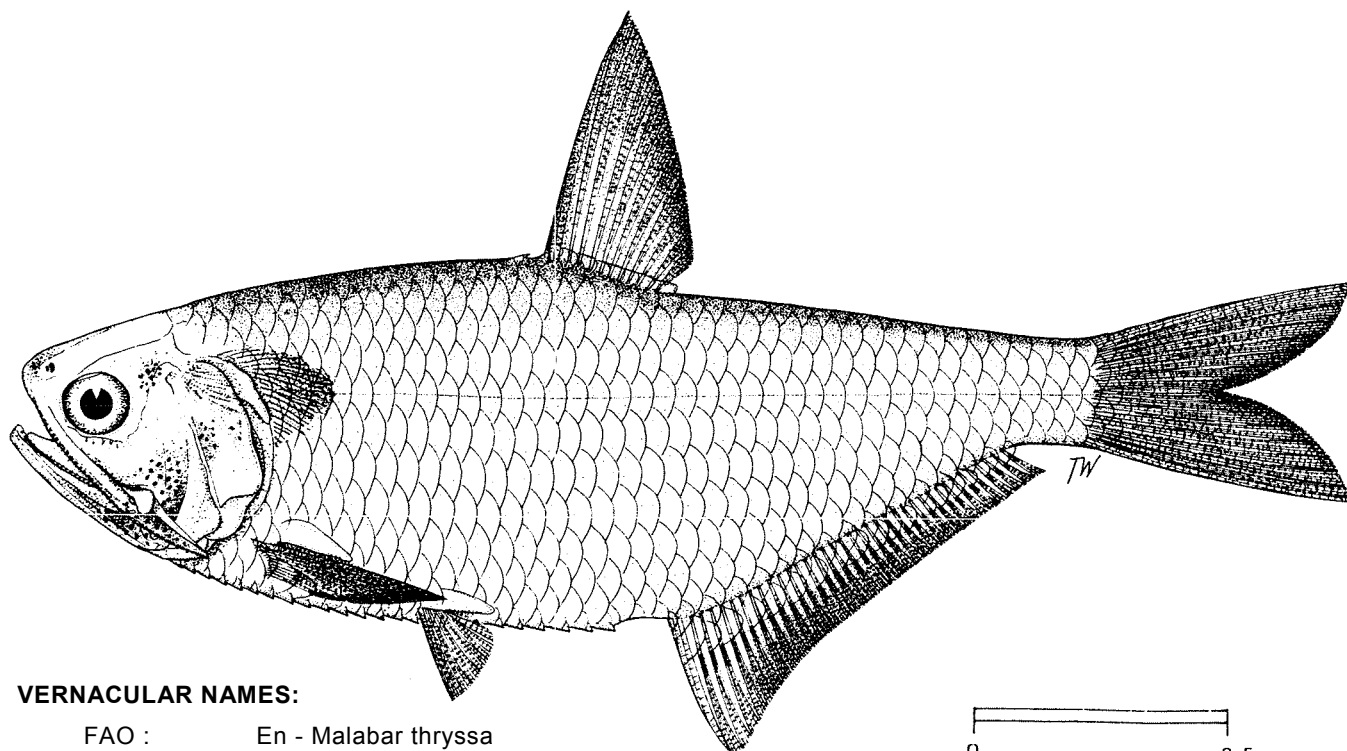
Caught with boat seines, gillnets and trawls in shallow waters.

Marketed fresh and dried salted.



## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: ENGRAULIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)*Thryssa malabarica* (Bloch, 1795)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: *Thrissocles malabarica*: Fowler, 1941

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Malabar thryssa  
Fr - Anchois-moustache malabar  
Sp - Bocarte malabárico

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body fusiform, rather strongly compressed; belly with a sharp keel of scutes from isthmus (between gill openings on underside of head) to anus. Tip of snout above level of eye centre; maxilla short, reaching to gill opening or only just beyond; gillrakers usually 17 to 19 on lower limb of first arch. Anal fin long, usually with 35 to 38 branched rays.

Colour: back blue/green or brown with no dark median line, flanks silvery; a black venulose area behind gill opening; gill arches and inside of gill cover yellow or golden. Dorsal and caudal fins yellow with narrow dusky margins; anal fin deep yellow at base, margin n ilky white, the two areas separated by a black band.

## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

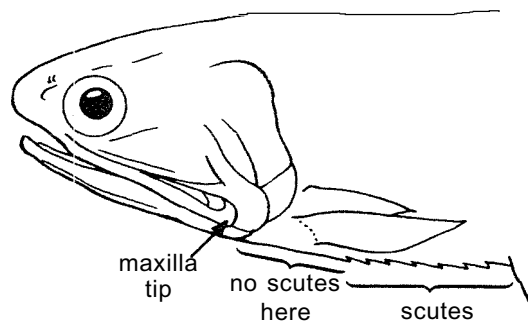
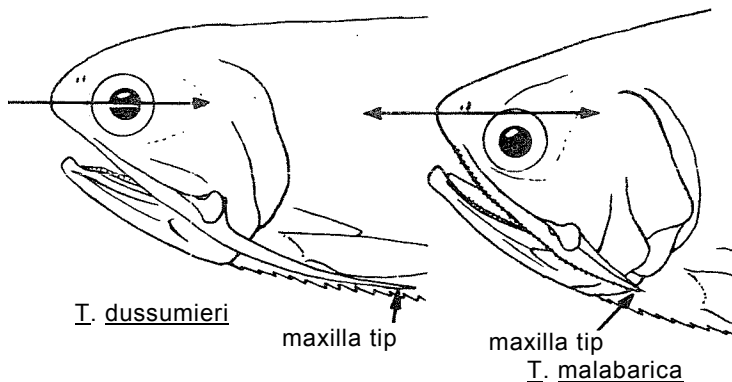
Thryssa hamiltonii: only 11 to 15 gillrakers (usually 17 to 19 in T. malabarica); also, dark bands or lines down back.

Thryssa polybranchialis: more gillrakers, 25 to 27 on lower limb of first arch.

Thryssa dayi and T. whiteheadi: more branched anal fin rays usually, 40 to 44 (only 35 to 38 in T. malabarica).

Other Thryssa species: tip of snout at level of eye centre above eye level in T. malabarica). Furthermore, maxilla long, extending beyond pectoral fin base in T. dussumieri, T. mystax, T. setirostris and T. vitrirostris, and no scutes before pectoral fin in T. baelama.

Stolephorus species and Engraulis japonicus: body subcylindrical or only slightly compressed; scutes absent (Engraulis) or needle-like, but never present behind pelvic fin base (Stolephorus).



## SIZE:

Maximum: 18 cm; common to 15 cm.

## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Western coasts of India and around Sri Lanka; elsewhere, eastern coasts of India.

Pelagic in coastal waters, perhaps also estuaries.

## PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

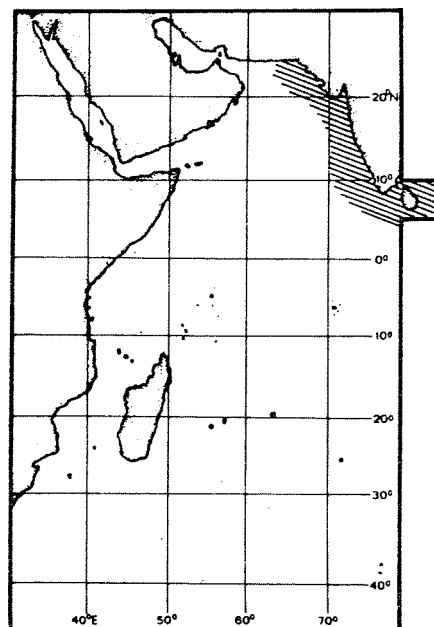
Caught throughout its range; with other species of Thryssa, it forms significant catches in Kerala (South India).

## CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Caught with boat seines, gillnets and trawls, in shallow waters.

Marketed fresh and dried salted.

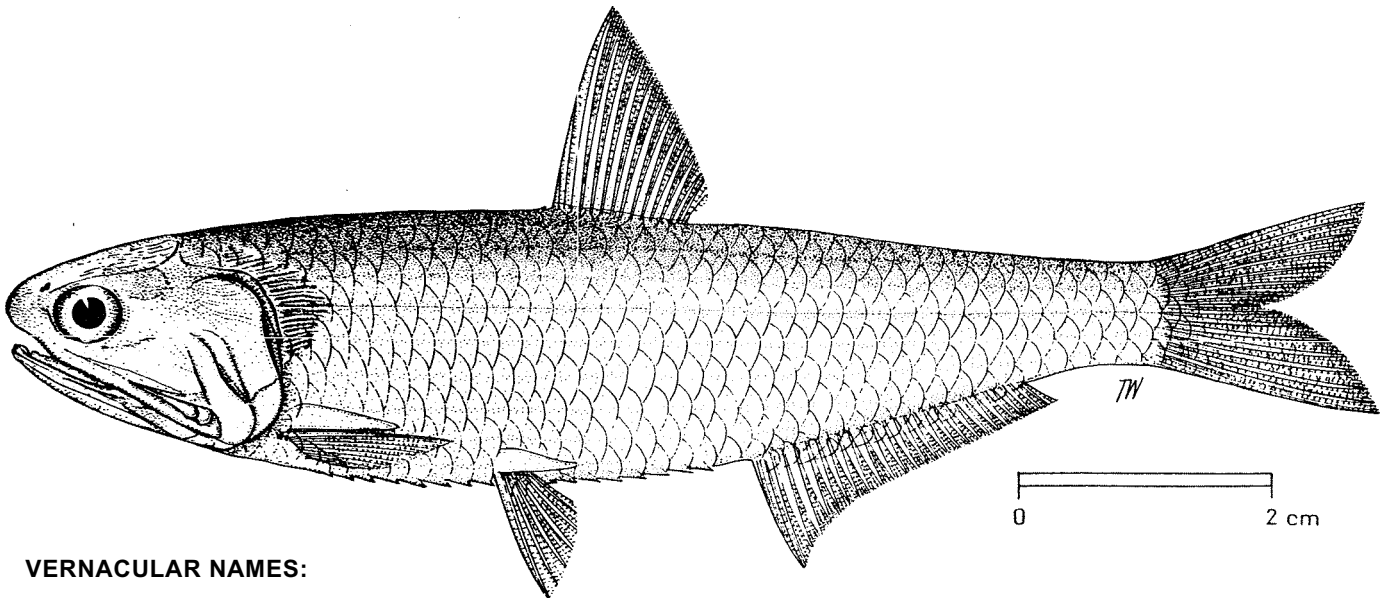


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: ENGRAULIDAE

**FISHING AREA 51**  
**(W. Indian Ocean)**
Thryssa baelama (Forsskål, 1775)

## OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE:

Thrissocles baelama: Fowler, 1941Thrissina baelama: Whitehead, 1973

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

 FAO :           En - Baelama anchovy  
                   Fr - Anchois-moustache sardin  
                   Sp - Bocarte belama

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

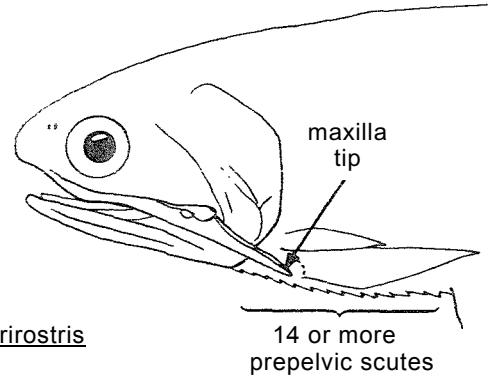
Body fusiform, moderately compressed; belly a little rounded before pelvic fin base, scutes beginning behind pectoral fin base, prepelvic scutes 4 to 9. Tip of snout at about level of eye centre; maxilla short, not reaching to edge of gill cover; gillrakers 19 to 26 on lower limb of first gill arch. Anal fin moderately long, usually with 26 to 30 branched rays.

Colour: back blue/green or brown, flanks silvery, a dark venulose area behind gill opening.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:**

All other species of Thryssa: keeled scutes beginning at base of isthmus, prepelvic scutes 14 to 20 (only 4 to 9 in T. baelama); anal fin rays more than 30 (26 to 30 in T. baelama). Also, maxilla much longer, extending well beyond hind edge of gill cover in T. vitrirostris, T. mystax, T. dussumieri and T. setirostris.

Stolephorus species and Engraulis japonicus: body more slender, subcylindrical or only slightly compressed; scutes entirely absent (Engraulis) or needle-like, but never present behind pelvic fin base (Stolephorus).



*T. vitrirostris*

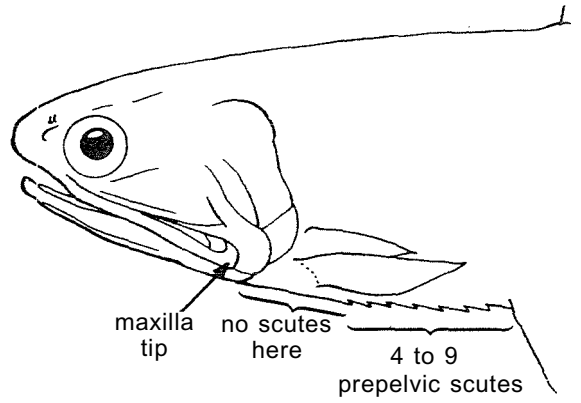
**SIZE:**

Maximum: 11 cm; common to 10 cm.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Western part of the area, extending southward to Madagascar and Mauritius, also Sri Lanka, but probably present in the "Gulf" and along the western coasts of India; elsewhere, eastward to Fiji and the northern coast of Australia.

Pelagic in coastal waters.



*T. baelama*

**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

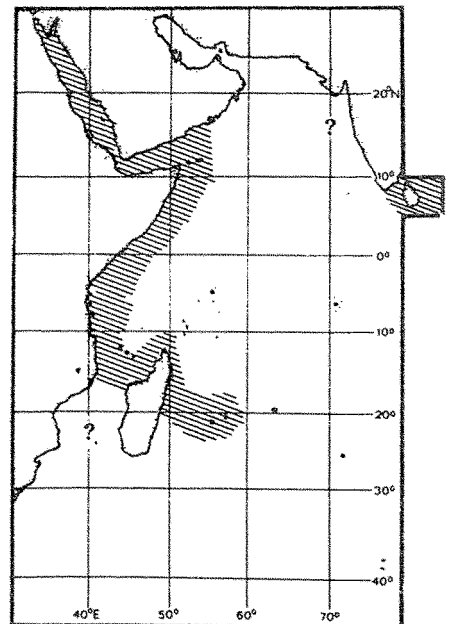
Caught throughout its range, but no special fishery.

**CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:**

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

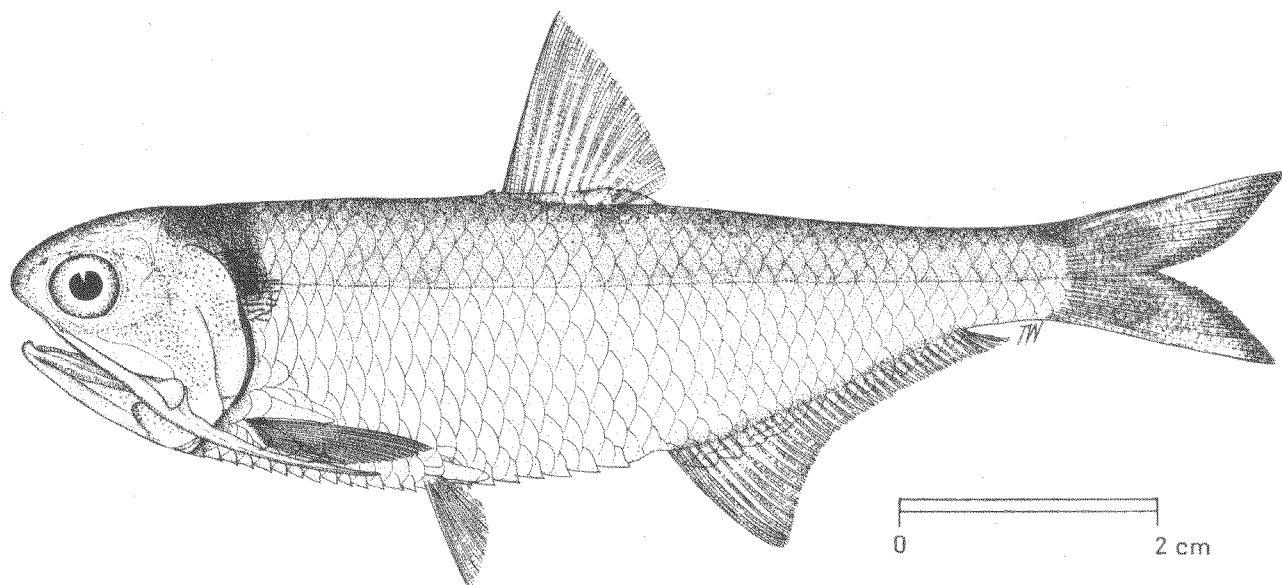
Caught with seines and trawls in shallow waters.

Marketed fresh and dried salted.



## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY : ENGRAULIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)*Thryssa dussumieri* (Valenciennes, 1848)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: *Thrissocles dussumieri*: Fowler, 1941

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :           En - Dussumier's thryssa  
                   Fr - Anchois-moustache mandeli  
                   Sp - Bocarte mandelo

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body fusiform, compressed; belly with a sharp keel of scutes from isthmus (between gill openings on underside of head) to anus. Tip of snout at level of eye centre; maxilla long, reaching at least halfway along pectoral fin (or to pelvic base in large adults); gillrakers usually 17 to 19 on lower limb of first arch, their serrae in distinct clumps. Anal fin long, usually with 31 to 35 unbranched rays.

Colour: back blue/green, flanks silvery, a black venulose area behind gill opening. Faint yellow on dorsal and caudal fins, the latter with a thin dusky hind margin; other fins clear.

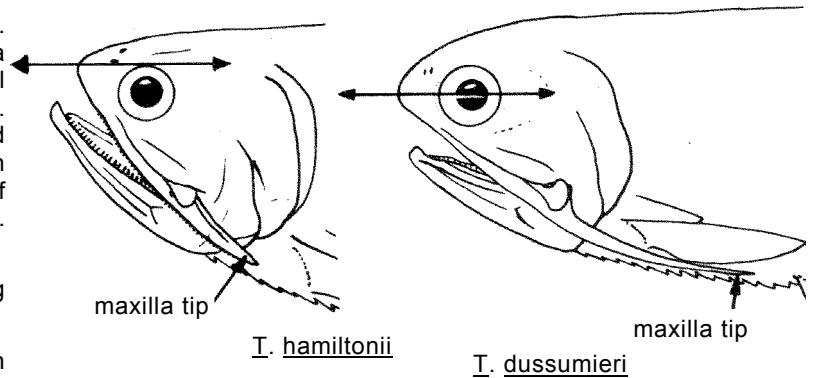
**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:**

Thryssa vitirostris, T. mystax, T. malabarica and T. hamiltonii: maxilla shorter, not reaching halfway along pectoral fin; also, 20 to 23 gillrakers in T. vitirostris (17 to 19 in T. dussumieri), and gillraker serrae uneven but not clumped in T. mystax. Also, tip of snout above level of eye centre in T. malabarica and T. hamiltonii.

Thryssa setirostris: maxilla reaching to pelvic fin base and beyond.

Thryssa baelama: no keeled scutes in front of pectoral fin base; maxilla tip blunt and not reaching to hind edge of gill cover.

Stolephorus species and Engraulis japonicus: body subcylindrical or only slightly compressed; scutes absent (Engraulis) or needle-like but never present behind pelvic fin base (Stolephorus).



T. hamiltonii

T. dussumieri

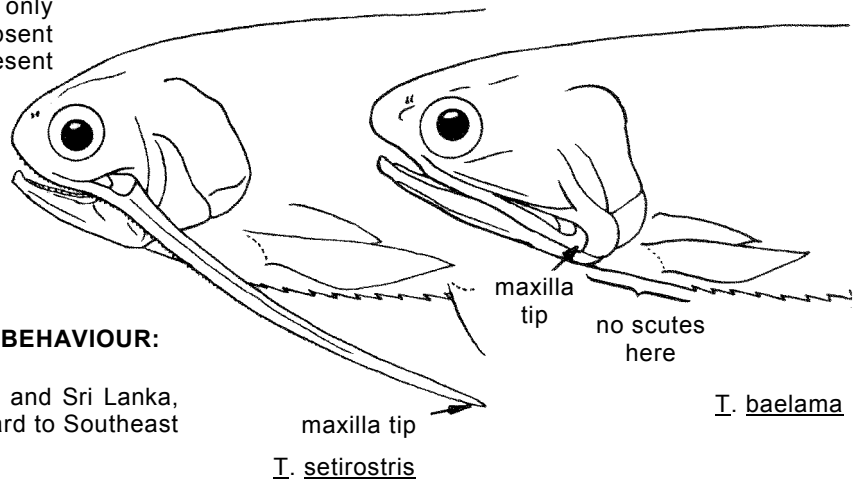
**SIZE:**

Maximum: 12 cm; common to 10.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Western coasts of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, perhaps in the "Gulf"; elsewhere, eastward to Southeast Asia.

Pelagic in coastal waters, perhaps also estuaries.



**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

Caught throughout its range; with other species of Thryssa it forms significant catches in Kerala (South India).

**CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:**

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Caught with boat seines, gillnets and trawls in shallow waters.

Marketed fresh and dried salted.

