

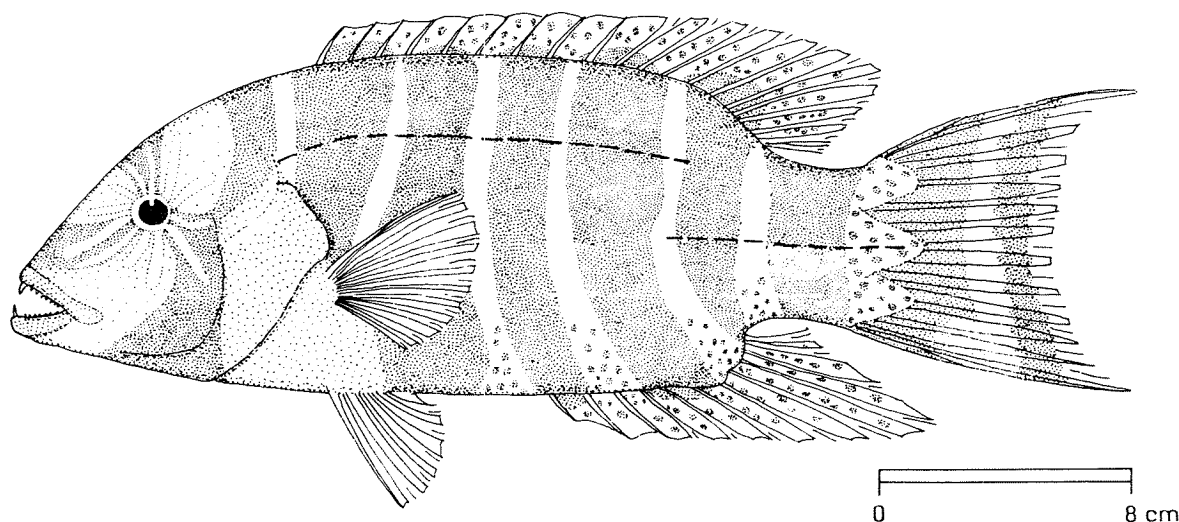
## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)Cheilinus fasciatus Bloch, 1791

## OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE :

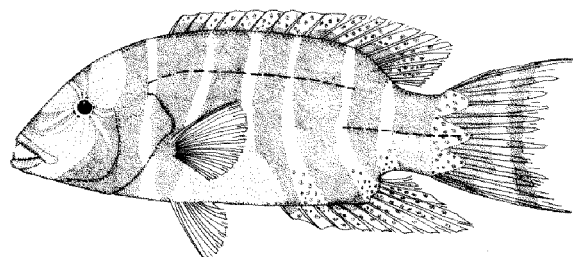
None, but two subspecies have been recognized within the area:  
Cheilinus fasciatus fasciatus Bloch, 1791, and  
Cheilinus fasciatus quinquecinctus Rüppell, 1835



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Redbreasted wrasse  
 Fr - Madame tombée rayée  
 Sp - Vieja acebrada

NATIONAL:



## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

C. fasciatus quinquecinctus

Body moderately deep, greatest depth equal to, or greater than length of head. Dorsal profile of head convexly curved; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, especially the lower jaw in large individuals; 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw, no enlarged canine at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 9 spines and 10 soft rays, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins slightly pointed in adults; caudal fin rounded in juveniles the upper and lower corner prolonged into filamentous lobe-like extensions in adults (C. fasciatus fasciatus) or with individual rays elongate, giving the fin margin a ragged appearance (C. f. quinquecinctus). Lateral line interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal fin base, with a total of 22 or 23 pored scales. Scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward to above anterior half of eye; cheek and opercle scaled; lower jaw without scales.

Colour: mostly greenish brown to black, with 6 distinct narrow vertical yellowish to white bars traversing sides posterior to pectoral fins (pale bands less distinct in very large individuals); short red lines radiating from eye; dorsal, anal and caudal fins with greenish brown to black and yellowish to white bands, stripes and blotches; fins often spotted with red. Small individuals similarly marked but often with a pink hue in pale areas. In addition, C. f. fasciatus has a well-defined; broad; red area centres by the pectoral fin bases, covering chest and sides to dorsal outline. Conversely, C. f. quinquecinctus has a reddish hue on sides, confined mostly to area posterior to pectoral fin.

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

Remaining Cheilinus species: fewer than 6 pale vertical bands traversing sides and no reddish area on sides, or without distinct vertical bars on body.

Other labrid genera: more than 25 pored scales in an uninterrupted lateral line (at most 23 in C. fasciatus), or eyes with a double thickening of the cornea, or anal fin with 12 segmented rays (8 in C. fasciatus), or mouth either small or extremely protrusible.

#### SIZE:

Maximum: 40 cm.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs throughout most of this fishing area. Elsewhere, it ranges into the Western Pacific, reaching eastward to the Marshall Islands in northern Oceania and to Samoa to the east. Within this region, C. f. quinquecinctus is confined to the Red Sea, while C. f. fasciatus occurs throughout the remainder of the range.

An inhabitant of relatively shallow coral reefs, to about 30 m depth. Members of this species, as in others of the genus, are solitary in habit and do not congregate in large numbers.

Feeds mostly on hard-shelled prey, including molluscs, crustaceans and sea urchins.

#### PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

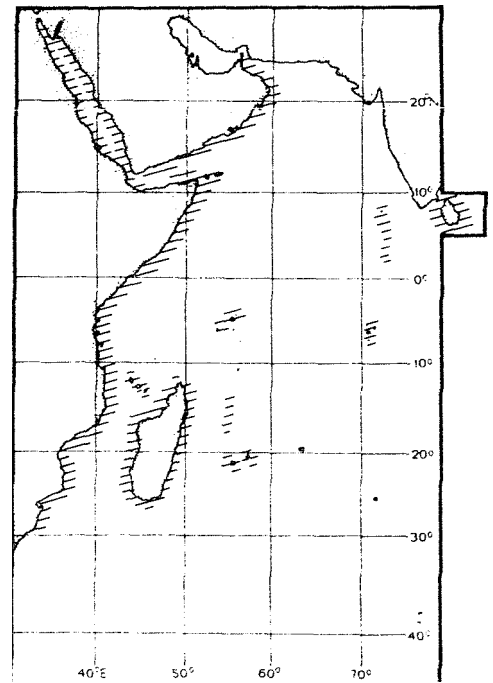
No special fishery. Although this species is not commercially exploited, it reaches a sufficiently large size to be marketed when taken.

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

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Taken primarily by hook and line, both longlines and handlines.

Marketed fresh.

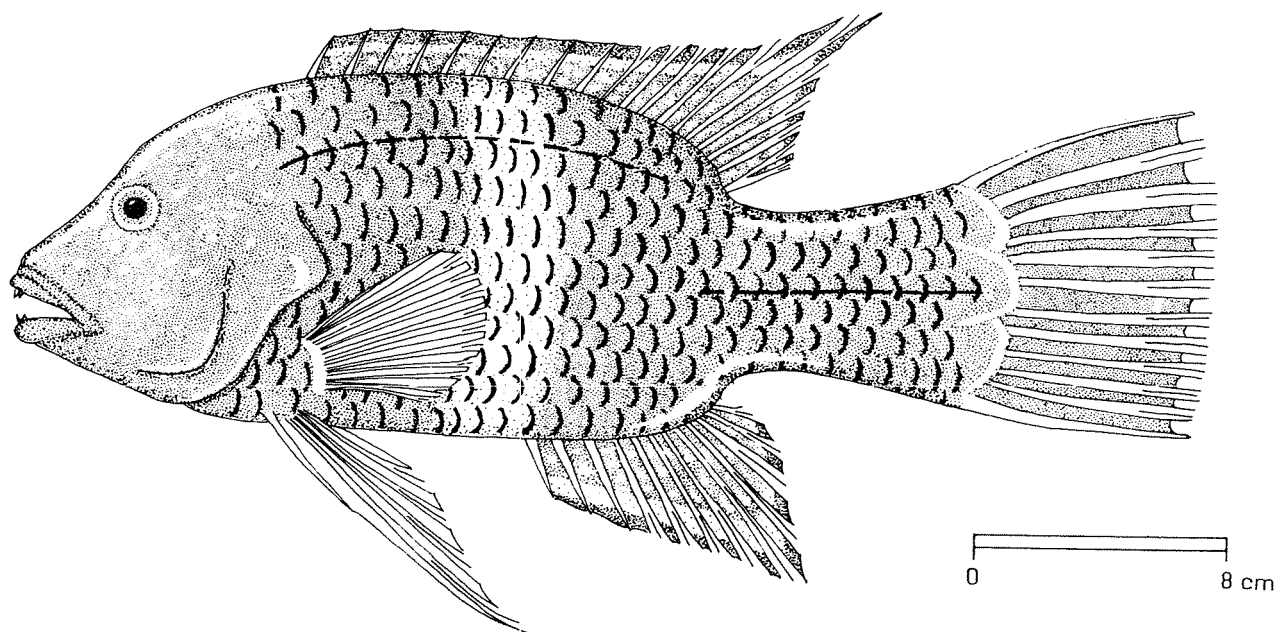


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)Cheilinus lunulatus (Forsskål, 1775)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :           En - Broomtail wrasse  
                  Fr - Vielle balayette  
                  Sp - Vieja escobera

NATIONAL :

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, greatest depth equal to or greater than length of head. Dorsal profile of head straight to interorbital region and convexly curved to origin of dorsal fin; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent; 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw, no enlarged tooth present at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous with 9 spines and 10 soft rays; dorsal soft rays of adults progressively longer than the spines, the longest 6th twice the length of the longest spine; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fin filamentous in adults, reaching beyond origin of anal fin; caudal fin slightly rounded, the distal ends of the rays of adults strongly exerted (extending beyond edge of fin membranes). Lateral line interrupted below posterior end of dorsal fin base, with a total of 22 or 23 pored scales. Scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fins extending to anterior interorbital space; cheek and opercle scaled; snout and lower jaw without scales.

Colour: initial phase light brown, with 4 double dark bars on body, and 3 blackish spots along midlateral line of body, the last at caudal base; each scale of body with a vertical red line (except belly and chest where there may be only a single red spot); head grey-brown with scattered small round orange-red spots; opercle flap black with a prominent near-vertical mark of bright yellow. Terminal male phase blackish on body with a broad dark green bar or double bar across body in region of abdomen, each scale of body with a vertical red line; head dark green, shading to blackish posteriorly, with a prominent yellow mark on opercular flap and small orange-red spots; dorsal fin dark green (almost black), with a submarginal light red band and small light red spots and short lines (especially on spinous portion); anal fin similar to dorsal fin but with fewer red markings; caudal fin blackish, pectoral fin bright yellow, shading to hyaline distally; pelvic fins dark green with longitudinal streaks of dark red.

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

Cheilinus chlorurus: dorsal fin usually with 9 soft rays 10 in C. lunulatus; caudal fin without exerted rays; opercular flap not black, with a yellow streak.

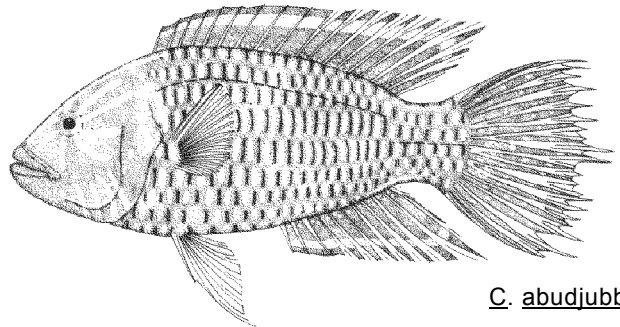
C. abudjubbe: head with 4 pairs of long red lines radiating from eye, and a fifth pair angled across cheek; large specimens with red dots on nape and anteriorly on side.

C. fasciatus: sides with distinctive yellowish to white bars, and large red areas.

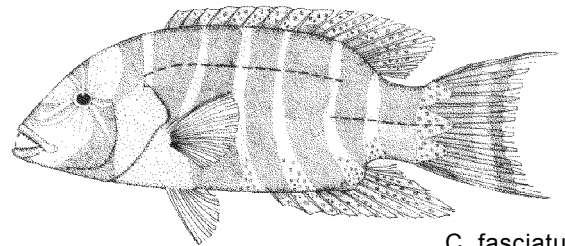
C. trilobatus: head with short red lines around eye and irregular red lines and spots on cheek and nape, caudal fin without exerted rays but often trilobate in very large specimens.

Other Cheilinus species: greatest body depth considerably less than head length or with one or more of the following characters: caudal fin pointed, a distinctive black spot at anterior end of dorsal fin, a prominent black spot on lateral line above pectoral fins, a vertical blackish line on each scale of sides, or a prominent hump on head.

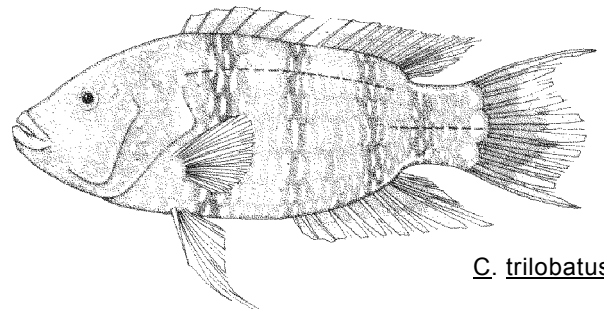
Other labrid genera: more than 25 pored scales in an interrupted lateral line (at most 23 in C. lunulatus), or eyes with a double thickening of the cornea, or anal fin with 12 segmented rays (8 in C. lunulatus), or mouth either small or extremely protrusible.



C. abudjubbe



C. fasciatus



C. trilobatus

**SIZE:**

Maximum: 40 cm.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Occurs from the Red Sea through the Gulf of Aden to the Gulf of Oman.

Found on coral reefs and adjacent rubble, sand and seagrass habitats; has been observed in less than 3 m; probably ranges into depths of at least 25 m.

Feeds mostly on hard-shelled invertebrates, especially molluscs.

**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

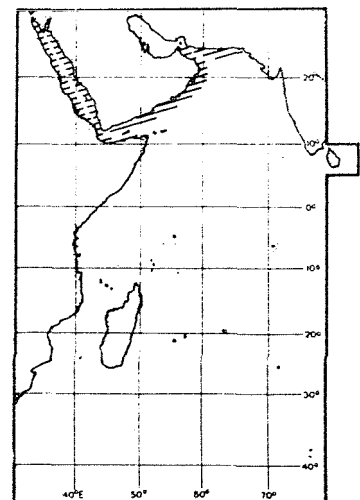
No special fishery. Not a common species but of sufficient size to be of commercial importance.

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

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Probably taken mainly by hook and line.

Marketed fresh.



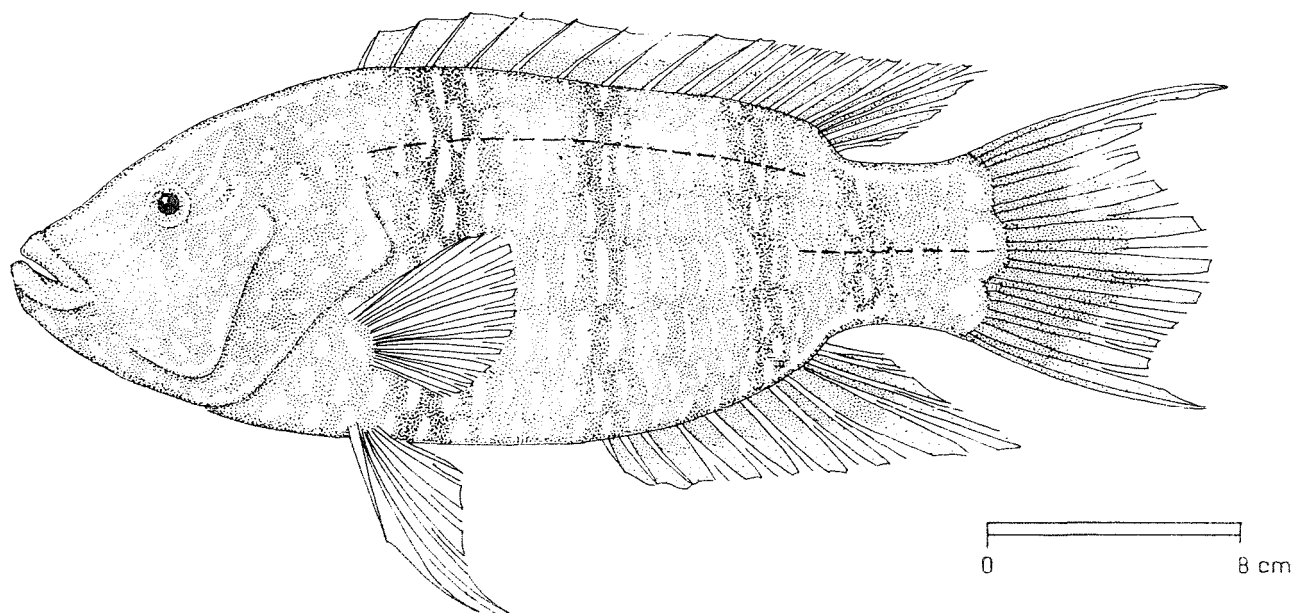
## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY : LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)

<i>Cheilinus trilobatus</i> Lacepède, 1801
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OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO: En - Tripletail wrasse  
Fr - Vielle triple queue  
Sp - Vieja tres colas

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, greatest depth equal to or greater than length of head. Dorsal profile of head slightly curved convexly; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent; 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth present at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 9 spines and 10 soft rays; the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins somewhat filamentous in adults; caudal fin pointed in adults with the upper and lower rays forming elongate lobes giving the fin a trilobed appearance. Lateral line interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal fin base, with a total of 22 or 23 pored scales. Scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fins extending forward to above centre of eye; cheek and opercle scaled; lower jaw without scales.

Colour: green to purplish; brown with about 4 vertical brownish bars on sides that are often indistinct in very young individuals; head with numerous small red spots and scales on sides, except for those on lower portions, each with a vertical red line; dorsal, anal and pelvic fins yellowish to green with distal red streaks; caudal fin greenish with a red posterior margin. Small individuals with about 3 or 4 dark spots midlaterally on sides.

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

Cheilinus chlorurus: dorsal fin with 10 spines and 9 soft rays (9 spines and 10 soft rays in C. trilobatus); scales on sides each with a bluish spot.

C. abudjubbe: head with 4 pairs of long red lines radiating from eye, and a fifth pair angled across cheek; large specimens with red dots on nape and anteriorly on side, and caudal fin with exserted rays.

C. fasciatus: sides with distinctive, yellowish to white bars, and large red areas.

C. lunulatus: opercular flap black, with a prominent bright yellow mark; head with red spots but no lines; caudal fin in large specimens with extremely exserted rays.

Other Cheilinus species: greatest body depth considerably less than head length or with one or more of the following characters: caudal fin pointed, a distinctive black spot at anterior end of dorsal fin, a prominent black spot on lateral line above pectoral fin, a vertical blackish line on each scale of side or a prominent hump on head.

Other labrid genera: more than 25 pored scales in an interrupted lateral line (at most 23 in C. trilobatus), or eyes with a double thickening of the cornea, or anal fin with 12 segmented rays (8 in C. trilobatus), or mouth either small or extremely protrusible.

### SIZE:

Maximum: 40 cm.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs throughout this fishing area except in the "Gulf" and the eastern Arabian Sea. Elsewhere, it is distributed into the Western Pacific, reaching the Society Islands to the east.

Found on shallow and deep reefs at depths to below 20 m, especially in areas of luxuriant coral and algal growth. Individuals, as in other species of the genus, are mostly solitary in habit and do not congregate in large numbers as adults.

Feeds mostly on hard-shelled prey, including molluscs, crustaceans and sea urchins.

### PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

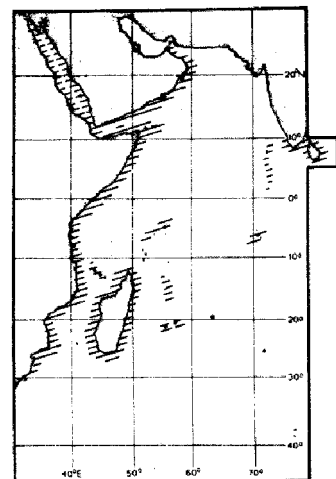
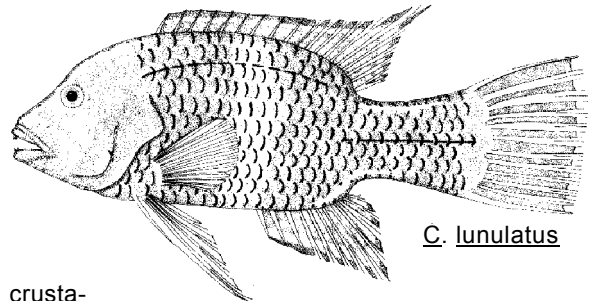
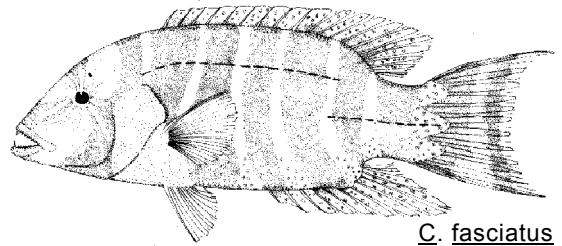
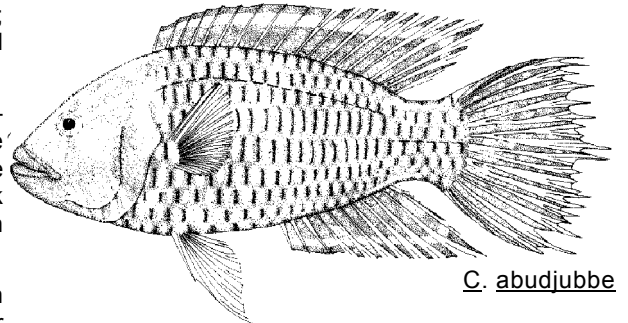
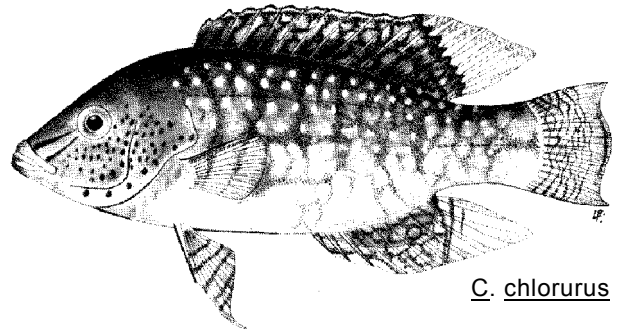
No special fishery. Although this species is not commercially sought, it reaches a sufficiently large size to be marketed when taken.

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

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Taken primarily by hook and line.

Marketed fresh.

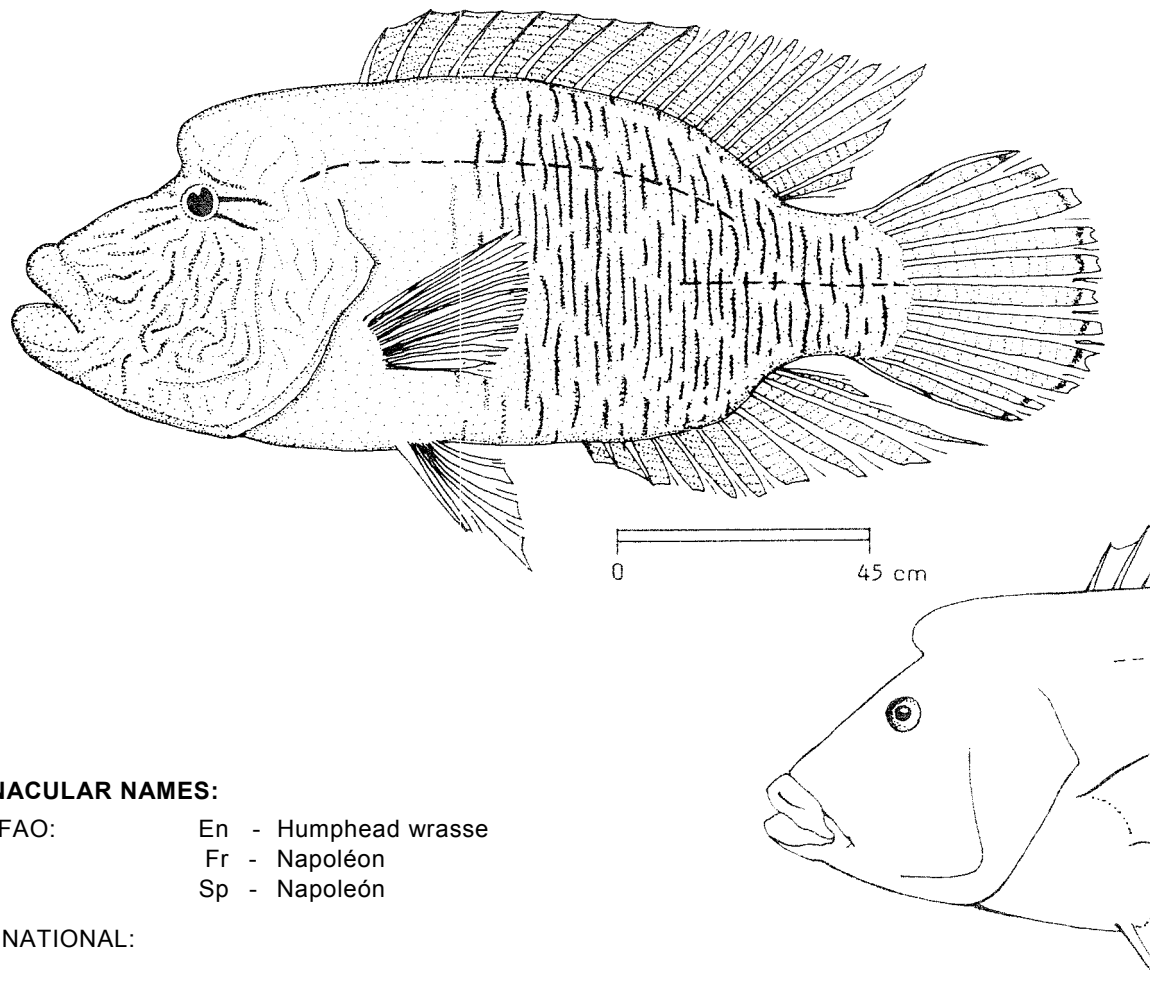


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)Cheilinus undulatus Rüppell, 1828

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO:           En - Humphead wrasse  
                   Fr - Napoléon  
                   Sp - Napoleón

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

head of large adult showing "hump"

Body moderately deep, greatest depth equal to, or greater than length of head. Dorsal profile of head convexly curved; a pronounced fleshy hump developing above eyes in large individuals; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws and lips prominent; 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 9 spines and 10 soft rays, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins not filamentous; caudal fin rounded. Lateral line interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal fin base, with a total of 22 or 23 pored scales. Scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins in small specimens, barely onto fins in very large individuals; scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward to above centre of eye; cheek and opercle scaled; lower jaw without scales.

Colour: greenish with a vertical purplish brown bar on each scale both above and behind pectoral fin; lower portion of head and chest with somewhat vertically oriented wavy green and purplish brown lines; forehead with similar olive vermiculations; a pair of dark brown or black lines directed from upper jaw to eye and from back of eye toward origin of lateral line. Dorsal, anal and caudal fins reddish brown with numerous narrow wavy greenish grey lines, caudal fin edged with yellow; pelvic fins yellowish.

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

All other Cheilinus species: greatest depth of body less than length of head or 10 dorsal spines and 9 soft rays, or scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins, or with reddish markings on head or sides, and a prominently dark spot anteriorly on dorsal fin, or a pointed caudal fin. No other species of the genus develops a fleshy hump on the forehead in large individuals.

Other labrid genera: more than 25 pored scales in an uninterrupted lateral line (at most 23 in C. undulatus), or eyes with a double thickening of the cornea, or anal fin with 12 segmented rays (8 in C. undulatus), or mouth either small or extremely protrusible.

#### **SIZE:**

Maximum: 200 cm.

#### **GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Occurs throughout most of this fishing area. Elsewhere, it ranges into the Western and Central Pacific, reaching the Tuamotus to the east.

Found mostly on, deeper portions of coral reefs in depths of 30 m. Individuals, as in other species of this genus, are solitary in habit and do not congregate in large numbers.

Feeds mostly on hard-shelled prey, including molluscs, crustaceans and sea urchins.

#### **PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

No special fishery. This species reaches an enormous size and is of high enough quality to be marketed when taken. It has, however, been implicated in ciguatera (fish poisoning).

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

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Taken primarily by hook and line, although it is also speared by divers at night.

Marketed fresh.

