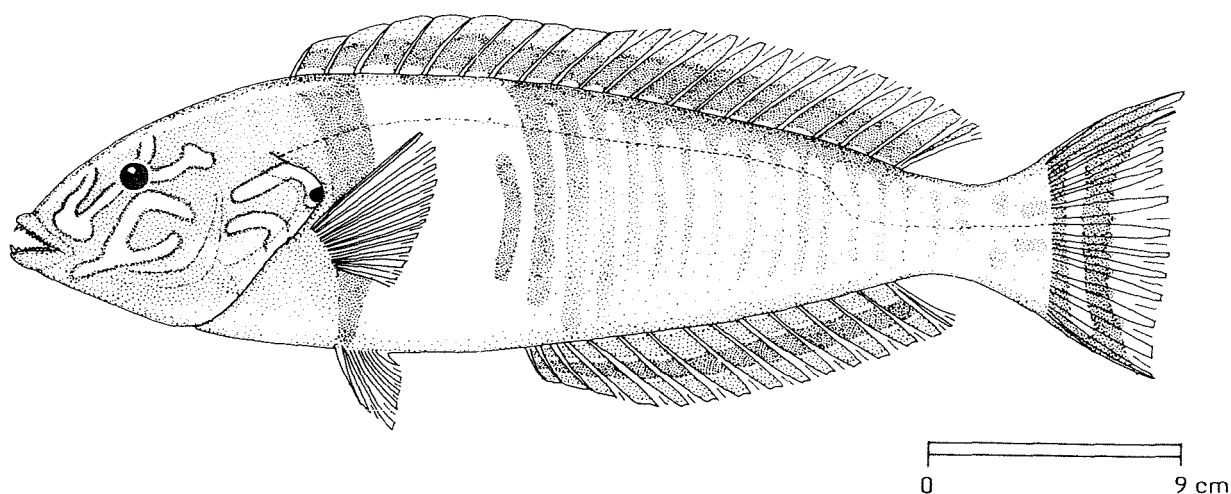


FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)Hologymnosus doliatus (Lacepède, 1801)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: Hologymnosus semidiscus

VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Pastel wrasse
 Fr - Colombine pastel
 Sp - Colombina pastel

NATIONAL:

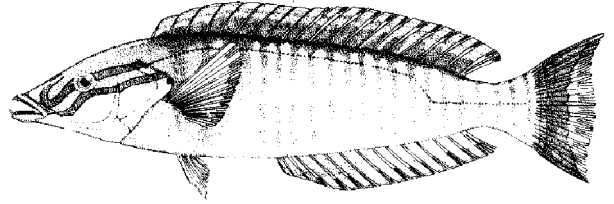
DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body elongate, the depth 3.8 to 5.3 times in standard length. Dorsal profile of head nearly straight, though slightly convex in large individuals; head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, though mouth small; 4 prominent canines anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 9 spines and 12 soft rays; the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with 3 spines and 12 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 11 branched rays, short, 1.9 to 2.1 times in head; caudal fin double emarginate, the caudal concavity of large males about 11 times in head. Lateral line abruptly curved below posterior portion of dorsal fin base, with 97 to 112 pored scales. Scales not extending onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; head scaleless, except for nape.

Colour: juveniles whitish with 3 narrow orange-red stripes. Initial phase pale greenish, bluish, or pinkish with 20 to 23 orangish brown bars on side of body; a bluish black spot on opercular flap; caudal fin pinkish to yellowish with a narrow pale blue upper and lower edge and light orange submarginal band. Terminal male phase with a deep blue to purple bar passing from origin of dorsal fin beneath pectoral fin onto abdomen, followed by a broad light red bar; body posterior to this light red, shading to pale blue-green ventrally, with about 14 lavender-blue bars and 2 or 3 longitudinal bands of the same colour on caudal peduncle; head blue to blue-green with a coarse network of narrow orange to pink bands; a small blackish spot on opercular flap followed by a pale yellow zone; caudal fin green with narrow light blue upper and lower margins, a broad submarginal violet band in each lobe, and narrow longitudinal violet streaks in central and posterior part of fin.

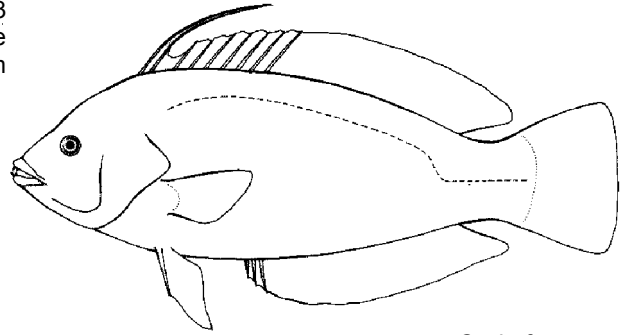
DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Hologymnosus annulatus: pectoral fins not as short, 1.65 to 1.9 times in head 1.9 to 2.1 times in H. doliatus); juveniles with upper third of body yellow containing a narrow reddish stripe, below this a very broad black stripe; initial phase brown with 17 to 19 dark brown bars, the caudal fin with a posterior whitish crescent; terminal male phase green with about 17 purplish red bars on side of body, the caudal fin blue with a large green posterior crescent.



H. annulatus

Coris species: pored lateral line scales 48 to 86 (93 to 118 for Hologymnosus); body generally not as elongate with a shorter and less pointed head; enlarged molariform pharyngeal teeth present.



Coris formosa

SIZE:

Maximum: 37 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs throughout most of the Western Indian Ocean, except for the Red Sea, the "Gulf" and probably much of the west coast of India. Ranges as far south as southern Natal on the East African coast. Its distribution extends eastward to Samoa and the Mariana Islands.

A species of coral reefs and rocky substrata to depths of at least 30 m. Initial phase fish may be male or female, but more often the latter.

Feeds mainly on small fishes and crustaceans.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

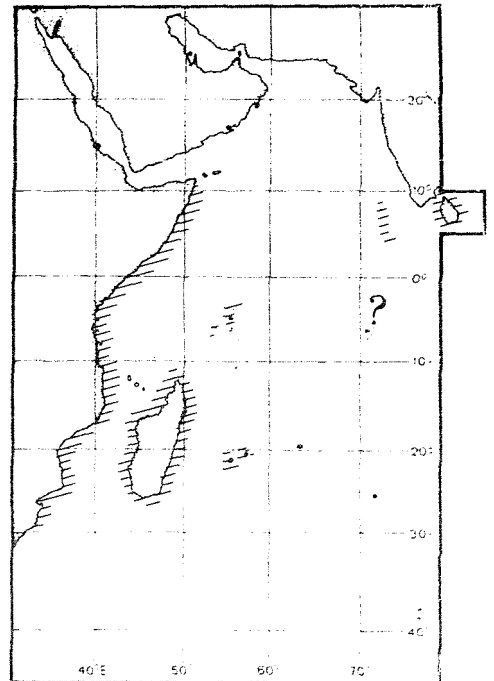
No special fishery. Not abundant, but due to its moderately large size, it has commercial value.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

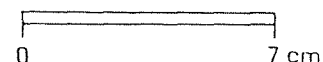
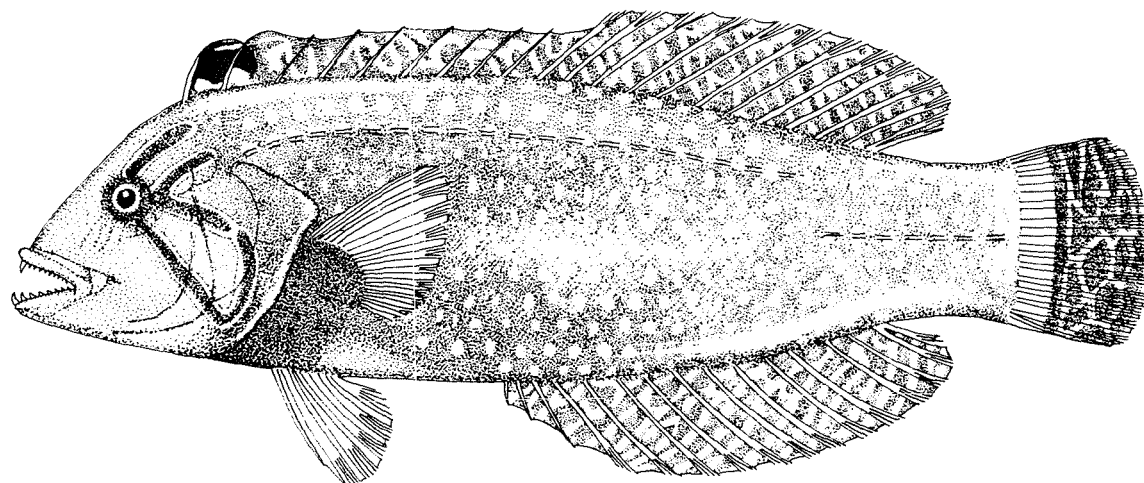
Usually taken with hook and line.

Marketed fresh.



FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)Novoculichthys taeniourus (Lacepède, 1801)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: Hemipteronotus taeniourus Lacepède, 1801; Novaculichthys bifer (Lay & Bennett, 1939)

VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Rockmover wrasse
 Fr - Rason algue
 Sp - Doncella alguera

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, compressed, greatest depth about equal to length of head. Dorsal profile of head lightly curved convexly, not compressed into a knife-like edge; head forming a broad but acute angle; jaws prominent, though mouth small; 2 prominent canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 9 spines and 12 (rarely 13) soft rays; the first 2 spines flexible distinctly elongate in juveniles; soft rays slightly longer than the spines; anal fin with 3 spines and 13 (rarely 14) soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 11 branched rays; pelvic fins not filamentous; caudal fin rounded. Lateral line interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal fin, with a total of 25 pored scales. Scales not reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; no scales in front of dorsal fin; 2 small rows of scales on cheek behind and below eye; opercle and lower jaw without scales.

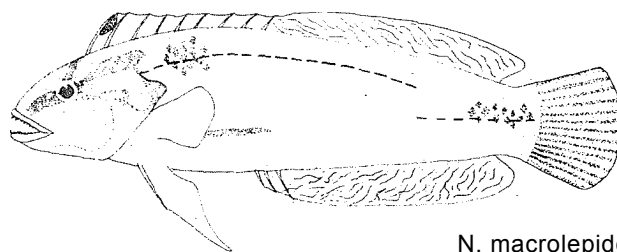
Colour: green or brown, sides with a pearly white spot on each scale; head with 2 pairs of white-edged brown lines radiating backwards from eye, one pair directed upwards and the other downwards; fins green or brown matching body, dorsal and anal with whitish reticulations; caudal fin with a broad white vertical band basally and whitish reticulations distally; a prominent black spot at forward end of dorsal fin; a second on pectoral fin base. Large individuals with red chest and belly. Small individuals with whitish head and 2 additional pairs of brown lines radiating forward and downward from eye; white spots on sides somewhat arranged into vertical bands.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Novaculichthys macrolepidotus: body moderately slender, usually noticeably less deep than length of head; 2 well defined rows of scales below eye; caudal peduncle usually with several dark blotches midlaterally, blotches sometimes reaching forward on side.

Xyrichtys species: top of head and snout compressed into a knife-like edge; first 2 rays often separated from rest of fin by a deep notch in the fin membrane, or completely unattached.

Other labrid genera: scales present in front of dorsal fin and an uninterrupted lateral line or only 8 to 9 segmented anal fin rays (13 or 14 in N. taeniourus).



N. macrolepidotus

SIZE:

Maximum: 30 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs throughout most of this fishing area, but not in the Red Sea. Elsewhere, it ranges into the Western and Central Pacific reaching Hawaii and the Society Islands to the east.

Found primarily in shallow weedy areas at depths of from a few to at least 25 m.

Feeds primarily on hard-shelled prey, including molluscs and crustaceans. Often seen turning over or moving rocks in quest of invertebrates beneath.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

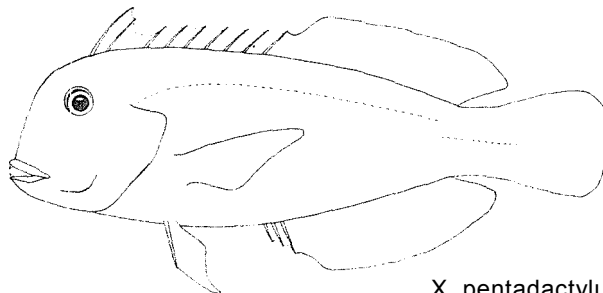
No special fishery. Although this species is not commercially sought, it reaches a sufficiently large size to be marketed when taken.

CATHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

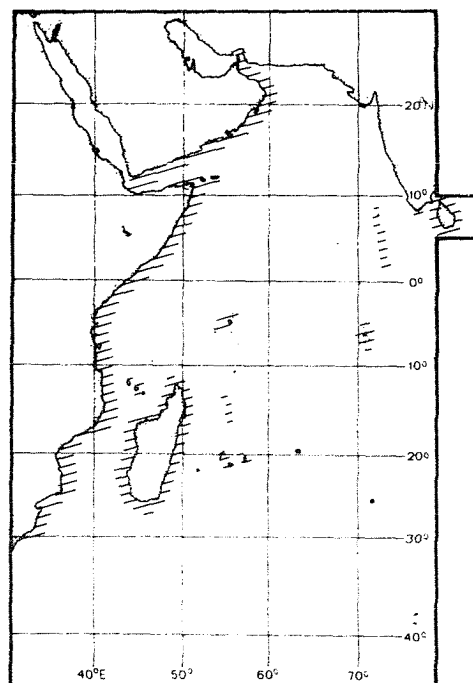
Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Taken by hook and line or with spear by divers.

Marketed fresh.



X. pentadactylus

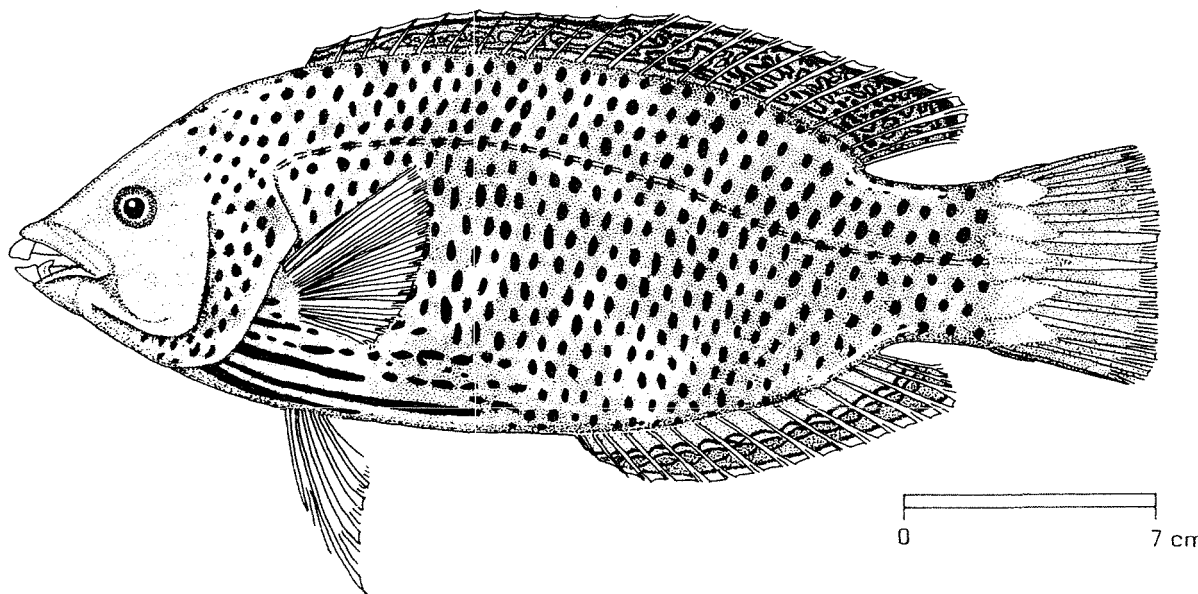


FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)*Pseudodax moluccanus* (Valenciennes, in Cuv. & Val., 1839)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :

En - Chiseltooth wrasse

Fr - Vielle ciseau

Sp - Vieja cuchilla

NATIONAL

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, maximum depth greater than length of head. Dorsal profile of head only slightly curved convexly; head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, though mouth small; 2 prominent spatulate incisors anteriorly in each jaw, those of lower jaw followed by a second smaller pair; teeth in jaws coalesced into a cutting edge with no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 11 spines and 12 (rarely 13) soft rays, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with 3 spines and 10 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 14 branched rays; pelvic fins slightly filamentous in large individuals; caudal fin slightly rounded. Lateral line smoothly curved, with 32 pored scales. Scales not reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin reaching forward not quite to above eye; cheek and opercle scaled; lower jaw without scales.

Colour: deep purplish blue; reddish brown forward on back and rear of head; a purple stripe running downward from upper lip; dorsal fin orange; anal, pectoral and pelvic fins yellowish; caudal fin with a broad yellow vertical band at base; yellow areas becoming dark blue in very large individuals. Teeth blue.

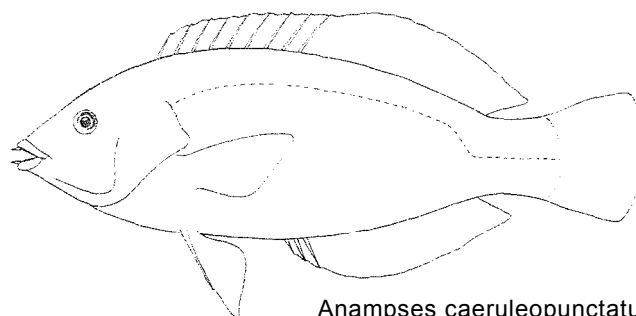
DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Anampses species: lateral line abruptly curved below posterior portion of dorsal fin; only a single pair of large teeth at front of upper and lower jaws, sides of each jaw lined with a single series of minute teeth; head naked.

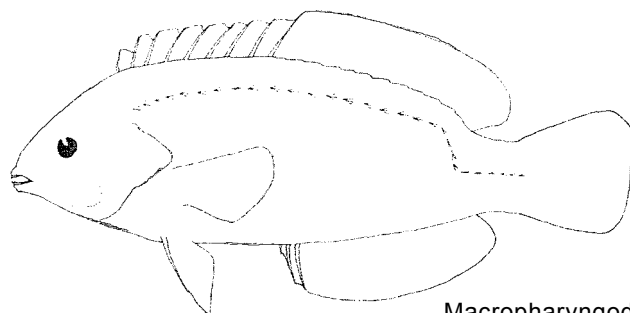
Macropharyngodon species: lateral line abruptly curved below posterior portion of dorsal fin; 4 prominent canines situated at front of each jaw; dorsal fin origin situated above a point midway between eye and pectoral fin base; dorsal fin with 9 spines and 11 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 10 or 11 soft rays.

Halichoeres marginatus: lateral line abruptly curved below posterior portion of dorsal fin; jaws lined with caniniform teeth; dorsal fin with 9 spines and 13 (rarely 14) soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 12 soft rays.

Other species of Labridae: lateral line either abruptly curved downward or interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal fin and/or prominent canines at forward end of each jaw.

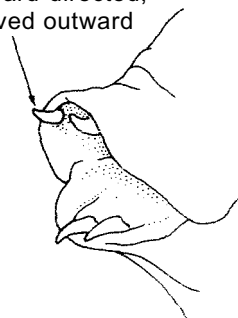


Anampses caeruleopunctatus



Macropharyngodon

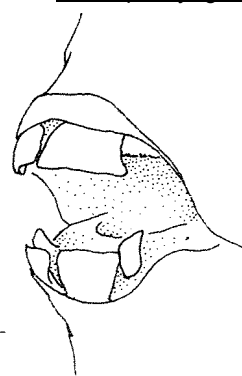
teeth strongly forward-directed, curved outward



Anampses



Halichoeres



Pseudodax

teeth

SIZE:

Maximum: 30 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs throughout most of this fishing area. Elsewhere, it ranges into the Western Pacific, reaching to Japan, the Philippines and Australia, and into Oceania as far east as Tahiti.

Found on rock and coral reefs to a depth of about 60 m. Adults are solitary in habit.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

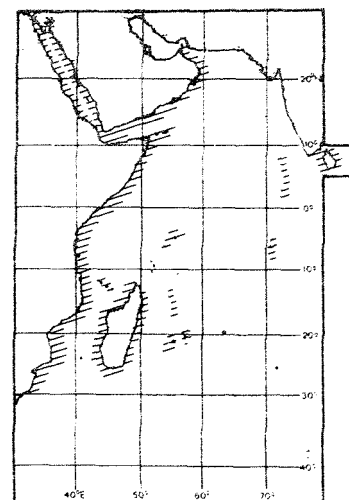
No special fishery. Although this species is not commercially sought, it reaches a sufficiently large size to be marketed when taken.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

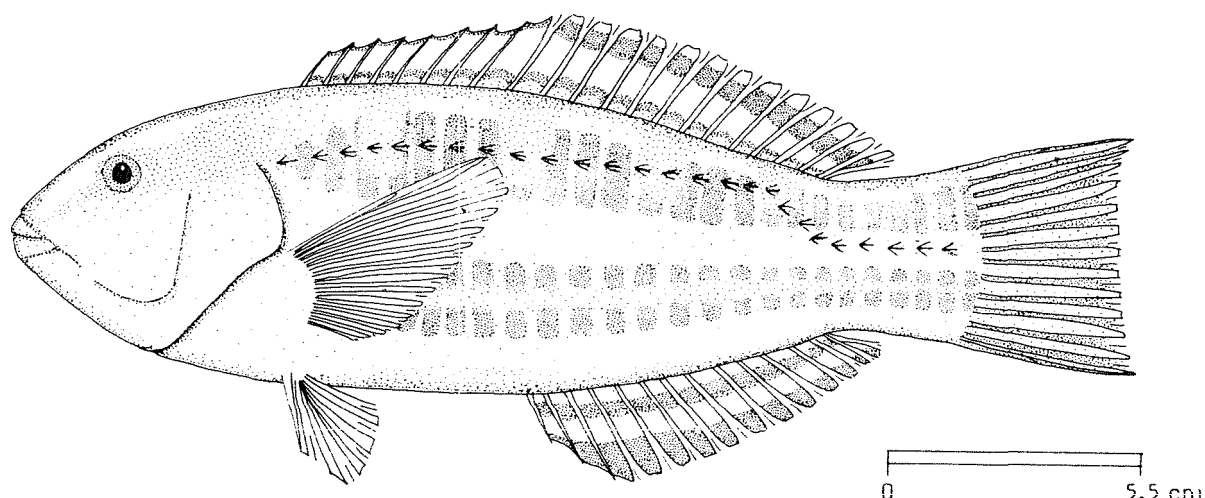
Taken almost exclusively with spear by divers.

Marketed fresh.



FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: LABRIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)*Thalassoma fuscum* (Lacepède, 1801)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE : Initial phase often misidentified as *Thalassoma umbrotygma* (Rüppell)

VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Christmas wrasse
 Fr - Girelle de Noël
 Sp - Doncella navideña

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, the greatest depth approximately equal to length of head. Dorsal profile of head describing a moderately convex curve; anterior tip of head slightly acute; jaws prominent, though mouth small; 2 prominent canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with 8 spines and 13 soft rays, the anterior dorsal soft rays somewhat longer than the spines; anal fin with 3 spines and 11 soft rays; pectoral fins with 2 unbranched and 14 branched rays; pelvic fins pointed but not filamentous; caudal fin slightly rounded in young, truncate in terminal males. Lateral line abruptly curved below posterior portion of dorsal fin base, with 26 pored scales. Scales reaching slightly onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward to about midpoint between origin of fin and eye; a small patch of scales situated on upper end of opercle; head otherwise without scales. Gillrakers on first arch 18 to 23 (usually 19 to 21).

Colour: initial phase light red, with 2 longitudinal bands of close-set elliptical or rectangular (long axis vertical) green spots on sides of body; 4 green spots of upper series with dorsal projections to base of dorsal fin; 3 longitudinal light red zones of body often overlaid with a series of dark brown blotches; head greenish dorsally, pale orangish ventrally, sometimes with faint green bands, the upper half and nape with numerous dark reddish spots and short irregular lines; dorsal fin orange with a longitudinal green band above middle of fin, a series of green blotches along base, and a black spot on first 2 interspinous membranes; anal fin with alternating bands of salmon pink and green or blue; caudal fin streaked longitudinally with green and orange, the earners blue; paired fins pale pinkish to yellowish, the base of the pectoral with a light red band which joins a longer streak of the same coloration on thorax that passes faintly onto abdomen. Terminal male phase salmon pink on body also with 2 longitudinal series of blotches, although spots are blue-green and more rectangular; head orangish brown without any distinct markings; unsealed part of dorsal fin orange with a blue margin (broadest on soft portion); anal fin blue with a broad band of salmon pink near base; caudal fin greenish with narrow blue upper and lower margins, the

outer half of fins streaked longitudinally with bright blue; pectoral fins yellow at base, a broad region of blue centrally, and blackish distally; a small dark blue spot dorsally on fin base; pelvic fins light blue.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

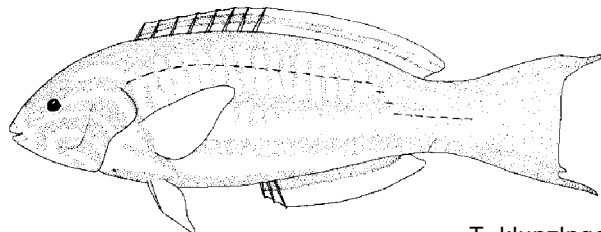
Thalassoma klunzingeri: a Red Sea species, green with a midlateral orange-red stripe on body with numerous long dorsal and short ventral projections from it; a pink stripe on lower side; head orange-red with narrow green bands which curve downward anteriorly and posteriorly; caudal fin green with a submarginal orange-red band in each lobe.

T. quinquevittatum: green with 2 pink stripes on body, 1 midlaterally and 1 along back, the green area between consisting of a series of vertically elongate, often connected, spots; head pink with several narrow yellowish green bands radiating from eye and another prominent curved one on cheek nearly touching lower edge of eye in its convex upper part; a diagonal light red streak on thorax and another parallel to it originating in axil of pectoral fin; caudal fin yellowish, the upper and lower lobes light red, narrowly edged in blue.

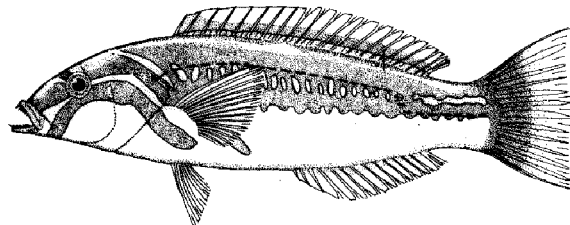
T. purpureum: gillrakers 21 to 25 (usually 22 to 24) compared to 18 to 23 in T. fuscum; caudal fin of terminal males emarginate to double emarginate; initial phase coloured like T. fuscum; terminal males green with 3 irregular pink stripes on body; the head, thorax and abdomen turquoise; upper part of head with broad irregular pink bands, cheek with a broad Y-shaped pink band extending from eye to edge of opercle at level of pectoral fin base; unsealed part of caudal fin turquoise.

Remaining species of Thalassoma: without prominent horizontal stripes, at least in adults, or with distinctive, mostly vertical blackish bands on sides or without scales on head.

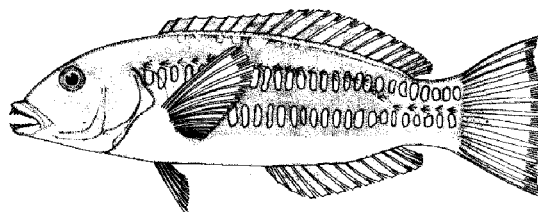
Other labrid genera: more than 8 dorsal fin spines or 46 to 48 lateral line scales or jaws extended to form a tube-like structure.



T. klunzingeri



T. quinquevittatum



T. purpureum

SIZE:

Maximum: 25 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Occurs from East Africa to French Polynesia and the Hawaiian Islands. Not known from the Red Sea or Easter Islands.

This outer reef species is found from about 1 to 15 m depth. Both, pair spawning of an initial phase female with a terminal male, and aggregate spawning of a number of initial phase fish have been observed.

Feeds primarily on benthic crustaceans, molluscs and brittle stars.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

No special fishery. Not commercially sought but occasionally reaches markets.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Taken mostly by hook and line.

Marketed fresh.

