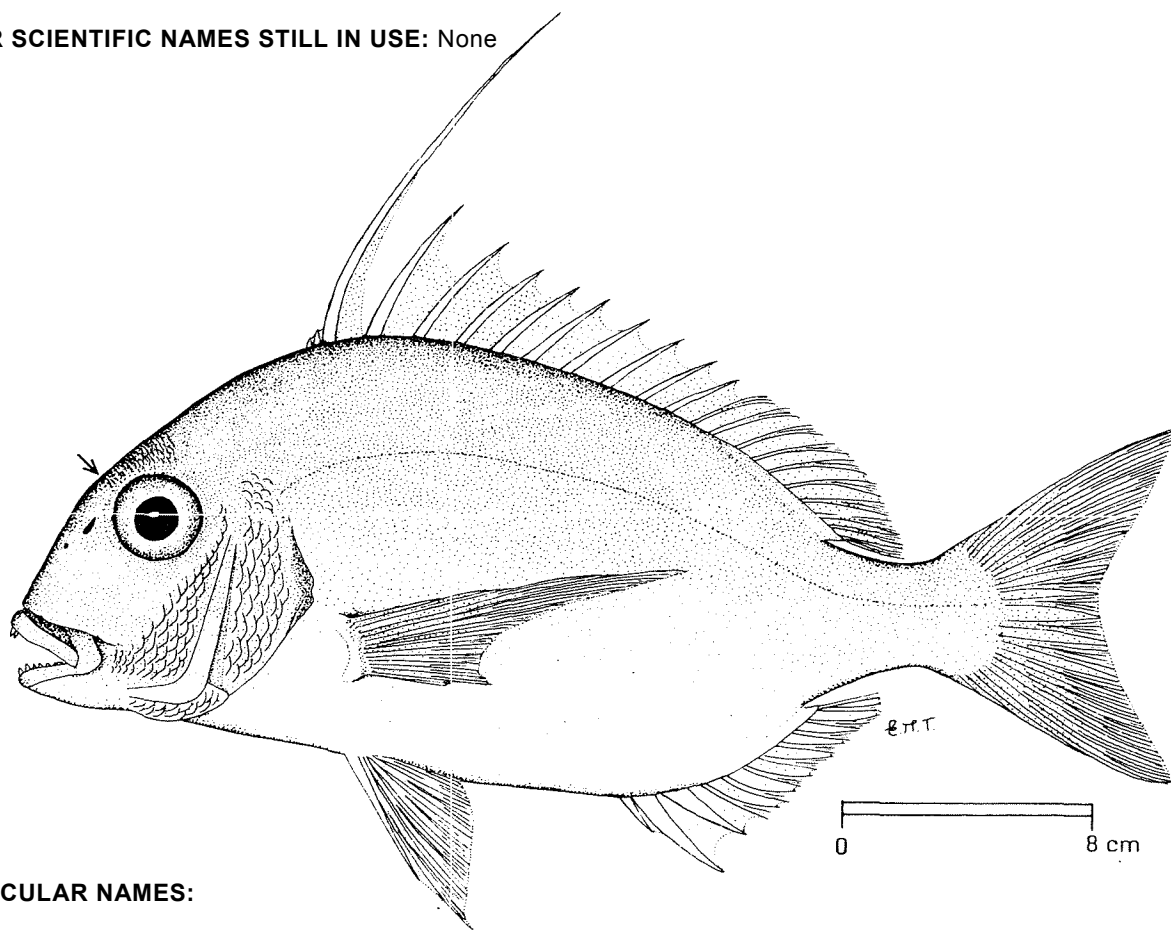


FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SPARIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)*Argyrops filamentosus* (Valenciennes, 1830)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO: En - Soldierbream
Fr - Spare soldat
Sp - Sargo soldado

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body deep, strongly compressed. Head profile steep, almost straight from upper lip to in front of eyes (where bulge develops with age) then gently curving backward to dorsal fin origin; eye large; at front of jaws, 4 enlarged canines followed by 2 rows of molars, those of outer row bluntly conical anteriorly; very small molars just behind canines; gillrakers 10 or 11 on lower limb of first arch. Dorsal fin single, with 11 or 12 spines and 8 to 10 soft rays, the first 2 spines very short, the 3rd elongate, more so in juveniles than in adults, but always longer than head, 4th spine only slightly elongate, 5th normal, shortening to last; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays, 2nd spine usually longer and stouter than 3rd spine; caudal fin deeply emarginate with pointed lobes. Scales large, 50 to 54 in lateral line, scaled area between eyes broad (occupying full width of interorbital space) U-shaped at end; soft dorsal and anal fins with low basal scaly sheath.

Colour: pink, with a bluish overlay; bell and chin silvery white. Dorsal, caudal and pectoral fins pink, anal and pelvic fins very pale pink. Red on margin of upper opercle.

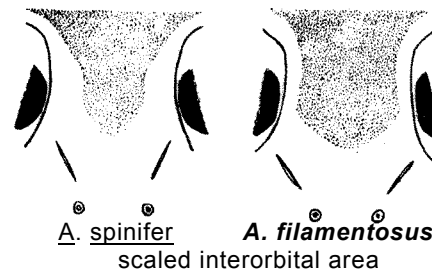
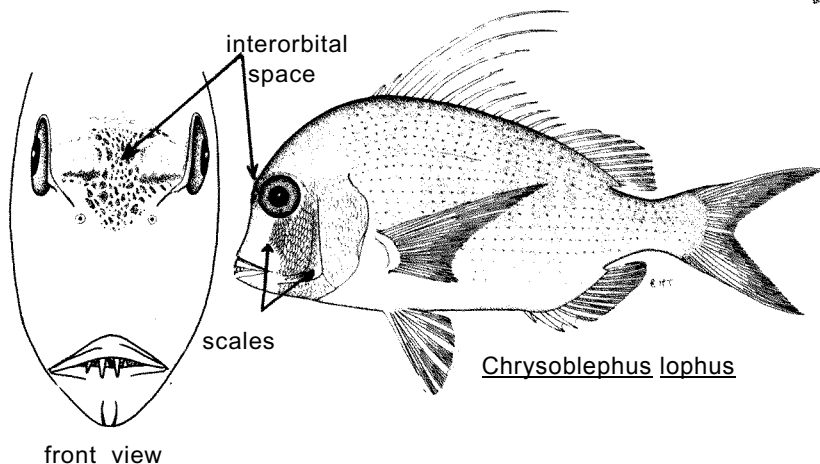
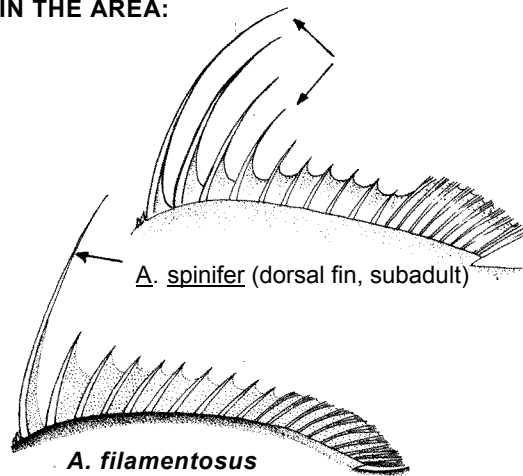
DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Argyrops spinifer: at least 3rd to 5th, sometimes to 7th, dorsal spines elongate; scaled area between eyes narrow, ending in a point (broad and U-shaped in A. filamentosus); 2nd and 3rd anal spines subequal.

Chrysoblephus lophus: red and yellow lines across corrugated pitted bony interorbital; scales on preopercle flange and suborbital space (none in Argyrops).

Cheimeriis nufar: profile of head not as steep and curving gently up to nape, no molar teeth, juveniles with 6 darker pink bars across head and body.

Other species of Sparidae: no elongate or filamentous spine in dorsal fin longer than the head.



SIZE:

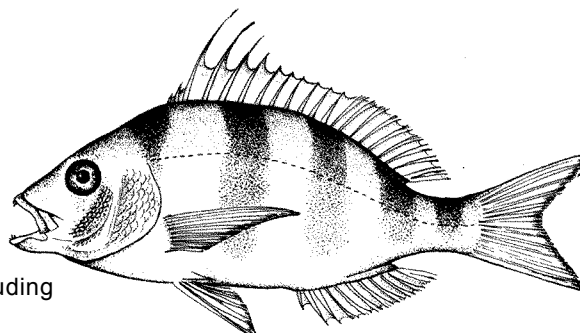
Maximum: 60 cm; common to 40

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

In the area, from South Africa to the Red Sea, including Mauritius, Madagascar and Réunion islands.

Caught off reefs in the warmer parts of the area.

Feeds on bottom-living invertebrates.



Cheimeriis nufar (juvenile)

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

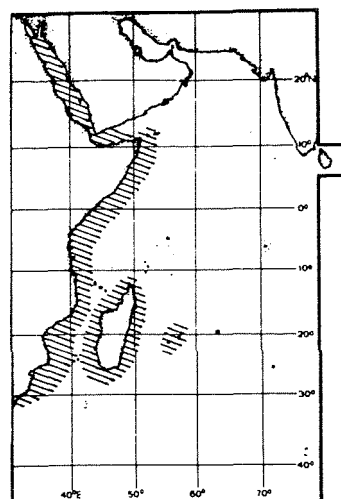
Throughout its range, down to 40 m depth, mainly reef areas.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

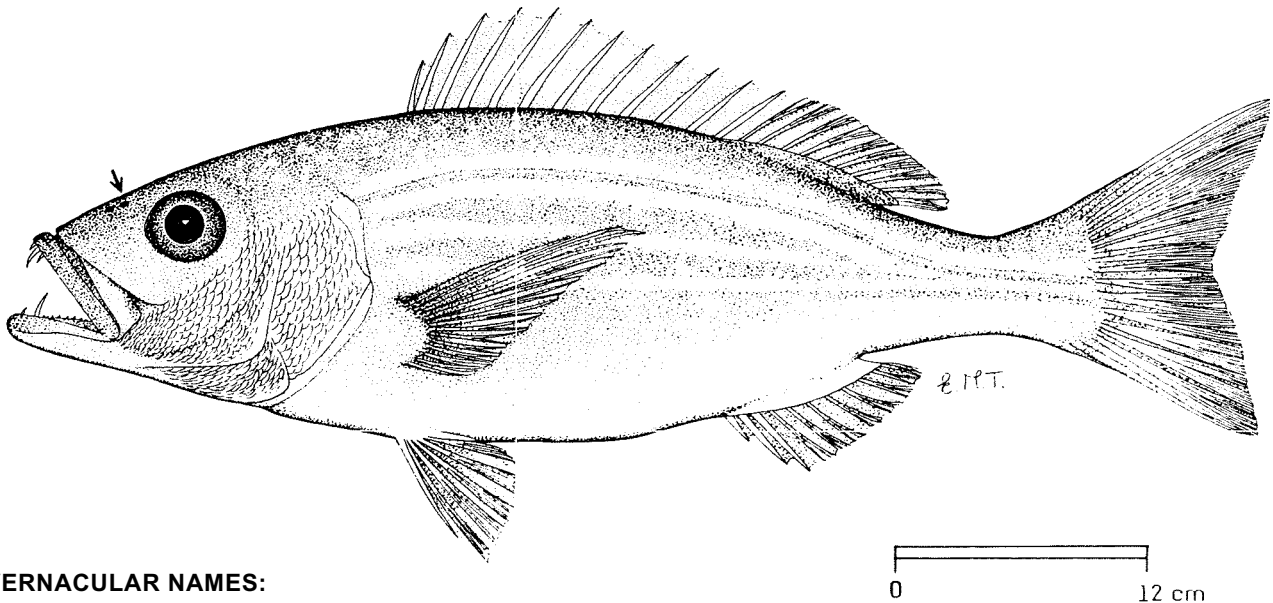
Caught mainly with trawls, handlines and longlines. Mainly exploited by artisanal fisheries.

Marketed usually fresh, whole or dried.



FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SPARIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)Argyrozona argyrozona (Valenciennes, 1830)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: Polysteganus argyrozona (Valenciennes, 1830)

VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Carpenter seabream
 Fr - Denté charpentier
 Sp - Dentén carpintero

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body elongate, with a long, low head (about equal to or longer than body depth), about 3 times in standard length; head profile smooth; eye large, less than 5 times in head length; lower jaw slightly protruding, maxilla fully exposed with upper angle acutely produced. A narrow band of conical teeth, the inner feeble, the outer longer; at front of jaw, 4 upper and 4 to 6 lower enlarged, slender canines, the hinder pair largest, strongest and recurved; no molars; gillrakers slender, 18 to 20 on lower limb of first arch. Dorsal fin single, with 12 spines and 10 soft rays; anal fin with 3 slender spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins much shorter than head; caudal fin forked. Scales moderately small, 59 to 62 in lateral line; scaled area on upper surface of head reaching beyond level of posterior nostril; preopercle flange partly scaly; soft dorsal and anal fins with scaly sheaths at their bases.

Colour: silvery, rosy-red, lighter below; several bright red longitudinal lines alternating with silver show just after death; fins pink or rosy; eye brilliant red-orange.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

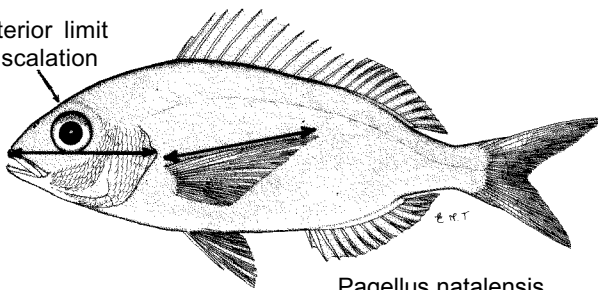
Petrus rupestris: eye small, about 4 (juvenile) to 8 times in head length (less than 5 times in A. argyrozona); gillrakers short, laminate, fewer, 8 or 9 on lower limb of first arch (17 to 20 slender in A. argyrozona); 11 dorsal spines (12 in A. argyrozona).

Pagellus natalensis: no longitudinal red lines along body; small molars present within small pointed external teeth; pectorals about equal to head length (much shorter in A. argyrozona); scaled area on top of head not reaching to anterior nostril.

Pterogymnus laniarius: body deeper, 2.5 times in standard length (about 3 times in A. argyrozona); pectorals long; 2 series of molars within outer canines (none in A. argyrozona)

Lethrinus species (Lethrinidae): cheeks naked (scaly in Sparidae).

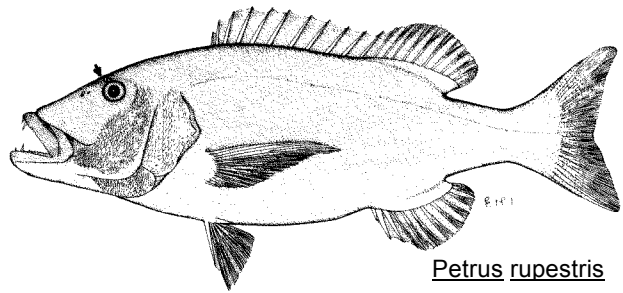
anterior limit of scalation



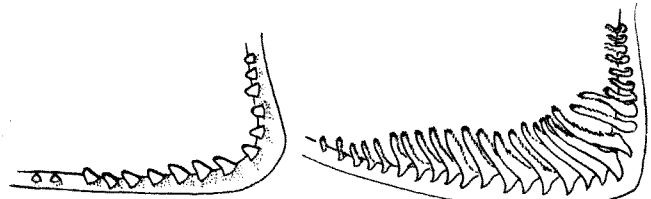
Pagellus natalensis

SIZE:

Maximum: 90 cm; common between 50 and 70 cm.



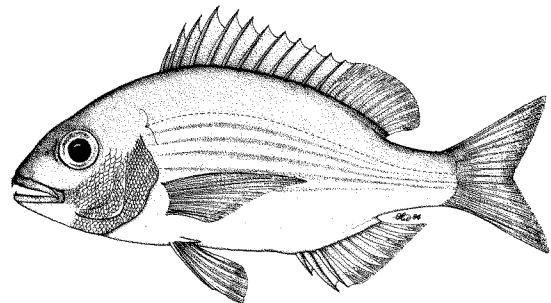
Petrus rupestris



Petrus

Argyrozona

first gill arch



Pterogymnus laniarius

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

A South African endemic species occurring from Cape to Natal, between 20 and 200 m depth.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

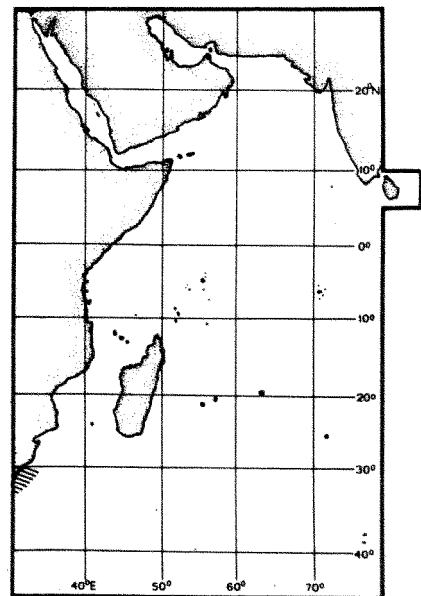
Throughout its range.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

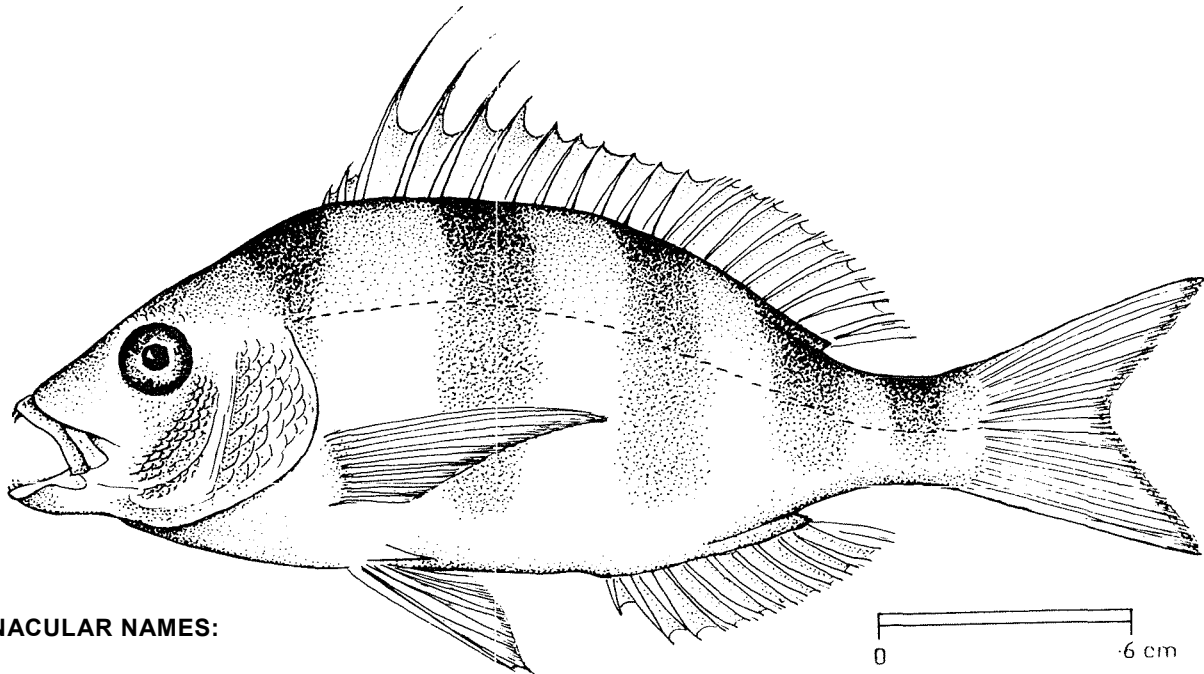
Caught mainly with line gear and trawlers.

Marketed fresh, whole.



FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SPARIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)Cheimerius nufar (Valenciennes, 1830)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: Dentex nufar Valenciennes, 1830

VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO: En – Santer seabream
Fr – Denté nufar
Sp – Dentón nufar

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body moderately deep, compressed. Head profile gently convex from upper lip to dorsal fin origin (sometimes a slight bump developing before eyes with age), snout rather sharp; eye diameter shorter than snout length; a narrow band of small villiform teeth, the outer lateral series enlarged, especially the 4 to 6 caniniform teeth at front of both jaws; no molars; gillrakers 13 to 15 on lower limb of first arch. Dorsal fin single, with 11 or 12 spines and 10 or 11 rays, the first 2 spines short, 3rd to 7th elongate (shorter in adults); anal fin with 3 spines and 8 rays; first pelvic ray elongate; caudal fin forked, with pointed lobes. Scales moderate, 58 to 63 in lateral line; preopercle flange naked, except for a few small scales on inner margin; scales on top of head reaching to beyond a line through middle of eye.

Colour: rosy pink above, silvery below (turns to purplish pink after death), juveniles with 6 darker pink bars across head (through eye) and body, adults lose bars and have a dark blue spot on each scale on upper body. Dorsal, caudal and pectoral fins rosy, anal and pelvic fins bluish with pink streaks in centre of rays.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Argyrops species: head profile abruptly bent at eye; molar teeth present.

Chrysoblephus lophus: red and yellow lines across bony, pitted interorbital scales in suborbital space extending below eye; interorbital space bony, corrugated.

Other species of Sparidae: no filamentous dorsal rays.

SIZE:

Maximum: 60 cm; common between 25 and 35 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Found in coastal waters throughout the area, including Madagascar and Mauritius Islands; juveniles reach nearly Mossel Bay (South Africa), over rocky bottoms from 60 m to about 100 m depth and over. Young seek shelter in estuaries when stormy weather approaches.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

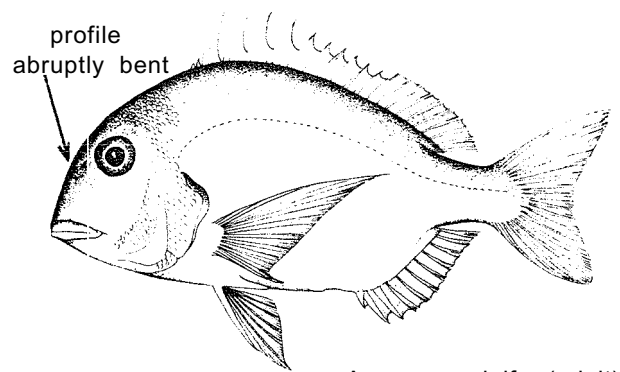
Shelf waters, at moderate depths, throughout its range.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

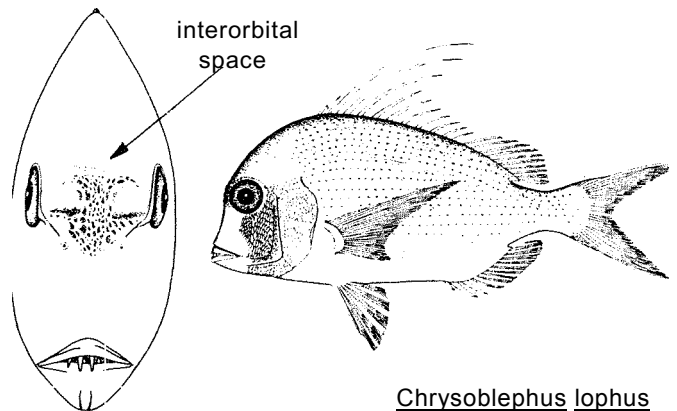
Separate statistics are not reported for this species

Caught with longlines, handlines and in bottom trawls.

Marketed fresh, whole or dried.

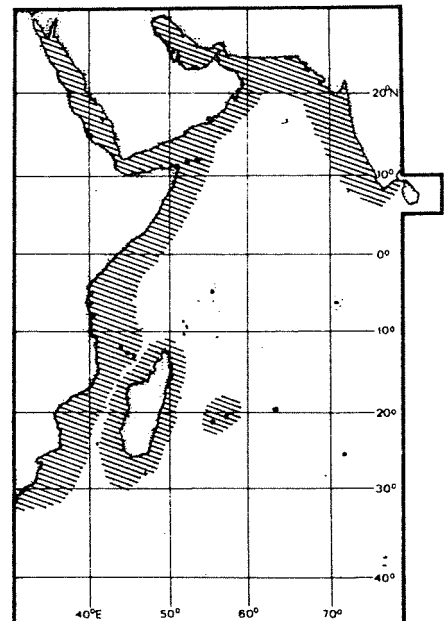


Argyrops spinifer (adult)



Chrysoblephus lophus

front view



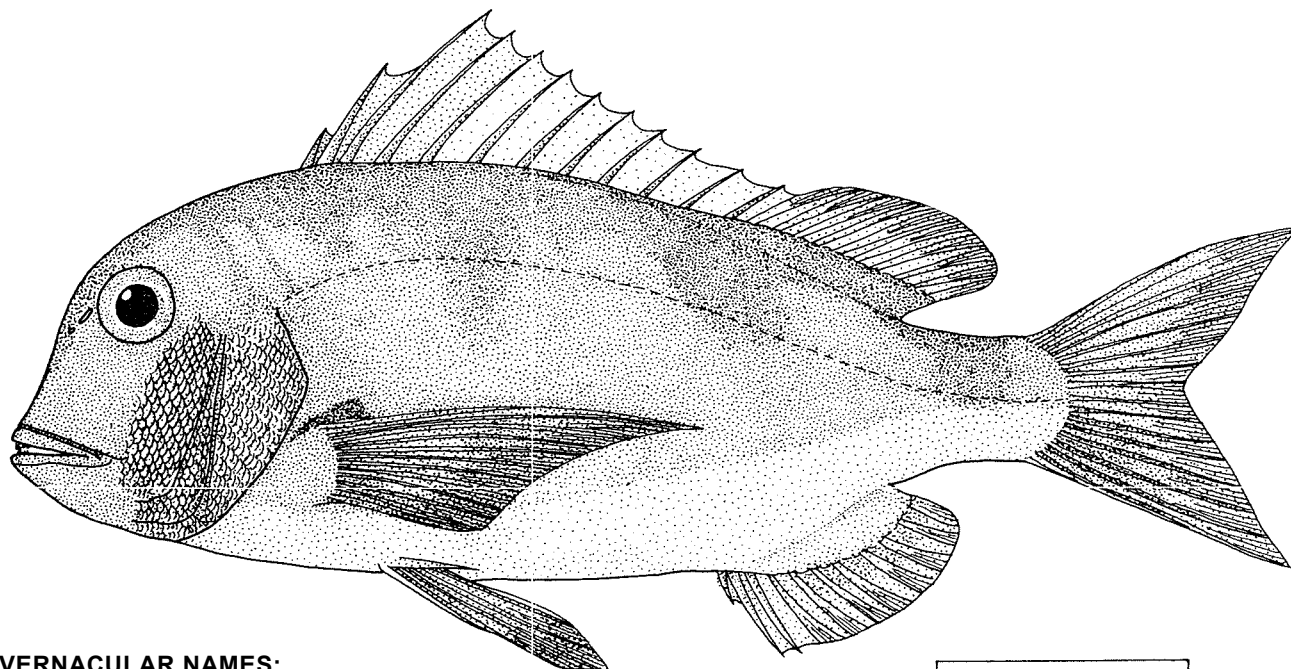
FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SPARIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)

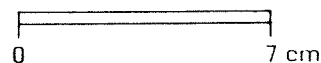
Chrysolephus anglicus (Gilchrist & Thompson, 1908)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



VERNACULAR NAMES:

- FAO: En - Englishman seabream
- Fr - Spare du Natal
- Sp - Sargo de Natal



NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body deep, compressed, its depth 2 to 2.5 times in standard length. Head profile from upper lip to interorbital area almost vertical, then sloping gently to origin of dorsal fin; eye moderately small, its diameter always less than the fairly deep suborbital space; lips rather thin, maxilla reaching to below about centre of eye; at front of jaws, 4 upper and 5 lower, moderately enlarged canines; laterally 4 or 5 series of molars, the outer the largest, with anterior teeth bluntly conical in juveniles; gillrakers 10 to 12 on lower limb of first arch. Dorsal fin with 12 spines, 3rd to 5th rather elongate, but never longer than head, and 10 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins longer than head, reaching to anal fin; caudal fin forked, tips pointed with age. Scales rough, small, 63 to 68 in lateral line; scaled area on top of head reaching to above nostrils; preopercle flange scaly; dorsal and anal fins densely scaly at base with a vestigial sheath.

Colour: reddish, lighter below, with darker red crossbars and rows of dark blue spots on scales, especially above lateral line; a reddish stripe at pectoral "in base.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

The combination of characters described above, especially the spots on scales, the vertical snout, the deep suborbital and the rather elongated 3rd to 5th dorsal spines, easily separates this species from all other deep, compressed, plain red, fishes occurring in the area.

SIZE:

Maximum: over 100 cm; common between 30 and 50 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

In the area, from Durban (South Africa) to southern Mozambique, some specimens occasionally straying southward to Algoa Bay.

Occurs offshore down to 80 m depth.

Feeds on crustaceans, molluscs and worms.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

Throughout its range.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

An important commercial species, known as one of the "red fishes", caught mainly with line gear.

Marketed fresh, whole.

