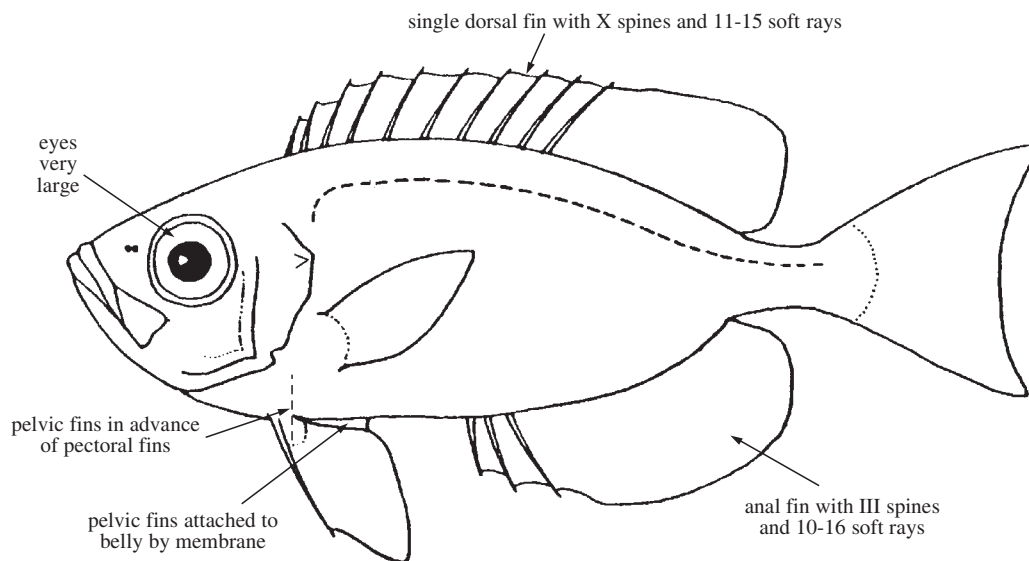


## PRIACANTHIDAE

## Bigeyes

by W.C. Starnes

**Diagnostic characters:** Deep-bodied, laterally compressed percoid fishes (size to 36 cm) with **extremely large eyes** (about 1/2 head length) and **upturned mouth**. Weak spine on posterior opercle and **prominent to remnant spine at angle of preopercle**. Branchiostegal rays 6. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 17 to 32. Dorsal fin with X spines and 11 to 15 soft rays; spinous and soft-rayed portions of fin continuous, relatively short to long, soft-rayed portion broadly rounded to broadly pointed. Anal-fin rays relatively short to long and broadly rounded to broadly pointed; anal fin with III spines and 10 to 16 soft rays. Caudal fin rounded, emarginate, or lunate, with 16 principal rays. Pectoral fins relatively short, with 17 to 21 rays. Pelvic fins with I spine and 5 soft rays, the fins short to very long, **broadly attached to belly by membrane and positioned in advance of pectoral fins**. Head and body mostly covered with extremely adherent, rough, **spiny scales** (bearing true spines which are integral part of scale rather than cteni on individual detachable bases). Scales much modified, varying among genera and species. **Scales on branchiostegal rays. Spinules on fin spines.** Scales in lateral series (all lateral-line scales including pored scales on caudal-fin base) 38 to 115. Vertebrae 23. Some species with modifications of skull and swimbladder, including connections between these components. **Colour:** head, iris of eye, and body generally reddish, sometimes with silvery blotches or, in some species, occasionally a pattern of red and silver-white bars; fins reddish to dusky or black, occasionally yellowish in some species; some species with dark spots or speckling on fin membranes.



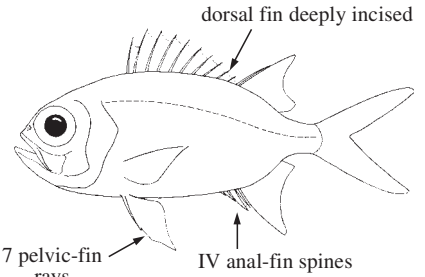
**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Generally epibenthic fishes occurring near coral reefs or rock formations but occasionally in more open areas at depths of 5 to 400 m, or deeper. Probably most active nocturnally but known to feed diurnally as well. Feed primarily on crustaceans, small cephalopods, polychaetes, and small fishes. Eggs, larvae, and early juvenile stages pelagic, transforming on settling to suitable habitats. Occur solitarily or in small aggregations, but some species may form large aggregations at times based on trawl catches. Not important in most fishery areas but some species occasionally common in trawl catches of southeast Asian waters. Generally incidental in trawls or hook-and-line fisheries elsewhere. Flesh is said to be of good quality. From 1990 to 1995, the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics reports a range of yearly catch of around 23 100 to 52 000 t of *Priacanthus* spp. from the Western Central Pacific (Indonesia, Thailand).

**Similar families occurring in the area**

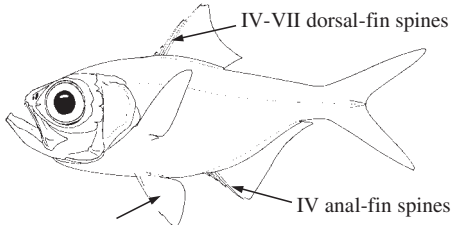
Holocentridae: also with large eyes (particularly in *Myripristis*) and reddish colour, but readily distinguishable from bigeyes by spines on opercular margin, spinous and soft-rayed portions of dorsal fin nearly separate, deeply forked caudal fin with 18 or 19 rays, pelvic fins with origin behind pectoral-fin origin and having I spine and usually 7 soft rays and not attached to belly by membrane, and IV anal-fin spines.

Berycidae: also with large eyes and reddish coloration but readily distinguishable from bigeyes by a short-based dorsal fin with only IV to VII spines, anal fin with IV spines, caudal fin deeply forked, and pelvic fins having origin behind pectoral fins and with 7 to 13 soft rays.

Pempheridae: also with large eyes and reddish to coppery colour but with dorsal-fin base short, IV or V spines and 8 or 9 soft rays, and anal fin with very long base, III spines and 22 or more soft rays.

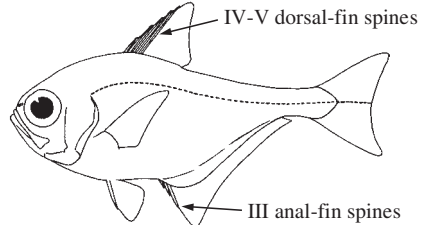


**Holocentridae**



7-13 pelvic-fin rays

**Berycidae**



**Pempheridae**

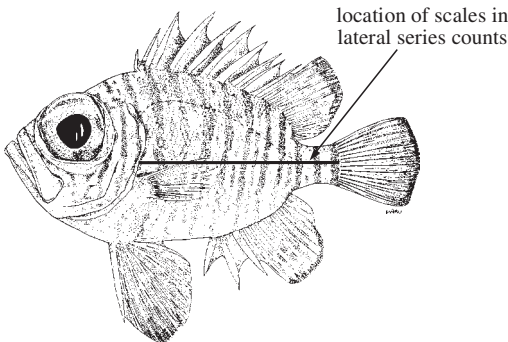
**Identification note**

Scales in lateral series are counted in straight line at midbody from behind opercle onto caudal fin, joining lateral line in anterior peduncle area and including all pored scales onto caudal-fin base (Fig. 1)

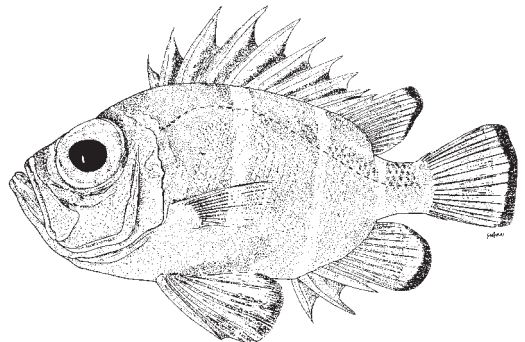
**Key to the species of Priacanthidae occurring in the area**

Note: some specimens which would be key to *Priacanthus macracanthus* herein may represent problematic forms which resemble that species but may comprise 1 or more additional taxa (see remarks in species account of *P. macracanthus*).

- 1a. Body profile very deep and broadly ovate, its depth 1.7 to 1.9 times in standard length; anal-fin rays 10 or 11; dorsal-fin rays 11 or 12; scales in lateral series 36 to 51. . . . . (*Pristigenys*) → 2
- 1b. Body profile less deep, its depth 2 to 3.1 times in standard length; anal-fin rays 13 to 16; dorsal-fin rays 12 to 15; scales in lateral series 56 to 115 . . . . . → 3
- 2a. Dorsal-fin rays 12; anal-fin rays 11; midlateral scales with 8 to 20 spinules on posterior margin; sides light coloured with numerous narrow red bars (Fig. 1) . . . . . *Pristigenys meyeri*
- 2b. Dorsal-fin rays 11; anal-fin rays 10; midlateral scales with 24 to 42 spinules on posterior margin; sides red with widely spaced light bars (Fig. 2) . . . . . *Pristigenys nipponia*



**Fig. 1 *Pristigenys meyeri***



**Fig. 2 *Pristigenys nipponia***

- 3a. Scale rows between dorsal fin and lateral line at highest point 16 to 20; pelvic fins very long except in large adults (30 cm standard length or larger) exceeding head length (Fig. 3); soft dorsal and anal fins long and broadly pointed except in very large specimens . . . . . *Cookeolus japonicus*
- 3b. Scales rows between dorsal fin and lateral line at highest point fewer than 16; pelvic fins short, less than or equal to head length; soft dorsal and anal fins moderately long, broadly rounded to very broadly pointed (Fig. 4) . . . . . → 4

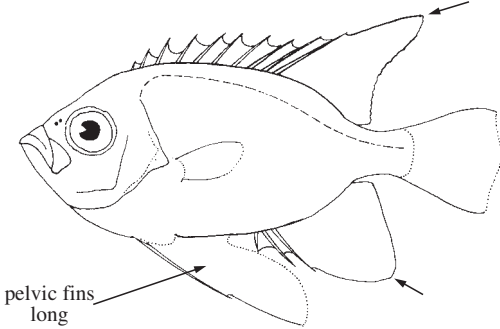


Fig. 3 *Cookeolus*

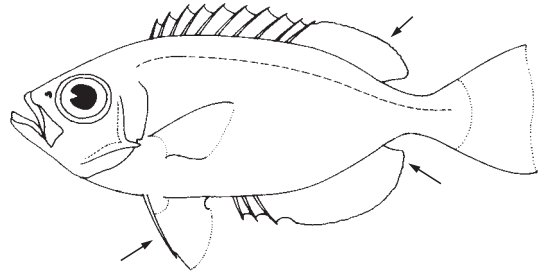
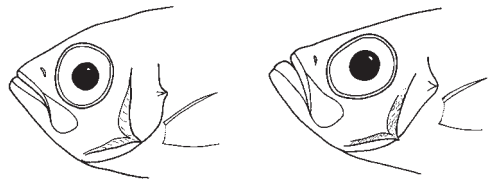


Fig. 4

- 4a. Posterior portion of preopercle lacking scales (Fig. 5a) and notably striate; anterior profile nearly symmetrical, extremity of lower jaw when mouth tightly closed about level with midline of body (Fig. 6); soft dorsal, anal, and caudal fins usually with small dark specks in membranes . . . . . *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*
- 4b. Posterior portion of preopercle with scales (Fig. 5b); anterior profile more asymmetrical, extremity of lower jaw usually above level of midline of body (Fig. 7); fins plain or with larger dusky spots . . . . . → 5



a) *Heteropriacanthus*      b) *Priacanthus*

Fig. 5

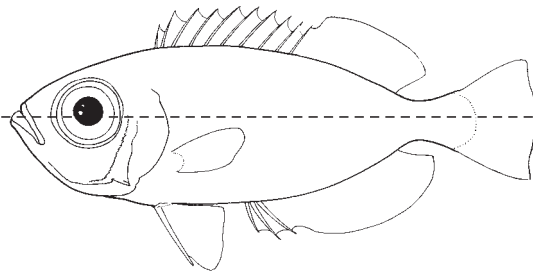


Fig. 6 *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*

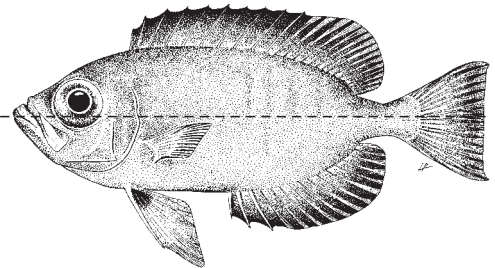


Fig. 7 *Priacanthus hamrur*

- 5a. Pelvic-fin membranes with several large purplish black spots (Fig. 8); dorsal-fin rays usually 12 . . . *Priacanthus tayenus*
- 5b. Pelvic-fin membranes lacking spots or with single dark basal blotch; dorsal-fin rays usually 13 or more . . . . . → 6

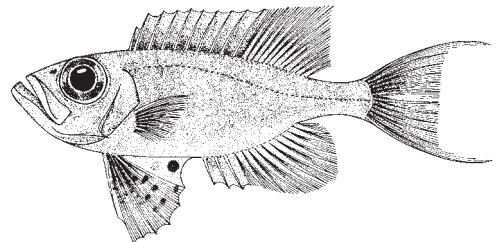


Fig. 8 *Priacanthus tayenus*

- 6a. Pelvic fins usually with a dark blotch basally (Fig. 7); preopercular spine very short, virtually lacking in specimens over 12 cm total length (Fig. 9a) . . . . . → 7
- 6b. Pelvic fins lacking dark blotch basally; preopercular spine reaching to or beyond opercular margin (Fig. 9b) . . . . . → 12
- 7a. Caudal-fin margin concave, outer rays slightly (Fig. 7) to much longer than remainder of rays; anal-fin rays usually 15 or 16 . . . . . → 8
- 7b. Caudal-fin margin truncate, convex (Fig. 12), or very slightly emarginate; anal-fin rays usually 14 or less . . . . . → 9
- 8a. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 24 to 26; body depth at sixth dorsal-fin spine about 2.6 to 2.8 times in standard length (Fig. 7) . . . . . *Priacanthus hamrur*
- 8b. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 29 to 31; body depth at sixth dorsal-fin spine 3 or more times in standard length (Fig. 10) . . . . . *Priacanthus prolixus*  
(Indian Ocean, perhaps also Hong Kong; not yet recorded from the area)
- 9a. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 25 to 28; pectoral fins bright yellow in life. . . . . *Priacanthus zaiserae*
- 9b. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 23 or fewer; pectoral fins not bright yellow. . . . . → 10
- 10a. First 2 spinous dorsal-fin membranes with black blotch (Fig. 11); length of second dorsal-fin spine about 2 times in length of tenth spine; scales in lateral series 67 to 74. . . . . *Priacanthus sagittarius*
- 10b. First 2 spinous dorsal-fin membranes not darker than succeeding; length of second dorsal-fin spine 1.5 to 1.7 times in length of tenth spine; scales in lateral series 72 to 93 . . . . . → 11

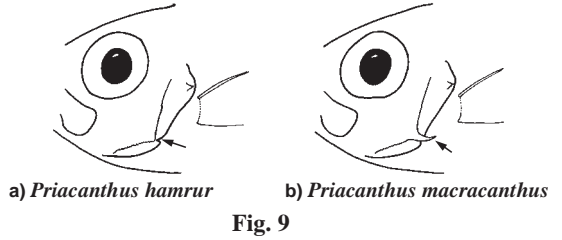


Fig. 9

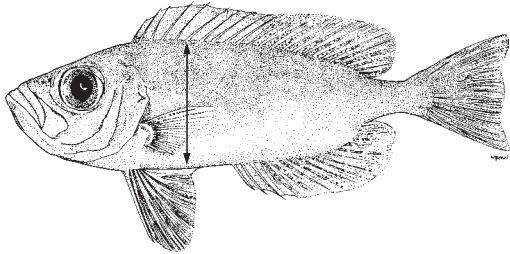


Fig. 10 *Priacanthus prolixus*

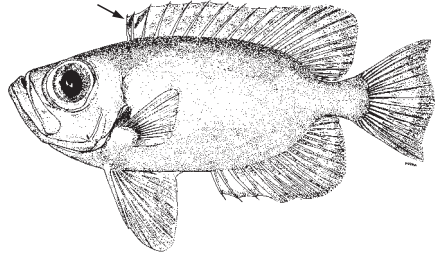


Fig. 11 *Priacanthus sagittarius*

- 11a. Length of pectoral fins about 1.9 to 2.2 times in head length (measured from tip of upper jaw to tip of opercular spine, Fig. 12); body depth at sixth dorsal-fin spine 2.6 to 2.9 (usually about 2.7) times in standard length . . . . . *Priacanthus blochii*
- 11b. Length of pectoral fins about 1.3 to 1.6 times in head length (Fig. 13); body depth at sixth dorsal-fin spine 2.3 to 2.7 (usually about 2.5) times in standard length. . . . . *Priacanthus alalaua*

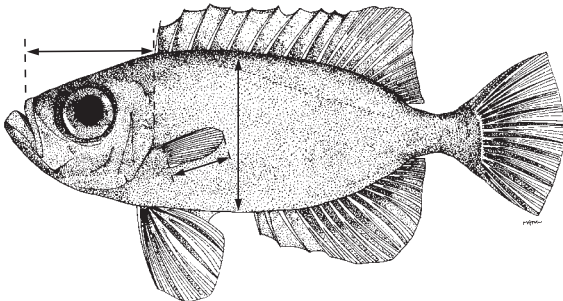


Fig. 12 *Priacanthus blochii*

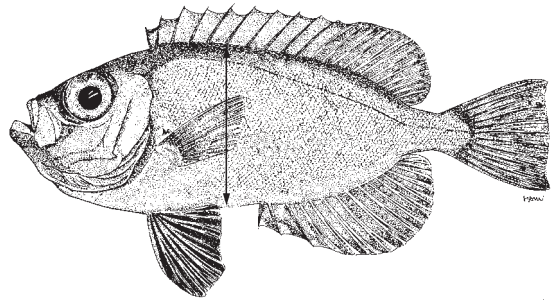


Fig. 13 *Priacanthus alalaua*

- 12a.** Dorsal-, anal-, and pelvic-fin membranes with yellow-brown spots (grey in preservative); soft portions of dorsal and anal fins not distinctly whiter posteriorly; body not tapering from just behind head (Fig. 14) . . . . . *Priacanthus macracanthus*<sup>1/</sup>
- 12b.** Dorsal-, anal-, and pelvic-fin membranes lacking spots; soft portions of dorsal and anal fins creamy white on posterior half; body generally tapering from just behind head (Fig. 15) . . . . . *Priacanthus fitchi*

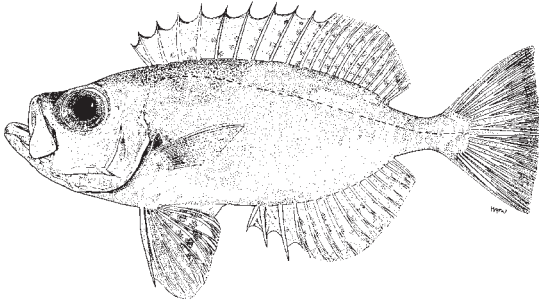


Fig. 14 *Priacanthus macracanthus*

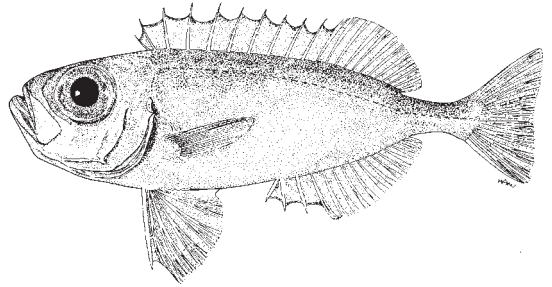
















Fig. 15 *Priacanthus fitchi*

#### List of species occurring in the area

The symbol  is given when species accounts are included.

-  *Cookeolus japonicus* (Cuvier, 1829)
-  *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus* (Lacepède, 1801)
-  *Priacanthus alalaua* Jordan and Evermann, 1904
-  *Priacanthus blochii* Bleeker, 1853
-  *Priacanthus fitchi* Starnes, 1988
-  *Priacanthus hamrur* (Forsskål, 1775)
-  *Priacanthus macracanthus* Cuvier, 1829<sup>1/</sup>
- ?  *Priacanthus prolixus* Starnes, 1988<sup>2/</sup>
-  *Priacanthus sagittarius* Starnes, 1988
-  *Priacanthus tayenus* Richardson, 1846
-  *Priacanthus zaiseræ* Starnes and Moyer, 1988
-  *Pristigenys meyeri* (Günther, 1871)
-  *Pristigenys nipponia* (Cuvier, 1829)

#### References

- Senta, T. 1977. Species and size composition of priacanthid fishes in the South China Sea and adjacent waters. *Bull. Pac. Fish.*, 42:25-31.
- Starnes, W.C. 1984. Priacanthidae. In *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. Western Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*, edited by W. Fischer and G. Bianchi. Vol. 3. Rome, FAO (unpaginated).
- Starnes, W.C. 1988. Revision, phylogeny, and biogeographic comments on the circumglobal marine percoid fish family Priacanthidae. *Bull. Mar. Sci.*, (43(2):117-203.

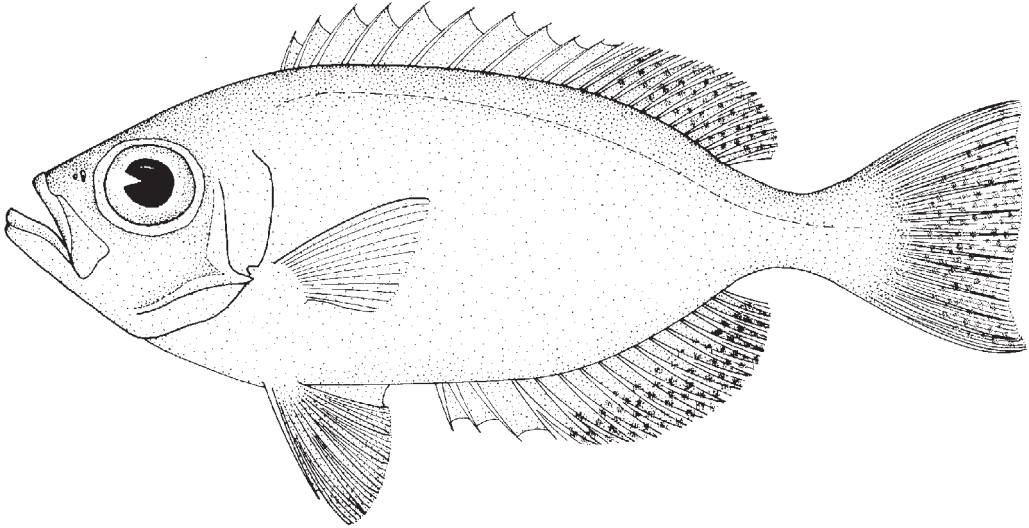
<sup>1/</sup> See remarks on species account.

<sup>2/</sup> Occurrence in the area questionable; based on a specimen ostensibly from Hong Kong; all other known records are from the northwestern Indian Ocean.

***Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*** (Lacepède, 1801)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Priacanthus cruentatus* (Lacepède, 1801) / Various *Priacanthus* spp.

**FAO names:** En - Glasseye; Fr - Beauclair de roche; Sp - Catalufa de roca.

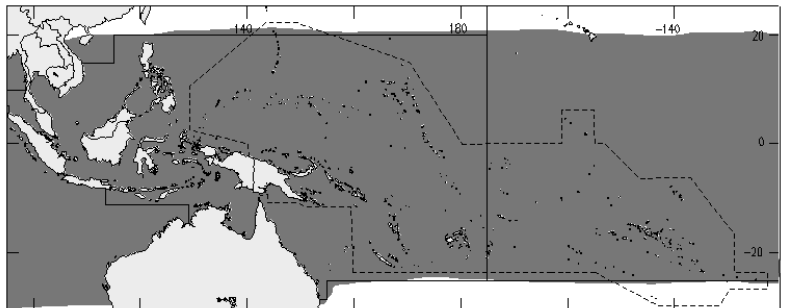


**Diagnostic characters:** Body deep, ovate, and laterally compressed. **Anterior profile symmetrical, tip of protruding lower jaw about on level with midline of body** when mouth tightly closed. Well-developed spine at angle of preopercle. Small teeth on dentaries, vomer, palatines, and premaxillaries. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 21 to 25. Dorsal fin with X spines and 11 to 13 soft rays. Anal fin with III spines and 13 or 14 soft rays. Caudal fin truncate. Pectoral fins with 18 or 19 rays. Scales covering most of head and body but **scales lacking on posterior portion of preopercle. Scales modified, those of midlateral area with posterior field elevated above a separate flange, broadly pointed, with spinules confined to posterior margin.** Scales in lateral series 78 to 96; pored lateral-line scales 63 to 81; vertical scale rows (dorsal-fin origin to anus) 56 to 68. **Swimbladder with pair of posterior extensions only.** **Colour:** entire body and head pinkish red or blotched with red and silver; iris of eye red; fins reddish, membranes of spinous dorsal fin and margin of caudal fin sometimes dusky; **caudal, soft dorsal, and anal fins with elliptical dark specks.**

**Size:** Maximum total length to about 35 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabits shallow reef areas, particularly in insular areas, where it may be common in both lagoons and seaward areas, commonly at depths of 20 m or less. Secretive by day and foraging at night. Feeds on octopuses, shrimps, stomatopods, crabs, small fishes, and polychaetes. Caught primarily on hook-and-line and in traps. Marketed mostly fresh.

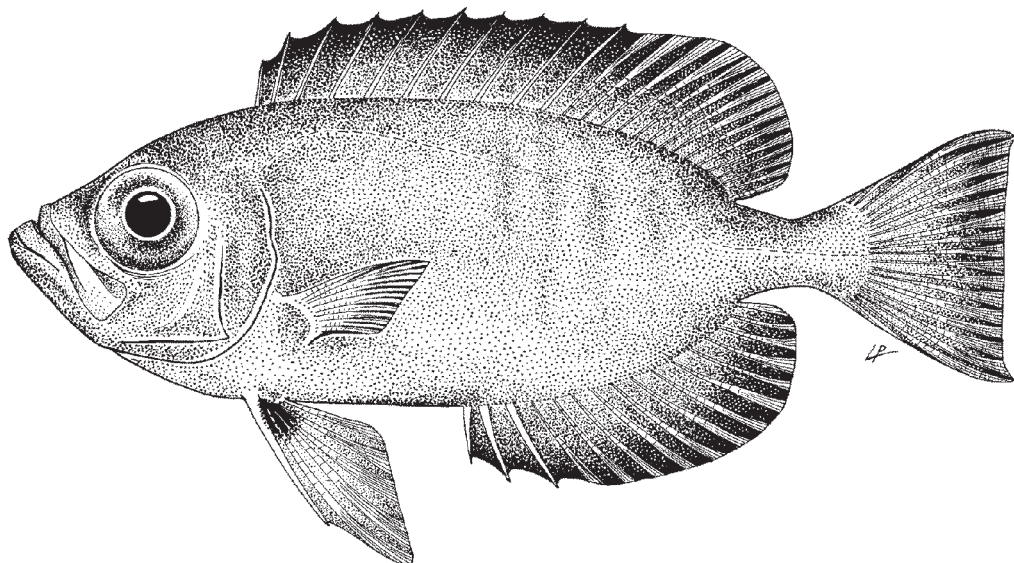
**Distribution:** Circumtropical and into subtropical waters. Young occasionally in temperate waters due to postlarval transport.



*Priacanthus hamrur* (Forsskål, 1775)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / Possibly *Priacanthus prolixus* Starnes, 1988.

**FAO names:** En - Moontail bullseye; Fr - Beauclair miroir; Sp - Catalufa espejuelo.

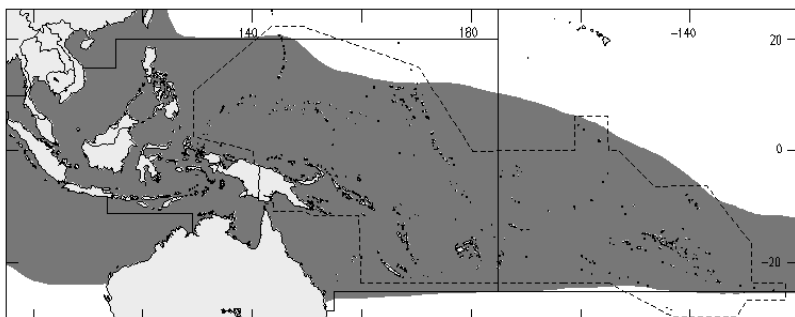


**Diagnostic characters:** Body deep, ovate, and laterally compressed; **body depth 2.6 to 2.8 times in standard length.** Anterior profile slightly asymmetrical, tip of protruding lower jaw usually above midline of body. Small teeth on dentaries, vomer, palatines, and premaxillaries. **Spine at angle of preopercle reduced or non-existent in specimens over 12.5 cm total length. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 24 to 26. Dorsal fin with X spines and 13 to 15 soft rays. Anal fin with III spines and 13 to 16 soft rays. Caudal fin with concave margin, slightly emarginate to lunate.** Pectoral-fin rays 17 to 20. Scales covering most of head and body onto base of caudal fin. **Scales modified, the posterior field elevated as a separate flange with spinules both on surface and posterior margin.** Scales in lateral series 79 to 96; pored lateral-line scales 70 to 90. **Vertical scale rows (dorsal-fin origin to anus) 48 to 57. Swimbladder with pair of anterior and posterior protrusions,** the former associated with specialized recesses in posterior of skull. **Colour:** red on body, head, and iris of eye; sometimes silvery white with pattern of broad reddish bars on head and body; row of small dark spots sometimes evident along lateral line; fins red to light pink, with light dusky to nearly black in dorsal-, anal-, and caudal-fin membranes; fins occasionally with yellow.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 36 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Occurs near reefs and rocky areas at depths ranging from less than 20 to 250 m or more, but probably most common at 30 to 50 m. Prefers outer reef slopes to more sheltered environments. Occasionally taken in moderate numbers in trawls and by hook-and-line. Marketed mostly fresh.

**Distribution:** Widespread in the Indo-West Pacific from Red Sea and South Africa to northern Australia and southern Japan and eastward to at least Tuamotu in French Polynesia.

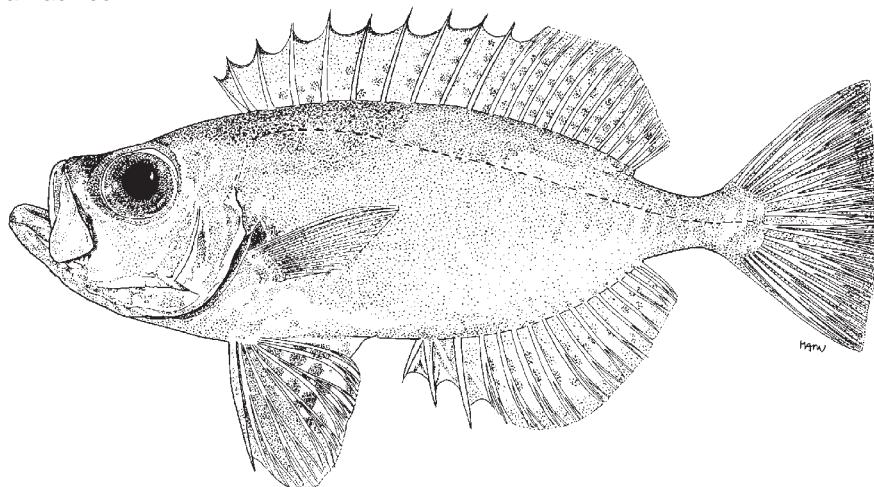


*Priacanthus macracanthus* Cuvier, 1829

BIR

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / May represent 2 or more forms (see **Remarks**).

**FAO names:** **En** - Brownsport bigeye (formerly reported as "red bigeye"); **Fr** - Beauclair Pacificque; **Sp** - Catalufa Pacifico.



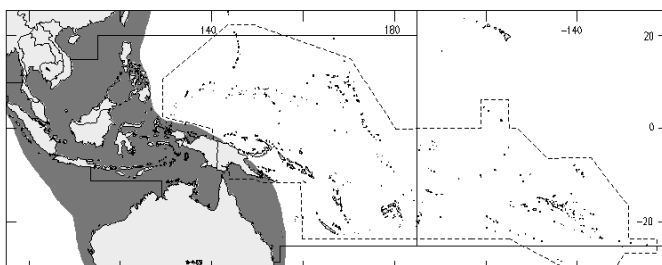
**Diagnostic characters:** Body relatively deep, ovate, and laterally compressed. Anterior profile slightly asymmetrical, tip of protruding lower jaw generally slightly above midline of body. Small teeth on dentaries, vomer, palatines, and premaxillaries. **Spine at angle of preopercle well developed in specimens of all sizes.** First gill arch with 23 to 29 gill rakers (highest gill-raker count in eastern Australian waters). Dorsal fin with X spines and 12 to 14 soft rays. Anal fin with III spines and 13 or 14 soft rays. Caudal-fin margin truncate to very slightly concave. Pectoral fins generally short but averaging longer in some Indonesian specimens; pectoral-fin rays 18 or 19. Scales covering most of body, head, and caudal-fin base. **Scales modified with posterior field elevated as a separate flange with spinules both on surface and posterior edge.** Scales in lateral series 79 to 87; pored lateral-line scales 72 to 82. Vertical scale rows (dorsal-fin origin to anus) 45 to 52. **Swimbladder with both anterior and posterior projections**, the former associated with specialized recessed areas on rear of skull. **Colour:** body, head, and iris silvery pink to reddish; fins light pinkish; **dorsal, anal, and pelvic fins with rusty brown spots** which are about 1/2 diameter of pupil of eye; specimens tentatively referable to this species from off eastern Australia have smaller spots.

**Size:** Maximum total length possibly 35 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** As presently construed, *Priacanthus macracanthus* occurs over a range of depths from 15 to 400 m or more. Occurs, at times, both in reef or rocky areas and in more open bottom areas. Occasionally important in trawl fisheries of South China and Andaman seas and to lesser extent in southern Australia; separate statistics are available from Taiwan Province of China, but not from the Western Central Pacific. Most commonly taken at dusk and dawn; also taken by hook-and-line. Juvenile aggregations in midwater are reported from the Philippines. Marketed fresh, dried, salted, and as fish balls.

**Distribution:** As presently construed, in Indo-West Pacific and generally confined to region from both east and west coasts of Australia northward to Andaman Sea and southern Japan.

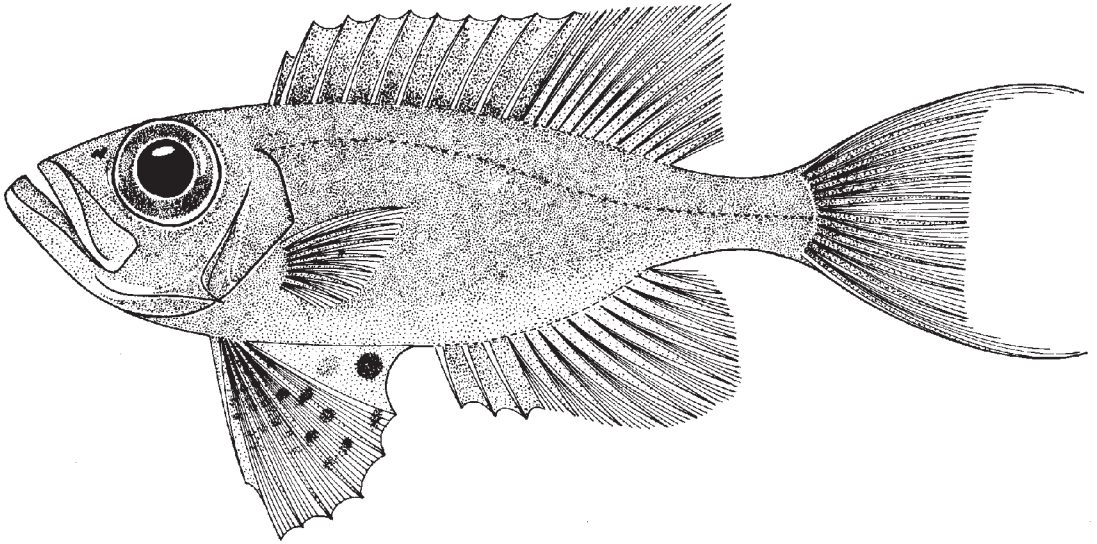
**Remarks:** The variation in pectoral-fin size, gill rakers, and fin coloration described above plus other morphological and ecological factors may be indicative of polytypy among populations collectively treated here as *P. macracanthus*. Some specimens may represent problematic forms which resemble *P. macracanthus* but may comprise 1 or more additional taxa. Problematic specimens are generally from deeper trawl (e.g. 400 m) collections (thus far from northern and eastern Australian waters) as opposed to those from shallower stations which are more "typical" *macracanthus*. Resolution of this problem has been hampered by insufficient material.



*Priacanthus tayenus* Richardson, 1846

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Purplespot bigeye; Fr - Beauclaire tache pourpre; Sp - Catalufa mota purpúreo.

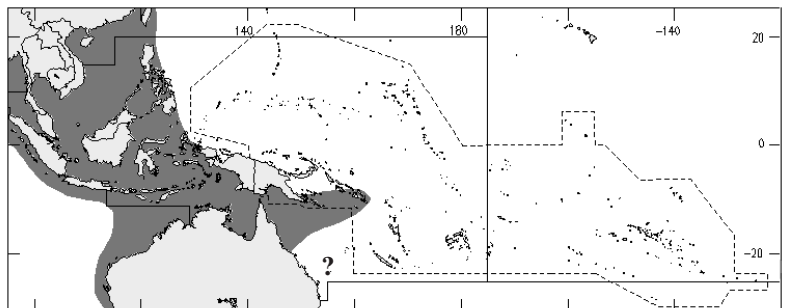


**Diagnostic characters:** Body moderately deep, moderately elongate, and laterally compressed. Anterior profile slightly asymmetrical, extremity of protruding lower jaw usually slightly above level of midline of body. Small teeth on dentaries, vomer, palatines, and premaxillaries. **Well-developed spine at angle of preopercle.** Total gill rakers on first gill arch 21 to 24. Dorsal fin with X spines and 11 to 13 soft rays. Anal fin with III spines and 12 to 14 soft rays. **Caudal fin** more or less truncate in smaller specimens but becoming **very lunate in some (possibly males) but not all larger specimens.** Pectoral-fin rays 17 to 19. Scales covering most of body, head, and caudal-fin base. Scales modified; **scales of midlateral region with elevated posterior field reduced and lacking spinules in larger specimens.** Scales in lateral series 56 to 73; pored lateral-line scales 51 to 67. Vertical scale rows (dorsal-fin origin to anus) 40 to 50. Swimbladder with both anterior and posterior projections, the former associated with modified recesses in skull. **Colour:** body, head, and iris of eye pink to reddish or silvery white with pink tinges; fins pinkish; **pelvic fins with characteristic small deep purple to inky black spots in membranes with 1 or 2 larger spots in connective membrane to belly.**

**Size:** A smaller species, maximum total length perhaps 29 cm.

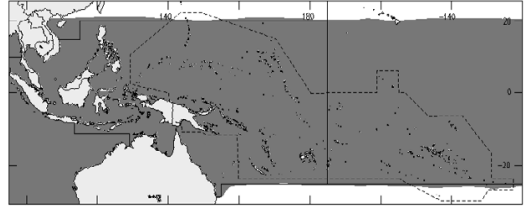
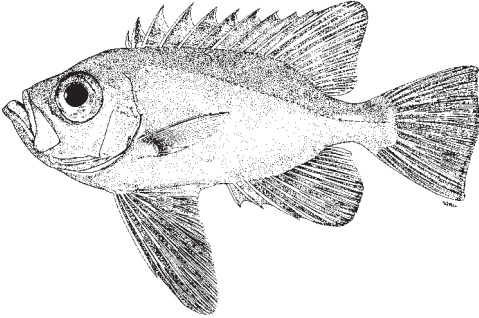
**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabits coastal waters in both rocky reef and, occasionally, more open areas at depths of 20 to 200 m or more. Adults apparently aggregate at times and are periodically relatively common in the trawl fisheries of the Andaman and South China seas. Recruit, at least periodically, into aggregations at about 12 cm total length and attain about 24 cm by following year. Marketed fresh, dried, and as fish balls.

**Distribution:** In coastal areas of northern Indian Ocean from Persian Gulf eastward and into West Pacific from northern Australia and Solomon Islands northward to Taiwan Province of China.

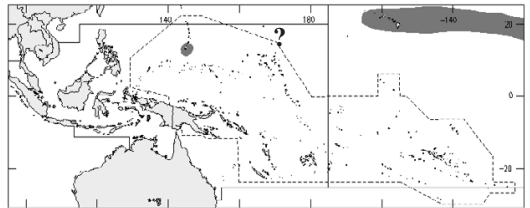
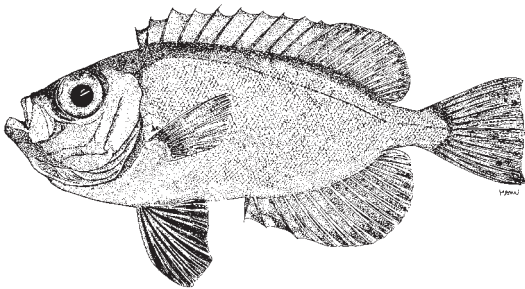


***Cookeolus japonicus*** (Cuvier, 1829)**En** - Longfin bulleye; **Fr** - Beauclaire longue aile; **Sp** - Catalufa aleta larga.

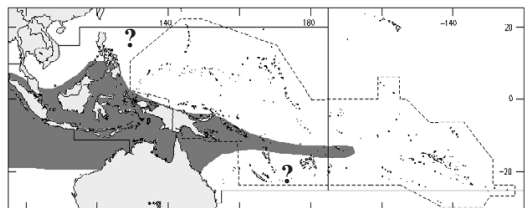
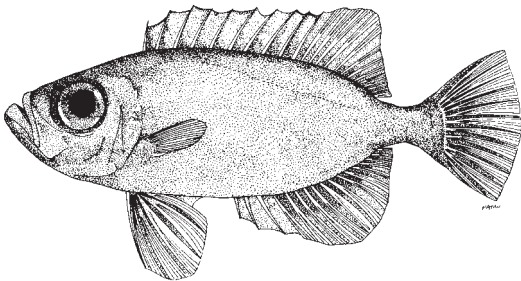
Maximum total length about 60 cm (largest member of family). In deeper waters off rocky coasts or insular areas in association with holes and ledges at depths of 60 to 400 m. Feeds on crustaceans and small fishes; lifespan of 9 or more years. Principally caught incidentally on deep handlines or other rigs; probably rare in markets. Circumtropical into subtropical regions; young occasionally occurring in temperate waters as result of postlarval transport.

***Priacanthus alalaua*** Jordan and Evermann, 1904**En** - Alalaua; **Fr** - Beauclaire alalaua; **Sp** - Catalufa alalaua.

Maximum total length about 32 cm (eastern Pacific, probably less in western Pacific). Inhabits deeper reefs or rocky areas usually at depths of 100 to 275 m; occasionally taken at depths of 10 to 50 m at night. Also trawled from relatively open bottom areas in Hawaiian waters. Apparently rare in western Pacific region, occasionally taken on hook-and-line. Tropical eastern Pacific and Hawaii. In the western Pacific, thus far known only from Guam.

***Priacanthus blochii*** Bleeker, 1853**En** - Shortfin bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire aile court; **Sp** - Catalufa aleta corto.

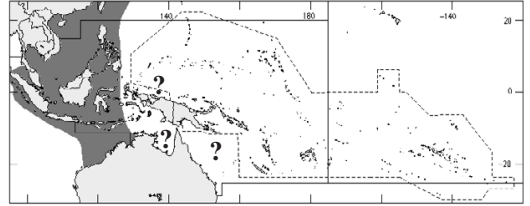
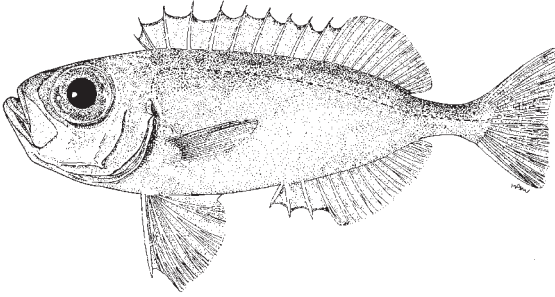
Maximum total length about 30 cm. Coastal in shallow reef and rocky areas at depths of 15 to 30 m. Probably rare in trawl catches; occasionally taken by hook-and-line. Frequently misidentified as *Priacanthus hamrur*, *P. sagittarius*, or *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus*. Widespread in Indo-West Pacific from Gulf of Aden (and perhaps Red Sea) and Seychelles eastward to Samoa.



***Priacanthus fitchi*** Starnes, 1988

**En** - Whitefin bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire aile blanc; **Sp** - Catalufa aleta blanca.

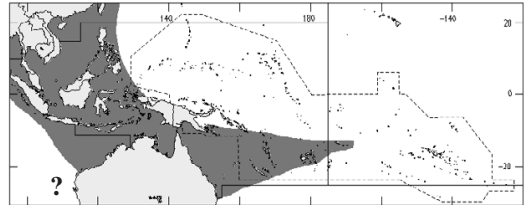
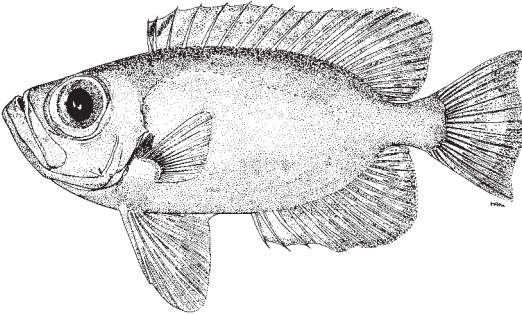
So far as known, a small species, not exceeding about 24 cm total length. A deeper water species known from depths of 150 to 400 m or more. Occasionally taken in deeper trawls in moderate numbers, particularly along the northwestern shelf of Australia. Presently known in Indo-West Pacific from northwestern Australia and western Sumatra to southern Japan; also known from near Mascarene Islands in western Indian Ocean.



***Priacanthus sagittarius*** Starnes, 1988

**En** - Arrowfin bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire aile sagitté; **Sp** - Catalufa aleta saeta.

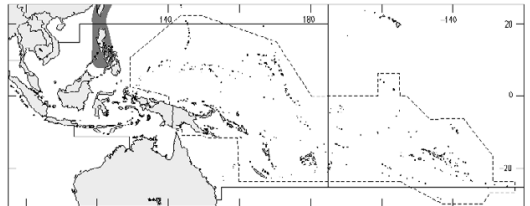
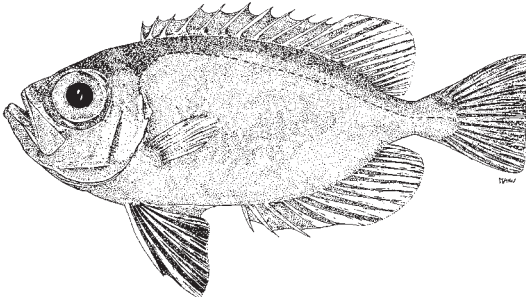
Maximum total length about 34 cm. Occurs in rocky and reef areas and occasionally in more open areas at depths of 60 to 100 m or more. Moderate numbers occasionally taken in trawls, particularly juveniles in 10 to 15 cm total length range. Frequently misidentified as *Priacanthus blochii* (Bleeker, 1853). Wide ranging in Indo-West Pacific from Red Sea and Reunion eastward to Japan, eastern Australia, and Samoa.



***Priacanthus zaiseræ*** Starnes and Moyer, 1988

**En** - Yellowfin bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire aile juane; **Sp** - Catalufa aleta amarillo.

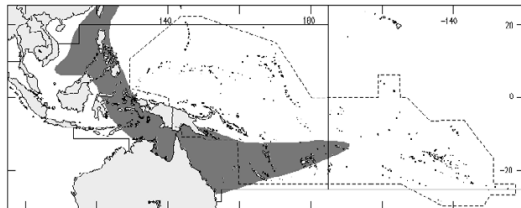
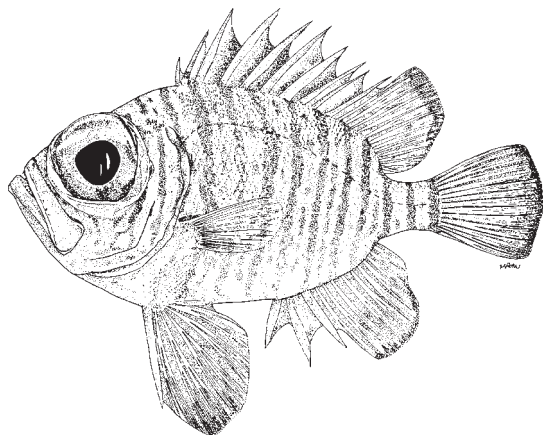
Maximum total length perhaps 30 cm. Reported in rocky areas from depths of 30 to over 320 m. Occasionally taken by hook-and-line and sometimes appears in markets in Philippines. So far as known, restricted to western Pacific in area of southern Japan southward into Philippines.



***Pristigenys meyeri*** (Günther, 1871)

**En** - Redstripe bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire raie rouges; **Sp** - Catalufa raya roja.

Maximum total length perhaps 30 to 34 cm. The few specimens known are from rocky areas at depths of 100 to 200 m. May be taken uncommonly by deep hook-and-line fishing. *Pristigenys multifasciata* Yoshino and Iwai, 1973 is a junior synonym. Thus far known from only the western Pacific from southern Japan southward to New Guinea and eastward to Samoa.

***Pristigenys nipponia*** (Cuvier, 1829)

**En** - Whiteband bigeye; **Fr** - Beauclaire bande blanc; **Sp** - Catalufa faja blanca.

Maximum total length about 34 cm. Occurs at depths of 80 to 100 m or more in rocky habitats. Taken occasionally by hook-and-line and possibly trawls. Widely distributed in Indo-West Pacific from Red Sea and South Africa eastward to southern Japan, eastern Australia, and Samoa.

