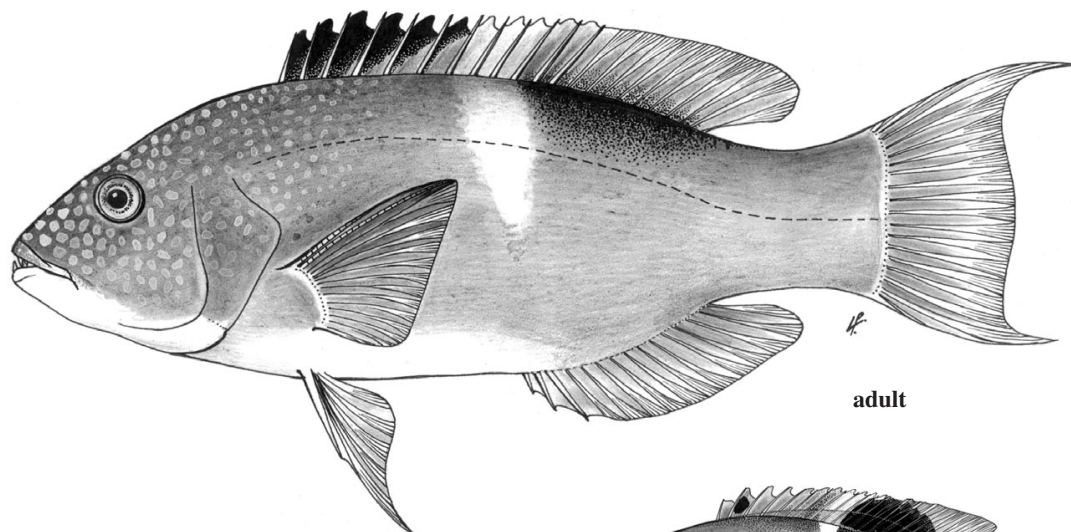


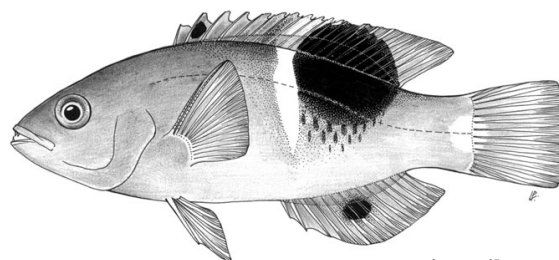
Bodianus perditio (Quoy and Gaimard, 1834)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Lepidaplois perditio* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1834) / None

FAO names: En - Goldenspot hogfish.



adult



juvenile

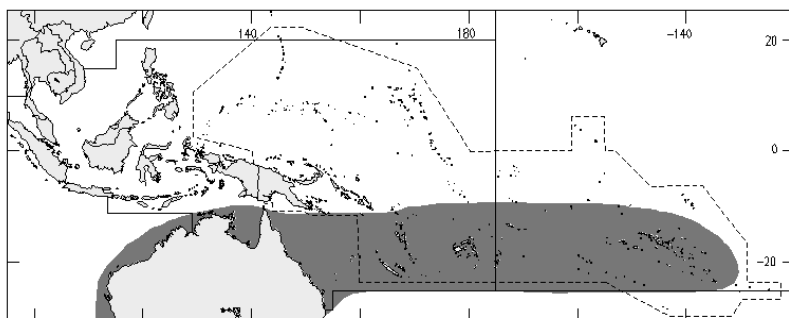
Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep, its depth 2.7 to 2.9 times in standard length. Dorsal profile of head gently curved; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, 4 strong canines anteriorly in each jaw; **a large, curved canine present on each side of rear of upper jaw in large individuals, though not apparent in small ones**; roof of mouth toothless. **Dorsal fin continuous, with XII spines and 10 soft rays**; anal fin with III spines and 12 soft rays; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 15 branched rays; **upper and lower corners of caudal fin forming filamentous lobes in adults. Lateral line smoothly curved, uninterrupted, with 30 or 31 pored scales**. Scales reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; **scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward no farther than above posterior extent of eye**; cheek and opercle scaly; lower jaw without scales. **Colour:** golden yellow on back and sides, becoming red in very large individuals, white below; **a prominent white spot or band on upper part of side below centre of dorsal fin, followed immediately by a large black spot that does not extend past rear of dorsal-fin base**; head red with numerous gold spots in large individuals; anterior end of dorsal fin with a large black area that extends to seventh spine in large individuals. **Juveniles are yellow with black and white bands on sides as in adults and a white spot centrally on fleshy caudal-fin base**; dorsal fin with black spot anteriorly; anal fin with black spot forward on edge of scaly base.

Size: Maximum standard length about 80 cm.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries:

Occurs on deep coral reefs in waters of 20 m or more. Feeds primarily on benthic, hard-shelled, invertebrates such as molluscs and crustaceans. This species is not commonly exploited commercially.

Distribution: Antiequatorial, islands of southern Oceania to Southern Africa; Taiwan Province of China to southern Japan.

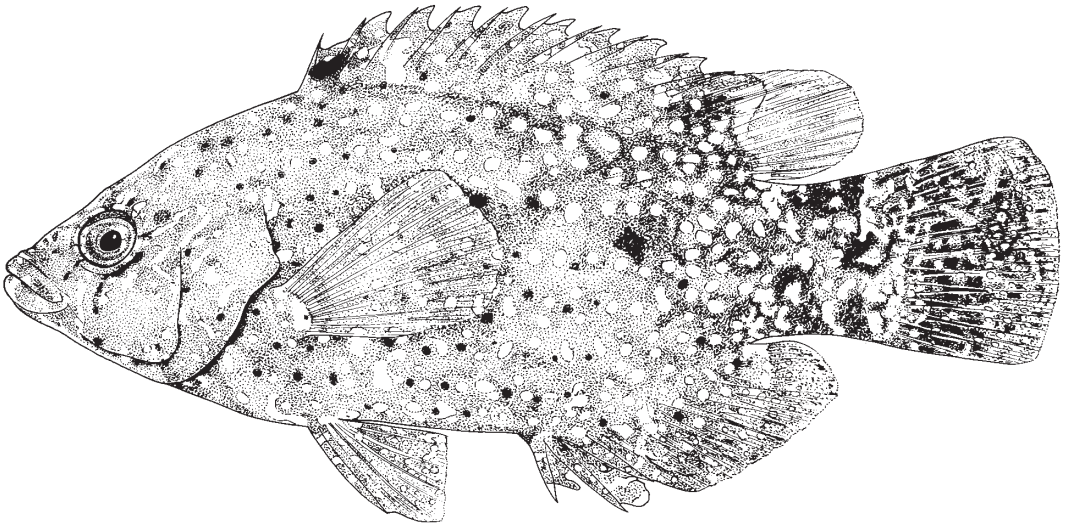


Cheilinus chlorourus (Bloch, 1791)

(Plate I, 5)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Thallichthys chlorurus* Bloch, 1791 / *Cheilinus trilobatus* Lacepède, 1801.

FAO names: En - Floral wrasse.

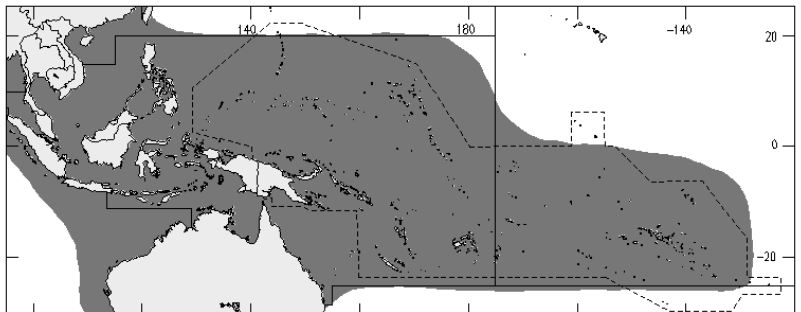


Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep, its depth 2.6 to 3.1 times in standard length; dorsal profile of head convex in front of dorsal fin, then straight to tip of snout; anterior tip of snout forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth present at rear of upper jaw. **Dorsal fin continuous, with X spines and 9 soft rays**, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with III spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 10 branched rays; caudal fin rounded in small fishes, **in larger individuals the upper and lower rays form elongate lobes giving the fin a trilobed appearance. Lateral line interrupted below posterior portion of dorsal-fin base, with 15 or 16 pored scales in anterior portion and 6 or 7 in peduncular part. Scales reaching well onto bases of dorsal and anal fins**; scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward to above centre of eye; cheek and opercle scaly; lower jaw without scales. **Colour: variable from greenish brown to deep reddish brown, usually flecked with white**; reddish brown fins; **each scale on sides usually with a blue or brown spot**, spots extending onto dorsal and anal fins; **a blackish spot basally on first 1 or 2 membranes of dorsal fin**; **head with red spots, some joining to form lines radiating from eye**; dark brown blotches on sides, sometimes forming a diffuse barred pattern. Small individuals with about 4 more prominent vertical brown bands on sides. This species can rapidly change colour from a dark brown or greenish brown flecked with white to a pale grey flecked with brown, depending upon its background.

Size: Maximum standard length about 36 cm.

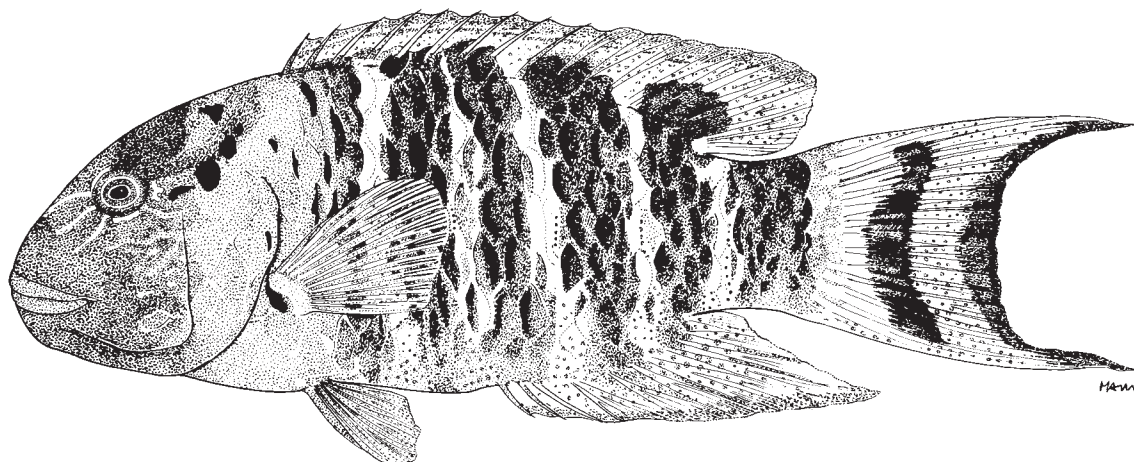
Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on coral reefs and occasionally in grassy areas at depths of 1 to 30 m. Feeds primarily on benthic, hard-shelled, invertebrates such as molluscs and crustaceans. This species is not commonly marketed for food, but is occasionally seen in the aquarium trade.

Distribution: Broadly distributed in the Indo-Pacific.



Cheilinus fasciatus Bloch, 1791

(Plate I, 6)

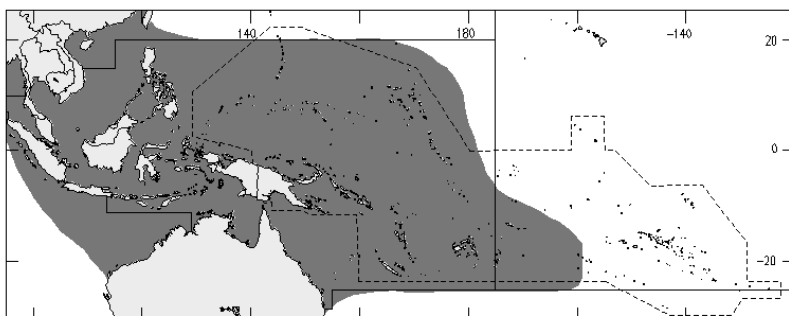
Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.**FAO names:** En - Redbreasted wrasse.

Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep, its depth 2.35 to 2.6 times in standard length; dorsal profile of head convex; anterior tip of snout forming an acute angle; **jaws prominent, especially lower jaw in large individuals**; 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth present on rear of upper jaw. **Dorsal fin continuous, with IX spines and 10 soft rays**, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with III spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins short, not reaching anus; **caudal fin rounded in juveniles, the upper and lower rays forming elongate lobes in large individuals, 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 fin extending forward to above anterior portion of eye; cheek and opercle scaly; lower jaw without scales. **Colour: alternating dark (brown to black) and light (yellow to white) vertical bars on body from opercle to caudal fin**, 6 dark bars usually broader than 6 light ones, particularly in large individuals; scales with a vertical black streak; breast, pectoral-fin bases, and often anterior sides red; a light yellow-orange area in pectoral region. Small individuals similarly marked, but often with less red colour and wider pale bars.

Size: Maximum standard length about 40 cm.

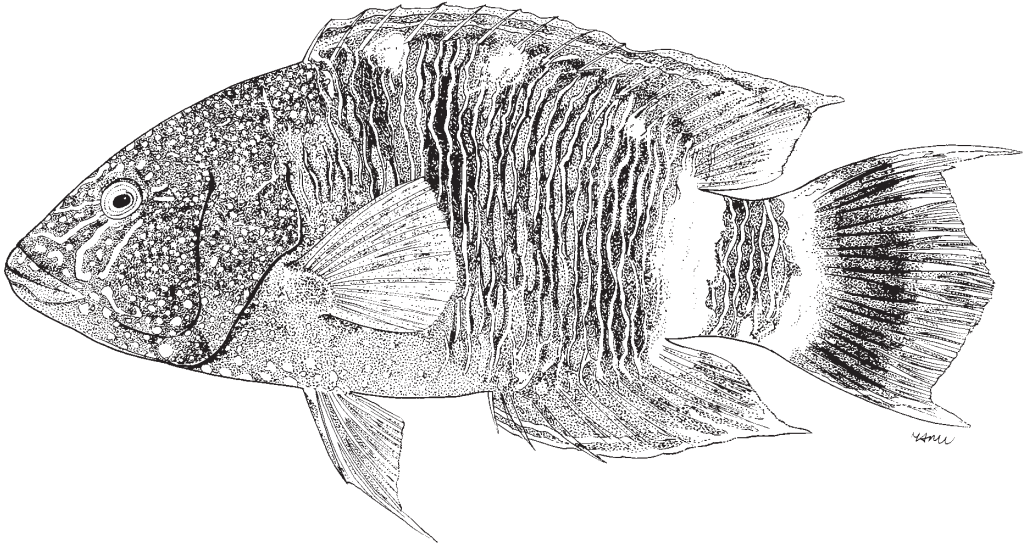
Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on coral reefs and in sandy areas near reefs at depths of 5 to 60 m. Feeds primarily on benthic, hard-shelled, invertebrates such as molluscs and crustaceans. Very curious in response to divers, particularly if the substrate is disturbed. Caught on hook-and-line with some frequency, this species is marketed in small numbers. Occasionally seen in the aquarium trade.

Distribution: Broadly distributed in the western Central Pacific and extending eastward to Africa and the Red Sea.



Cheilinus trilobatus Lacepède, 1801

(Plate I, 7)

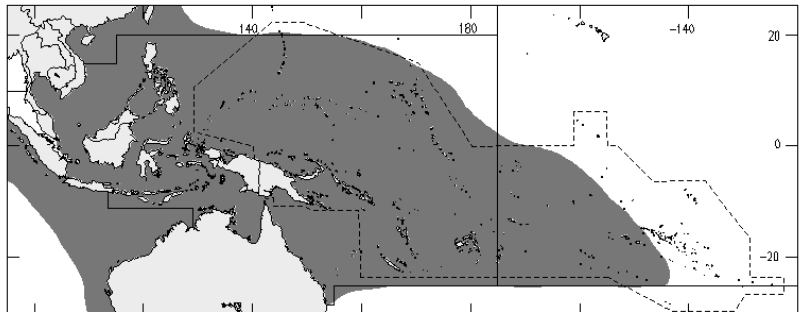
Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / *Cheilinus chlorourus* (Bloch, 1791).**FAO names:** En - Tripletail wrasse.

Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep, its depth 2.3 to 2.6 times in standard length; dorsal profile of head convex; anterior tip of snout forming an acute angle; jaws prominent, 2 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth present of rear of upper jaw. **Dorsal fin continuous, with IX spines and 10 soft rays**, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with III spines and 8 soft rays; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins long, reaching anus in small fish, well beyond in adults; **centre of caudal fin rounded 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 fin extending forward to above centre of eye; cheek and opercle scaly; lower jaw without scales. **Colour: variably pigmented from green to brown with mottled purple and red markings;** 4 vertical dark bars on body that are often indistinct on large individuals; head with numerous small red spots; red lines radiating from anterior and posterior of eye; **scales on sides each with a vertical, slightly curved red line;** dorsal, anal, and pectoral fins yellow or green with distal red streaks; caudal fin green with a red posterior margin. Juveniles with 3 or 4 dark spots midlaterally on sides and more prominent dark bars. This species capable of rapid colour changes.

Size: Maximum total length about 40 cm.

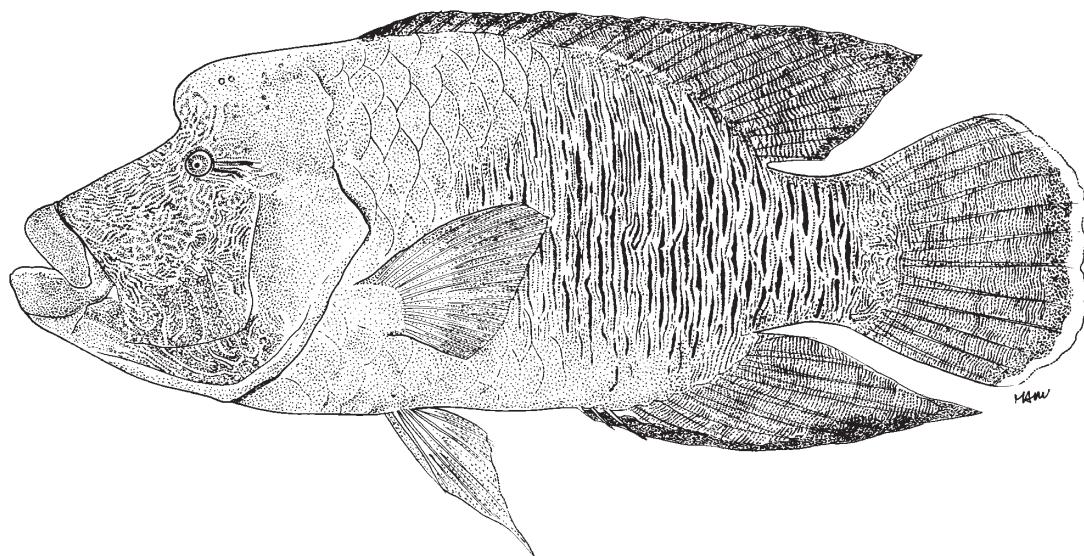
Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on coral reefs and occasionally in grassy areas at depths of 1 to 20 m. Feeds primarily on benthic, hard-shelled, invertebrates such as molluscs and crustaceans. This species is captured by hook-and-line and by spear, and is occasionally marketed for food. Juveniles are occasionally seen in the aquarium trade.

Distribution: Broadly distributed in the Indo-Pacific.



Cheilinus undulatus Rüppell, 1835

(Plate I, 8; Plate II, 9 and 10)

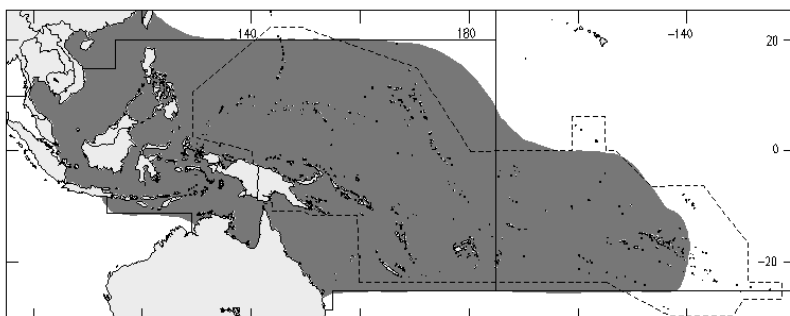
Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None**FAO names:** En - Humphead Maori wrasse.

Diagnostic characters: Body deep, its depth 2.2 to 2.7 times in standard length; dorsal profile of head straight to above eye, then becoming convex; **adults develop a large hump on forehead that can protrude anterior to eye**; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws and lips prominent, 2 strong canines anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth present of upper jaw. **Dorsal fin continuous, with IX spines and 10 soft rays**; anal fin with III spines and 8 soft rays; **dorsal and anal fins of adults very pointed, reaching well posterior to caudal-fin base**; pelvic fins of small fish reaching anus, extending beyond anal-fin origin in large adults; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 10 branched rays; 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; scales in front of dorsal fin extending forward to above centre of eye; cheek and opercle scaly; lower jaw without scales. **Colour:** **body olive to green with a vertical dark bar on each scale above and behind pectoral fins**; head of adults blue-green to blue with highly irregular undulating yellowish lines; **2 black lines extending posteriorly from eye**. Juvenile coloration lighter to white with dark scale bars and prominent black lines extending posteriorly from eyes, as well as 2 lines extending diagonally up and back from eye and 2 diagonally downward on snout in front of eye.

Size: The largest of the wrasses, reaching immense size; largest recorded 229 cm total length, 190.5 kg.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on coral reefs at depths of 5 to 60 m. Feeds primarily on fishes and benthic, hard-shelled, invertebrates such as molluscs and crustaceans. Very wary of divers. This species is the most prized member of the Labridae for food, and brings high prices in many markets.

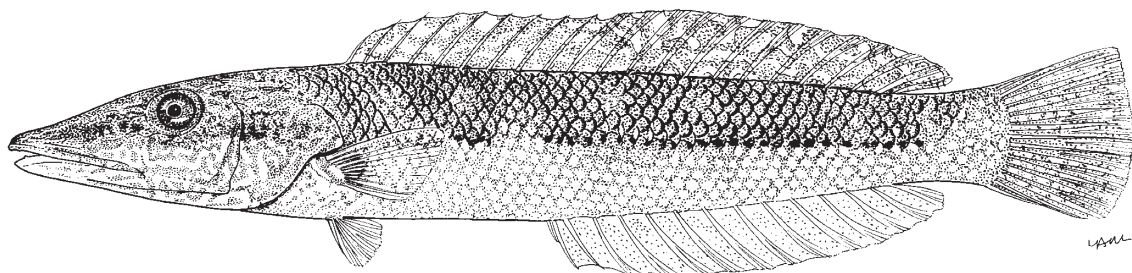
Distribution: Broadly distributed in the Indo-Pacific.



Cheilio inermis (Forsskål, 1775)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: En - Cigar wrasse; Fr - Longue girelle; Sp - Julia larguirucha.

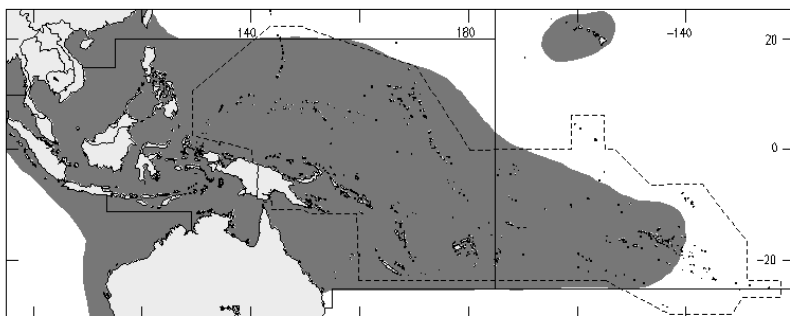


Diagnostic characters: Body very slender, its depth 5.5 to 7.8 times in standard length, not very compressed, its width about 1.4 to 1.7 times in its depth. Dorsal profile of head nearly straight; anterior tip of head forming an acute angle; jaws prominent; 2 short, stout, but prominent canines situated anteriorly in each jaw; no enlarged tooth at rear of upper jaw. **Dorsal fin continuous, with IX spines and 13 (rarely 14) soft rays**, the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with III spines and 12 soft rays; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 10 branched rays; pelvic fins short and not filamentous; caudal fin slightly rounded. **Lateral line continuous, nearly straight, with 46 to 48 pored scales.** Scales not reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin not extending forward to above eye; head mostly naked with only 2 vertical rows of scales behind eye and none on cheek or lower jaw. **Colour: variably olive to brown or yellow, most often green or olive above, pale below, with 1 to several dark spots along lateral midline of sides;** fins pale green, dorsal and anal fins reticulated with orange in large individuals. **Small individuals with a continuous black midlateral stripe;** head usually bicoloured, greenish above and creamy to bluish below, areas separated by both an orange and a blue stripe midlaterally.

Size: Maximum total length about 50 cm.

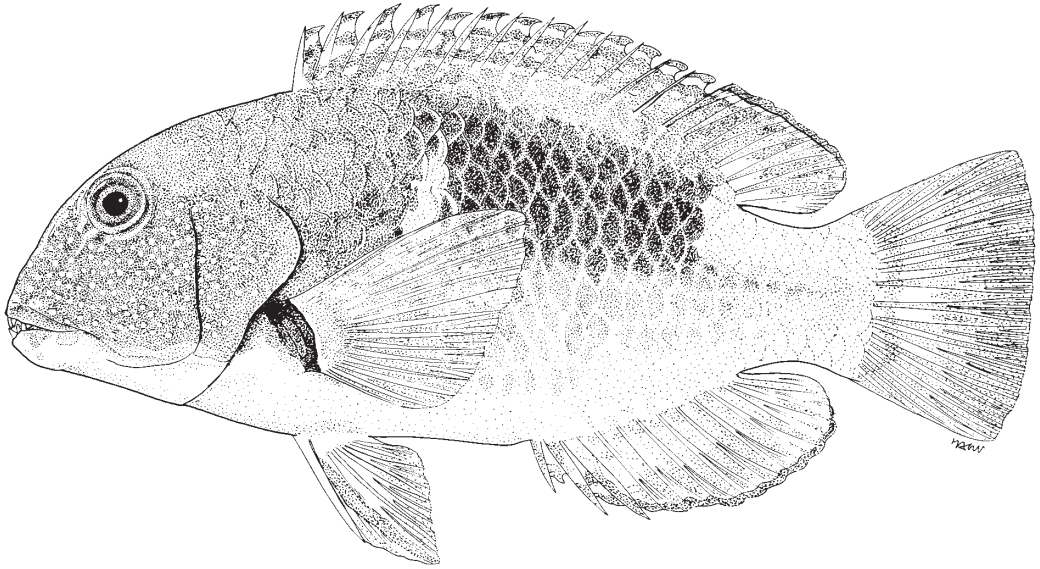
Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found at moderately shallow depths of 1 to 10 m, primarily in back reef and weedy areas. Feeds largely on crustaceans and other fishes. No special fishery. Caught on hook-and-line; occasionally found in markets. Only rarely seen in the aquarium trade.

Distribution: Broadly distributed in the Indo-Pacific.



Choerodon anchorago (Bloch, 1791)

(Plate II, 11)

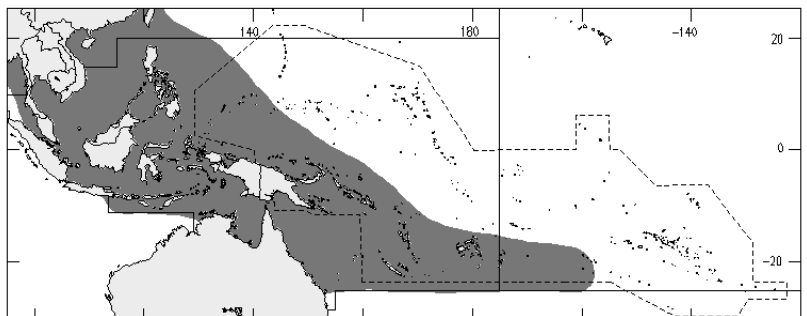
Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / *Choerodon cyanodus* (Richardson, 1843).**FAO names:** En - Orangedotted tuskfish; Fr - Madaque defense; Sp - Vieja de colmillos.

Diagnostic characters: Body deep, its depth 2.4 to 2.7 times in standard length. Dorsal profile of head convexly curved above eyes; **anterior tip of head forming a broad angle with snout steeply inclined; jaws prominent;** 4 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw with second pair in lower jaw directed laterally; **an enlarged canine present on each side at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with XIII spines and 7 soft rays;** the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; **anal fin with III spines and 9 soft rays;** pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 13 or 14 branched rays; pelvic fins not filamentous; caudal fin truncate to slightly rounded. **Lateral line continuous, smoothly curved, with 29 pored scales.** Scales barely reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin distinctly not extending forward to above eye; cheek and opercle scaly, scales on preopercle small, less than 1/4 the size of those on body; lower jaw without scales. **Colour:** greenish to grey with underside of head, chest and lower portion of sides white or bluish; a wedge-shaped white band extending upward onto back behind pectoral fins; a large rectangular white saddle situated dorsally on caudal peduncle extending forward below rear of dorsal fin; head speckled with orange; pectoral-fin base covered by a large blue to black spot; dorsal fin greenish grey anteriorly and yellowish posteriorly; caudal fin greenish orange; anal fin yellow with orange markings; a narrow blue margin on dorsal and anal fins. Small individuals overall greenish grey with several whitish bars.

Size: Maximum total length about 38 cm.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on shallow coral reefs and seagrass beds. Solitary in habit. Feeds mostly on hard-shelled prey including crustaceans, molluscs, and sea urchins. May be taken by hook-and-line, fish traps, or with spears by divers. Marketed mostly fresh, and occasionally found in the aquarium trade.

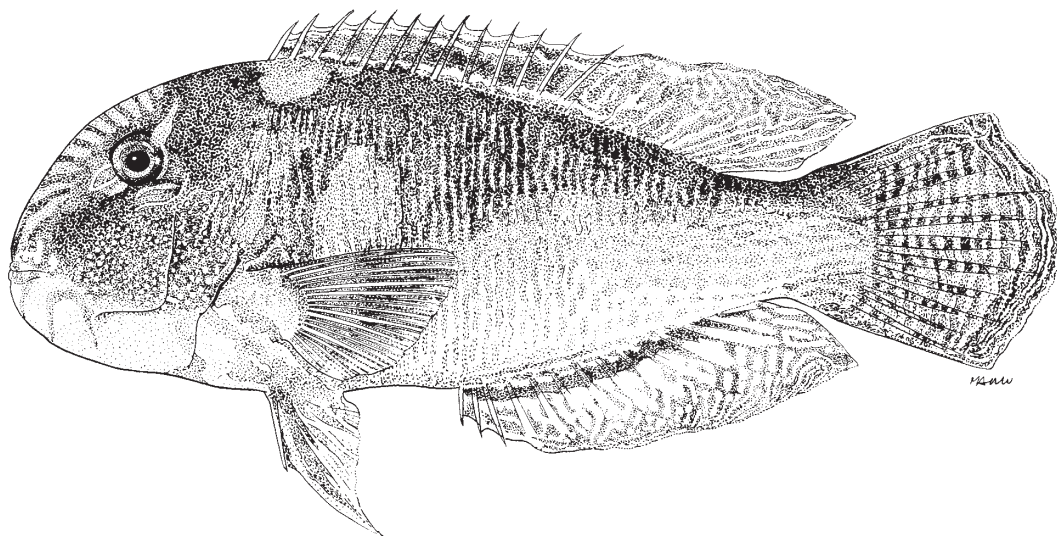
Distribution: Western Pacific to Sri Lanka.



Choerodon cephalotes (Castelnaud, 1875)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: En - Purple tuskfish.



Diagnostic characters: Body deep, its depth 2.6 times in standard length. Dorsal profile of head convexly curved above eyes; anterior tip of head forming a broad angle with snout steeply inclined; jaws prominent; 4 strong canines situated anteriorly in each jaw with second pair in lower jaw directed laterally; an enlarged canine present on each side at rear of upper jaw. Dorsal fin continuous, with XIII spines and 7 soft rays; the spines and anterior soft rays of similar length; anal fin with III spines and 10 soft rays; posterior dorsal and anal fins pointed; pectoral fins with ii unbranched and 16 or 17 branched rays; pelvic fins not filamentous; caudal fin truncate to slightly rounded. Lateral line continuous, smoothly curved, with 29 pored scales. Scales barely reaching onto bases of dorsal and anal fins; scales in front of dorsal fin distinctly not extending forward to above eye; cheek and opercle scaly, scales on preopercle small, less than 1/4 the size of those on body; lower jaw without scales. **Colour:** body mottled with dark ground colour on head, upper sides, and dorsal portion of peduncle, ventral areas paler; scales of body each with a vertical blue line; front of head purplish blue crossed by narrow orange bands; numerous orange dots on cheek; short blue lines extending anterior and posterior from eye, a crescent-shaped blue mark on chin; teeth blue; an orange-red area often present on body, centred below origin of dorsal fin; dorsal, anal, and caudal fins dark blue-purple with vermiculating yellow lines.

Size: Maximum total length about 38 cm.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found on shallow coral reefs and seagrass beds. Solitary in habit. Feeds mostly on hard-shelled prey including crustaceans, molluscs, and sea urchins. May be taken by hook-and-line, fish traps, or with spears by divers. Marketed only occasionally.

Distribution: Queensland to Indonesia.

