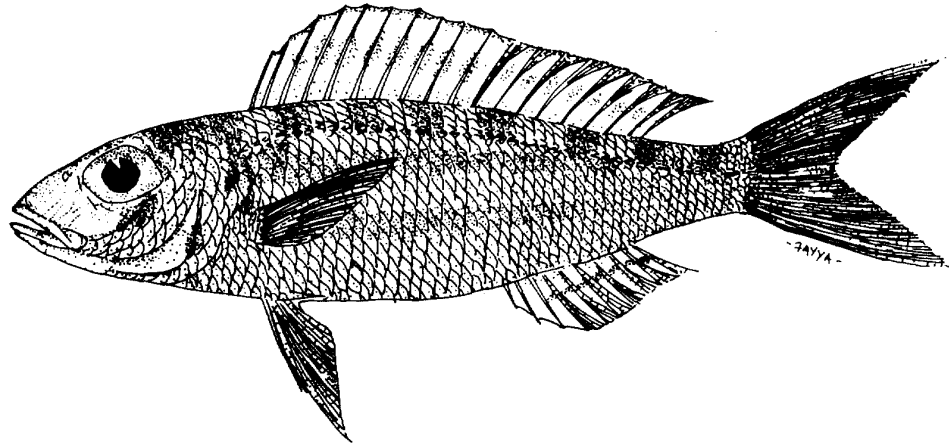


Nemipterus furcosus (Valenciennes, 1830)



English Name: Fork-tailed threadfin bream

Local Name: Dhon kandu uniya

Size: **Max.** 22.5 cm

Family: NEMIPTERIDAE

Order: Perciformes

Specimen: MRS/0443/96

Distinctive Characters: Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 9 rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 7 rays. Pectoral fin with 2 unbranched and 13-16 branched rays. Body depth 3.0-3.9 in standard length. Pelvic fins moderately long, reaching to or short of anus. A line drawn upwards from posterior edge of sub-orbital reaching the dorsal profile at about origin of dorsal fin. Caudal fin deeply forked.

Colour: Head and body pale iridescent pink. Back with 9 indistinct cross bars. Caudal fin pale rosy, the lower margin white-edged. Pelvic fins and axillary scales white. Dorsal and pectoral fins rosy.

Habitat and Biology: Benthic species. Inhabits sandy and muddy bottoms in depths of 8 to 110 m. Feeds during the day, mostly on crustaceans and small fishes.

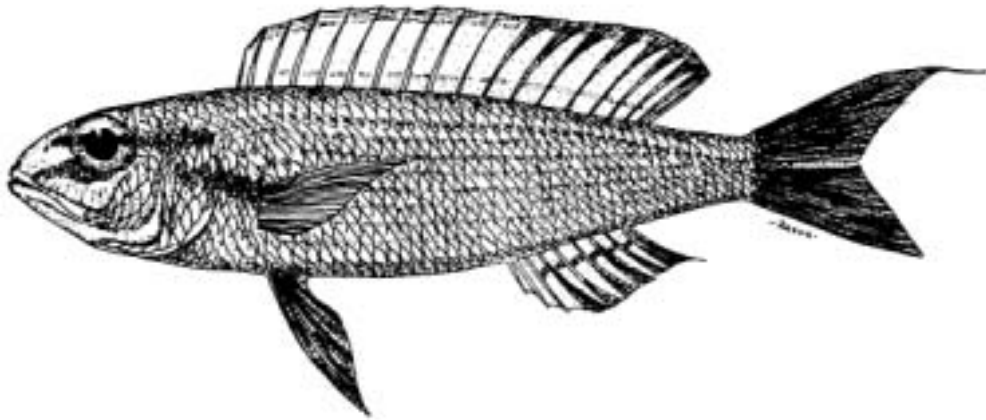
Distribution: Indo-West Pacific.

Remarks: *Nemipterusfurcosus* is not a commonly caught species in the Maldives. However, it does appear in the Male fish market occasionally.

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Nemipterus zysron (Bleeker, 1856-57)



English Name: Slender threadfin bream

Local Name: Janbu kandu uniya

Size: **Max.** 18.5 cm

Family: NEMIPTERIDAE

Order: Perciformes

Specimen: MRS/0447/96

Distinctive Characters: Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 9 rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 7 rays. Pectoral fin with 2 unbranched, 13-16 branched rays. Body depth 3.8-4.6 in standard length. Body elongated. Lower margin of eye tangential to or just above a line from tip of snout to upper base of pectoral fin. Pectoral and pelvic fins short, not reaching anus. Caudal fin forked, upper lobe prolonged.

Colour: Upper part of body reddish, silvery below. Dorsal fin yellow with a bright yellow margin. Anal fin pale lilac with a series of elongated yellow spots. Caudal fin pinkish, lobes pale yellow.

Habitat and Biology: Benthic species. Inhabits sandy bottoms near rocks in depths between 10 and 125 m. Swims in groups. Feeds on benthic organisms.

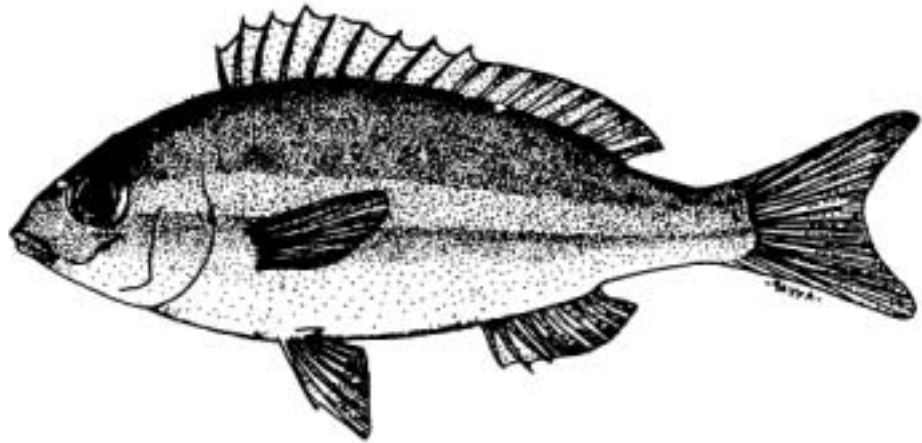
Distribution: Indo-West Pacific.

Remarks: *Neinipterus zysron* appear to be rather uncommon in the Maldives. This species has been treated under the name *N. inetopias* by most previous authors.

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Scolopsis auratus (Park, 1789)



English Name: Yellow-stripe monocle bream
Local Name: Dhon fattaa kandu uniya
Size: Max. 21 cm

Family: NEMIPTERIDAE
Order: Perciformes
Specimen: MRS/0181/88

Distinctive Characters: Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 9 rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 7 rays. Pectoral fin with 2 unbranched and 15 or 16 branched rays. Body depth 2.9-3.1 in standard length. 4 rows of transverse scales between lateral line and first dorsal spine. Patch of scales on top of head truncated anteriorly. Pelvic fins long, reaching to or just beyond anus. Caudal fin forked

Colour: Body silvery-white, dusky blue on back. A broad golden-yellow line from behind eye to caudal fin. Snout dusky. A narrow pale bluish stripe joining eyes behind nostrils. Caudal fin golden-yellow.

Habitat and Biology: Benthic species. Inhabits shallow waters. Usually found over sandy areas within reefs. Feeds primarily on small benthic crustaceans.

Distribution: Eastern Indian Ocean, including the Maldives.

Remarks: *Scolopsis auratus* was previously referred as *S. personatus* by most authors.. Members of the genus *Scolopsis* are common in the Maldives.

قرن سحر و جادو

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