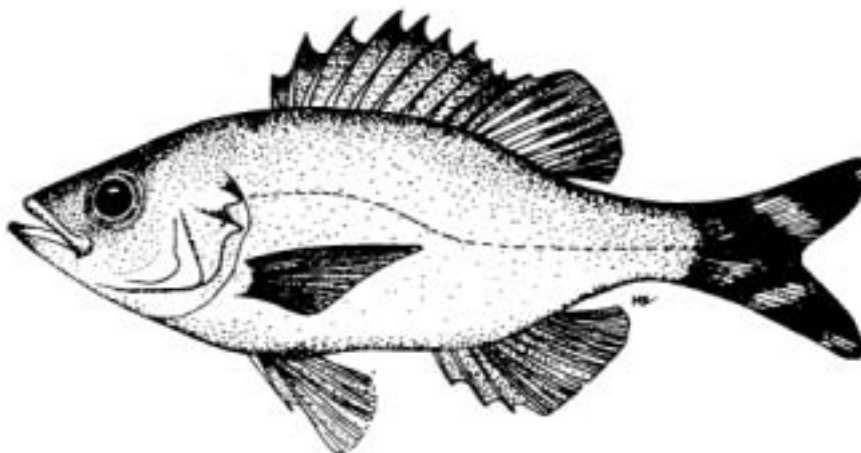


Kuhlia mugil (Schneider, 1801)



English Name: Barred flaglail
Local Name: Kattafulhi
 Size: Max. 20 cm

Family: KUHLIIDAE
Order: Perciformes
Specimen: MRS/0027/86

Distinctive Characters: Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 9-lf rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 9-II rays. Pectoral fin rays 14. Gill rakers on lower limb 23-26. Lateral line scales 48 to 56. Body depth 2.7-3.1 in standard length. Oval, somewhat compressed body. Cheeks and operculum scaly. Lower edge of preopercle finely serrated. Operculum with two spines. Caudal fin forked.

Colour: Overall silvery. Caudal fin with 5 black bands.

Habitat and Biology: Found schooling near reefs affected by surge. Juveniles sometimes in estuaries. Feeds on planktonic crustaceans and small fish.

Distribution: Indo-Pacific.

Remarks: *Kuhlia mugil* is not at all shy of humans. It is a nocturnal predator, but in the daytime it schools in shallow lagoons, often around jetties.

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