

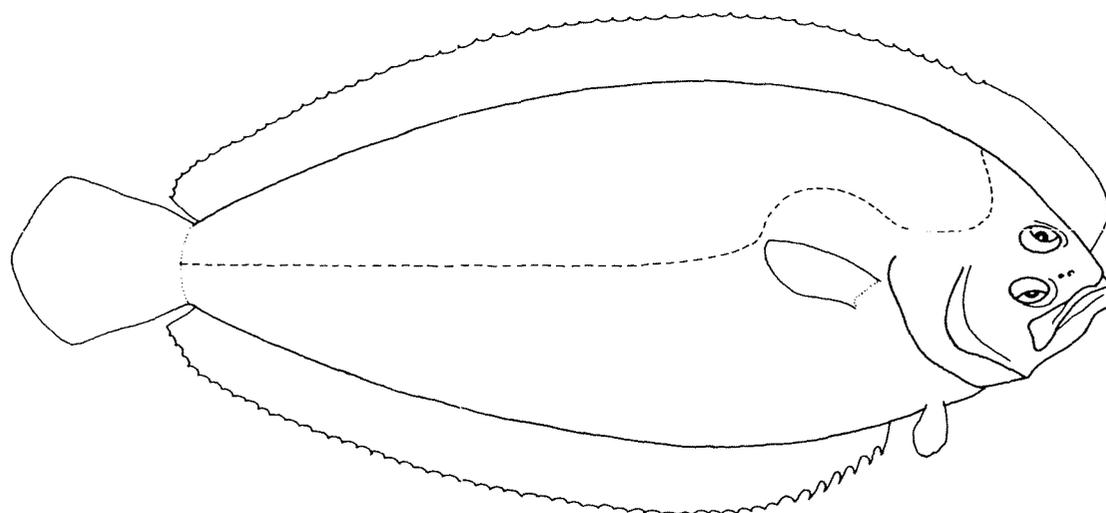
FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)

PLEURONECTIDAE

Righteyeflounders

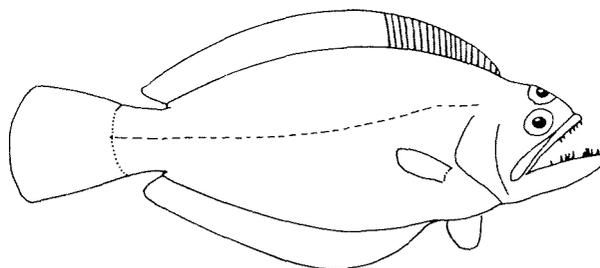
Flatfishes with eyes on right side of body. Mouth asymmetrical, lower jaw more or less prominent; preopercle exposed, its hind margin free and visible. Pectoral and pelvic fins present; dorsal fin origin above or in front of eye; caudal fin free from dorsal and anal fins; no spiny rays in fins. A single lateral line. Anus placed on midventral or blind side.



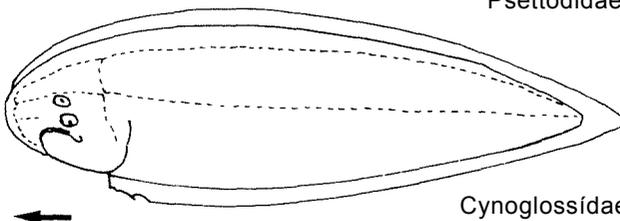
SIMILAR FAMILIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Psettodidae: dorsal fin with spinous rays, its origin well posterior to upper eye; eyes on right: or left side.

Bothidae and Cynoglossidae: both eyes on left side of body.



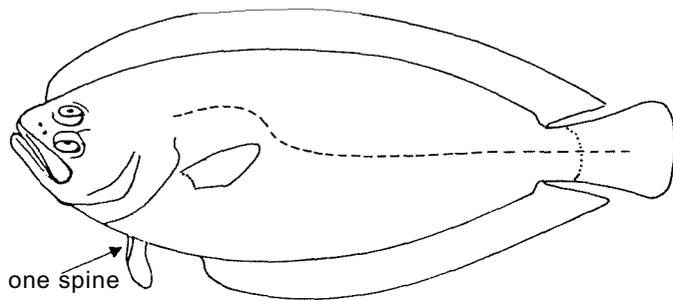
Psettodidae



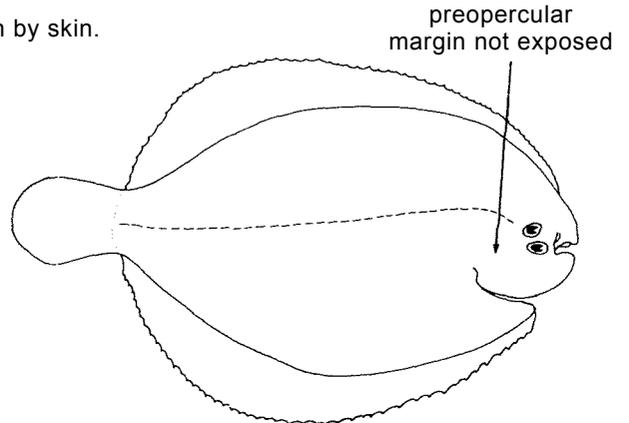
Cynoglossidae

Citharidae: pelvic fins with one spine and 5 soft rays (no spiny rays in fins in Pleuronectidae); anus placed on eyed side.

Soleidae: preopercle not exposed, its hind margin hidden by skin.



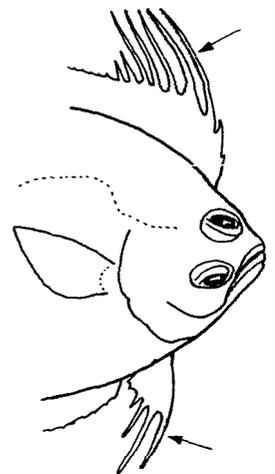
Citharidae



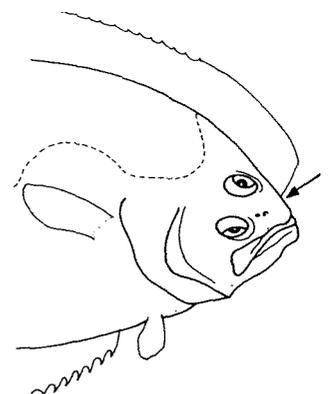
Soleidae

KEY TO GENERA OCCURRING W THE AREA:

- 1a. Origin of dorsal fin above eyes, behind nasal organ of blind side
 - 2a. Anterior rays of dorsal and pelvic fins of eyed side prolonged (very long in males) (Fig.1) Marleyella
 - 2b. None of the anterior rays of dorsal and pelvic fins prolonged
 - 3a. Each eye with a tentacle Nematops macrochirus
 - 3b. No tentacles on eyes Poecilopsetta
- 1b. Origin of dorsal fin in front of eyes, extending forward on snout either above or below nasal organ of blind side (Fig.2)
 - 4a. Dorsal fin extending forward on snout above nasal organ on blind side; lateral line well developed on both sides... Paralichthodes algoensis
 - 4b. Dorsal fin extending forward on snout below nasal organ on blind side; lateral line on blind side rudimentary



Marleyella Fig.1

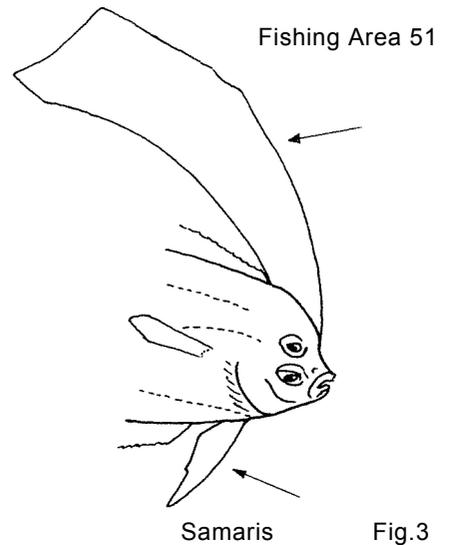


Paralichthodes Fig.2

FAO Sheets

PLEURONECTIDAE

- 5a. Some of the anterior dorsal rays and all pelvic rays much prolonged (Fig.3) Samaris
- 5b. Anterior dorsal rays and those of pelvic not much prolonged Samariscus



LIST OF SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Code numbers are given for those species for which Identification Sheets are included

Marleyella bicolorata (von Bonde, 1922)
Marleyella maldivensis Norman, 1939

Nematops macrochirus Norman, 1931

Paralichthodes algoensis Gilchrist, 1902

PLEURO Para 1

Poecilopsetta albomaculata Norman, 1939
Poecilopsetta natalensis Norman, 1931
Poecilopsetta zanzibarensis Norman, 1939

Samaris cristatus Gray, 1831
Samaris delagoensis von Bonde, 1925
Samariscus ornatus von Bonde, 1922

Samariscus inornatus (Lloyd, 1909)
Samariscus longimanus Norman, 1927
Samariscus maculatus (Günther, 1880)

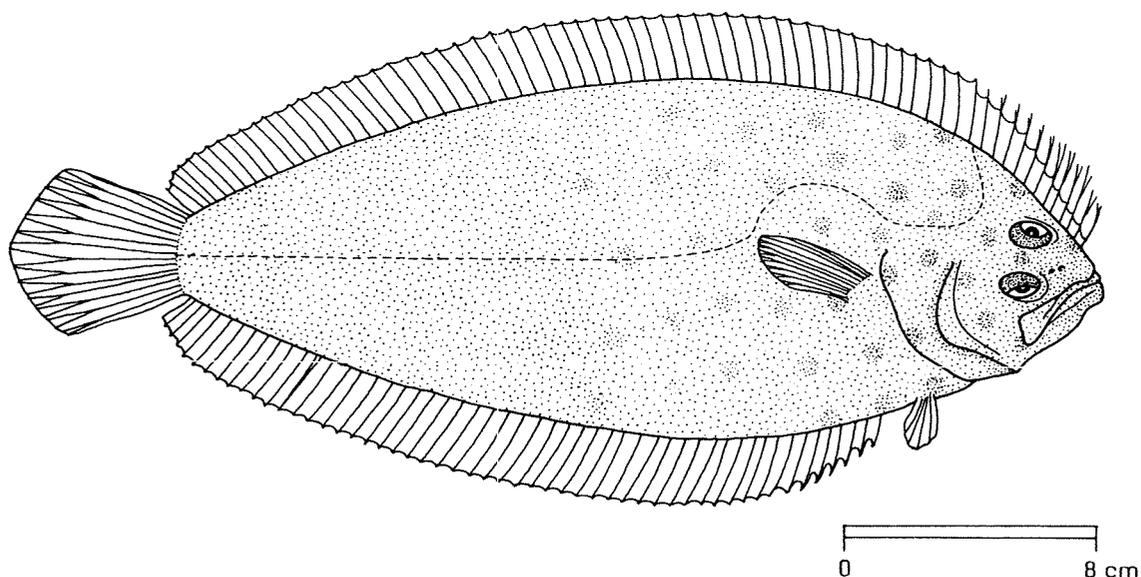
Prepared by J. Nielsen, Zoologisk Museum, Copennagen, Denmark

FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: PLEURONECTIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)*Paralichthodes algoensis* Gilchrist, 1902

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Peppered flounder
 Fr - Plie poivrée
 Sp - Platija pimienta

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Eyes on right side. Origin of dorsal fin well in front of eye, dorsal fin extending forward on snout above nasal organ of blind side; anterior rays more or less free from membrane. Lateral line developed on both sides, forming a curve above pectoral fin. Pelvic fin bases short, almost equal in length.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

All other species of the family have either the dorsal fin origin above eye or dorsal fin extending forward on snout below nasal organ on blind side.

SIZE:

Maximum: up to 50 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Southeast Africa to Delagoa Bay.

Lives on sandy and muddy bottoms, down to about 100 m depth.

PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

Sandy/muddy shelf bottoms throughout its range.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Caught with trawls.

Marketed fresh.

