

FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)

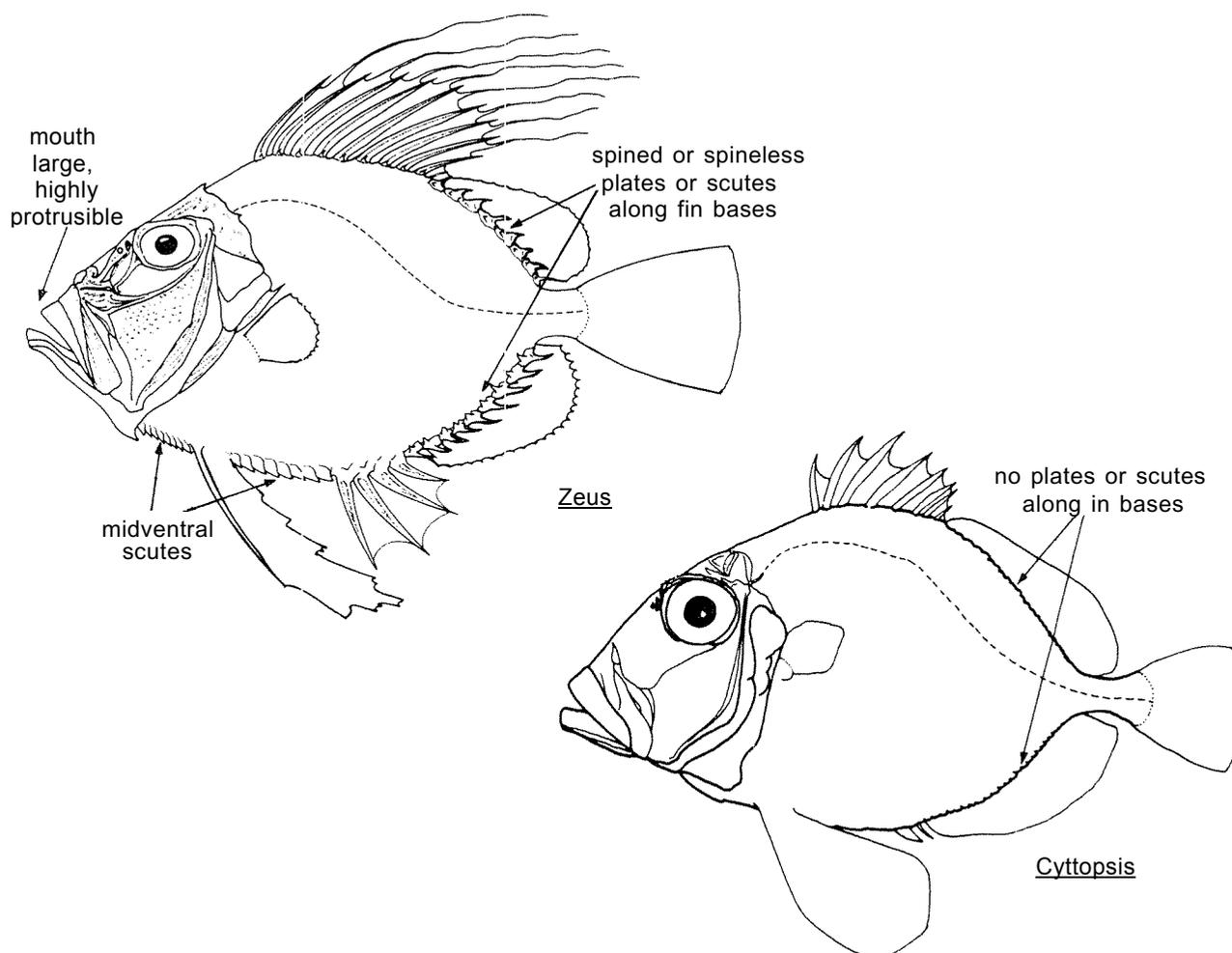
ZEIDAE

Dories

Body oval, compressed, its depth greater than head length. Head compressed; mouth large, oblique; upper jaw very protrusible; narrow bands of small teeth on jaws and vomer (roof of mouth); no spines or serrae on opercular bones. Dorsal fin with 7 to 11 spines and 22 to 30 soft rays; anal fin with 1 to 4 spines and 20 to 30 soft rays; pelvic fins with 6 to 10 soft rays and with or without a spinous first ray; dorsal, anal and pectoral fin rays unbranched; caudal fin with 11 branched rays. Scales small, rudimentary or absent; bony scutes along midventral part of abdomen.

Colour: silvery grey, bronzy or rosy pink.

Small to medium-sized fishes taken in trawls over the outer continental shelf and upperslope region (100 to 300 m depth). Not of commercial importance although some species are sold in markets of South Africa and India. Flesh excellent.



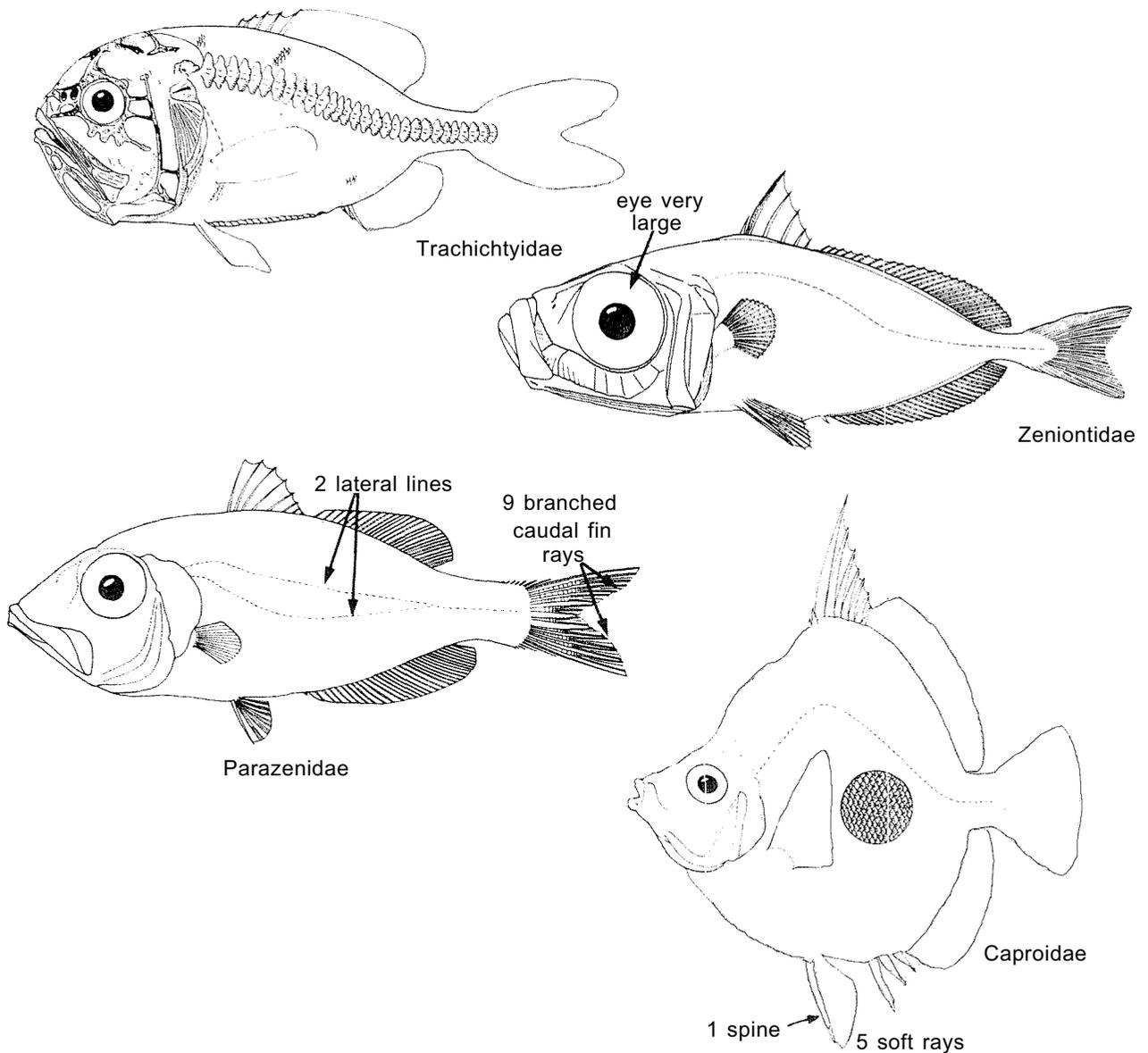
SIMILAR FAMILIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Trachichthyidae: dorsal fin with 3 to 8 spines and 9 to 18 soft rays (7 to 11 spines; and 22 to 30 soft rays in Zeidae); anal fin with 2 or 3 spines and 8 to 12 soft rays (1 to 4 spines and 20 to 30 soft rays in Zeidae); a distinct spine on preopercle and on opercle.

Zeniontidae: body more elongate, its depth 2.3 to 2.7 times in standard length; eye large, its diameter 1.9 to 3.0 in head length.

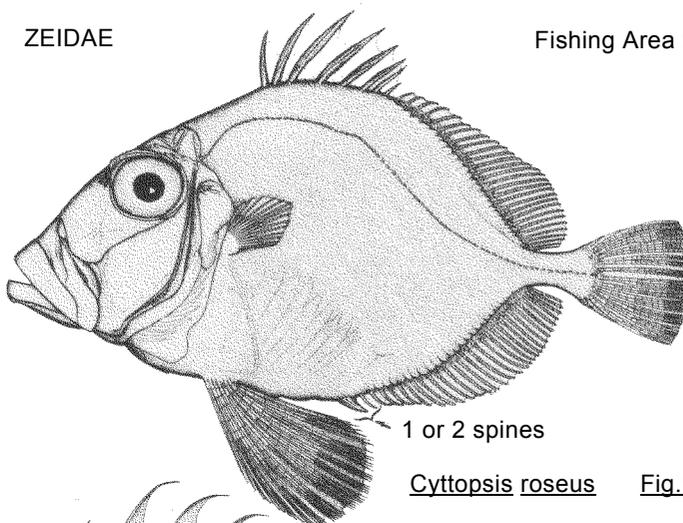
Parazenidae: body more elongate, the depth 2.1 to 2.5 times in :standard length; 2 lateral lines joining under end of soft dorsal fin, caudal fin branched rays 9 (11 in Zeidae).

Caproidae: pelvic fins with 1 spine and 5 soft rays; dorsal, anal and pectoral fin rays branched.



KEY TO SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

1a. Pelvic fins with 9 or 10 branched soft rays and no spine; anal fin with 1 or 2 short spines and 29 or 30 soft rays; no bony plates or spines along bases of dorsal and anal fins (Fig.1) Cyttopsis

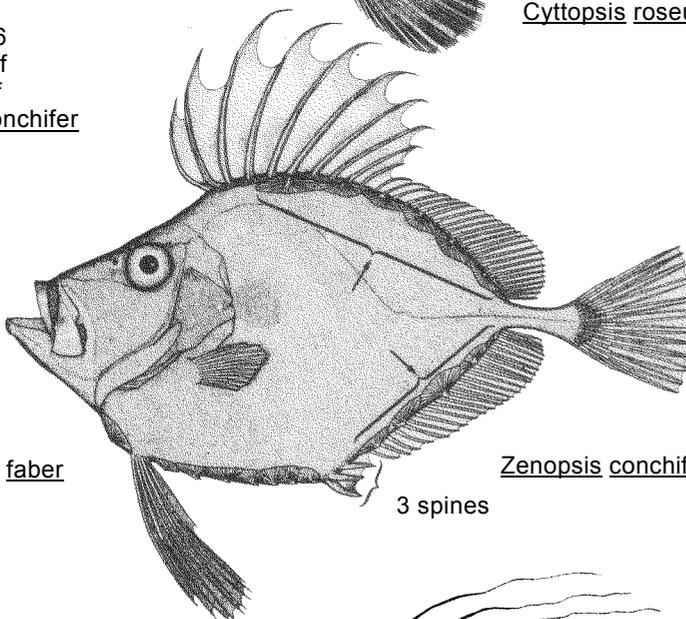


1 or 2 spines

Cyttopsis roseus Fig.1

1b. Pelvic fins with 1 slender, flexible spine and 5 to 7 soft rays; anal fin with 3 or 4 distinct spines and 20 to 26 soft rays; a row of bony plates or spines along base, of dorsal and anal fins (Figs 2 to 4)

2a. Anal fin with 3 spines; 5 or 6 bony plates along base of spinous and soft-rayed parts of dorsal fin (Fig.2) ... Zenopsis conchifer

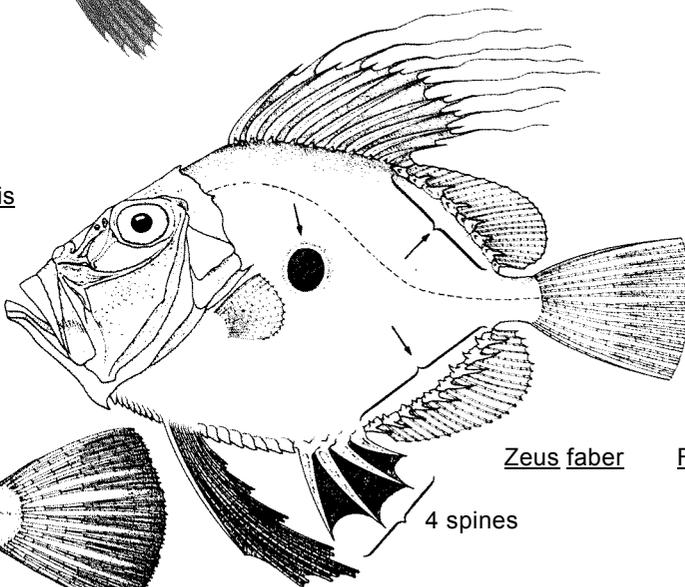


3 spines

Zenopsis conchifer Fig.2

2b. Anal fin with 4 spines; no bony plates along base of spinous dorsal fin (Figs 3,4)

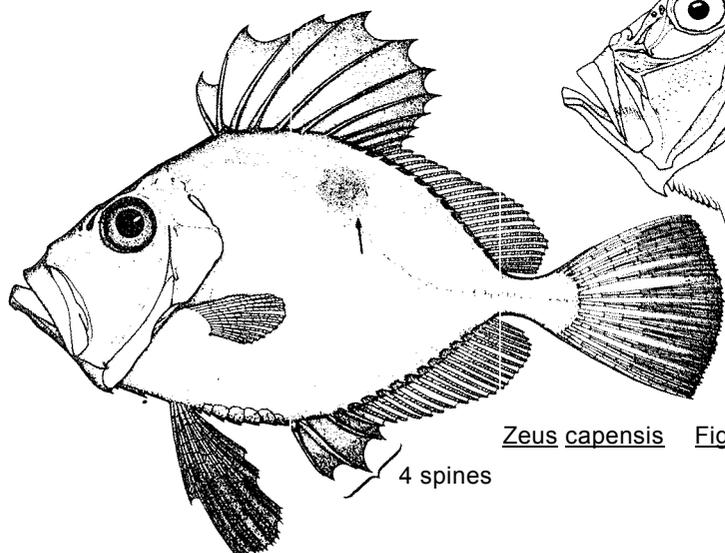
3a. Blue-black ocellus on midlateral part of body below lateral lines; 5 to 10 large bony plates, each with a spine, along base of soft dorsal and anal fins (fig.3) ..Zeus faber



Zeus faber Fig.3

4 spines

3b. Black spot (sometimes indistinct) surrounded by several smaller silver spots, on or above lateral line and below anterior soft dorsal rays; 9 to 12 spines along base of soft dorsal and anal fins (Fig.4)..Zeus capensis



Zeus capensis Fig.4

4 spines

LIST OF SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

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

<u>Cyttopsis roseus</u> (Lowe, 1843)	ZEID Cyttop 1
<u>Zenopsis conchifer</u> (Lowe, 1852)	ZEID Zen 1
<u>Zeus capensis</u> Valenciennes, 1835	ZEID Zeus 2
<u>Zeus faber</u> Linnaeus, 1758	ZEID Zeus 1

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