

Centropyge flavipectoralis Randall & Klauswitz, 1977

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IDENTIFICATION

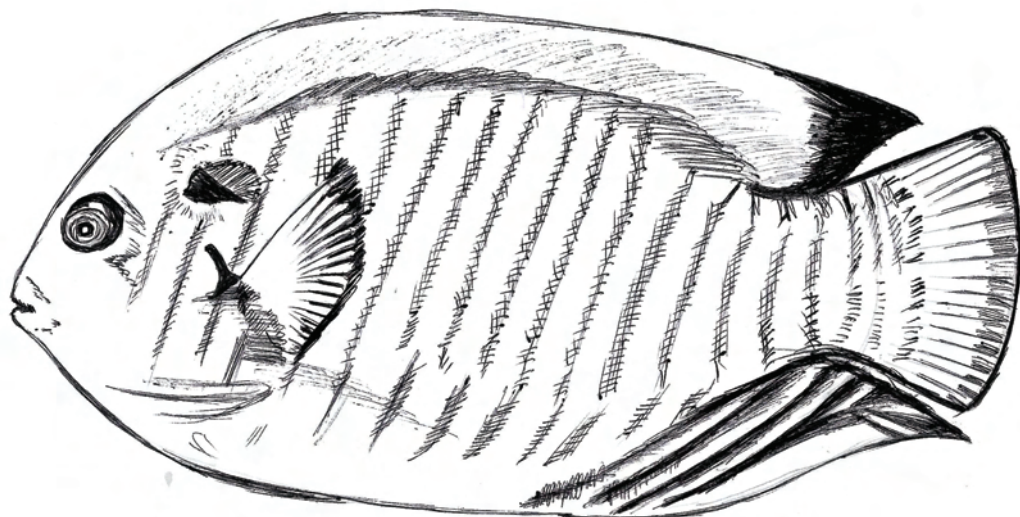
Order	: Perciformes
Family	: Pomacanthidae
Common/FAO Name (English)	: Yellowfin angelfish



Local names: : Not available

MORPHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

This angelfish is dark brown to black in colour, with black/blue vertical stripes and bluish spots with a maximum reported size of 10 cm. Pectoral fins are golden brown; dorsal, caudal, and anal fins are dark brown with bluish hue and blue margins. It is recognized by the yellow pectoral fins. There are 14-15 dorsal spines and 14-15 dorsal soft rays; 3 anal fin spines and 16-18 anal soft rays. The posterior end of dorsal and anal fins are pointed and have filamentous extensions in large adults.



PROFILE

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

This species is distributed in the western Indian Ocean, ranging from Sri Lanka and the Maldives in the west to the Andaman sea, coast of Thailand to Indonesia in the east. The species is reported to occur along the west coast of India and from the Gulf of Mannar along the east coast of India.

HABITAT AND BIOLOGY

The species is marine, reef-associated, non-migratory and inhabits depth ranges of 3-20 m. It is found in large aggregations above thickets of branching *Acropora* corals in sheltered areas of sub tidal reef flats and lagoons. The juveniles are closely tied to individual coral heads.

It is a protogynous hermaphrodite, however with no distinguishable differences in colour between males and females. Other species of this family are also protogynous hermaphrodites where the largest

fish in the group changes to male. It is an aggressive and hardy fish. Spawning occurs in evening after an elaborate courtship. Courtship begins with the male fish swimming around the female fish. The male fish curves his body towards the female and his unpaired fins become erect. The female shows her readiness for spawning by ascending over her coral accompanied by fin flutter, erect unpaired fins, body quiver and blanching.

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

BREEDING IN CAPTIVE CONDITIONS

Information not available

LARVAL REARING

Information not available

FOOD AND FEEDING

*This fish is omnivorous in nature. It feeds on algae, debris, sponges and small crustaceans. In captivity, the diet to be given includes *Spirulina*, marine algae, mysids or frozen shrimp and other meaty items.*

GROWTH RATE

Information not available

DISEASES AND CONTROL MEASURES

Information not available

PRODUCTION, MARKET AND TRADE

PRODUCTION

Information not available

MARKET AND TRADE

Information not available

CHALLENGES TO MARICULTURE

The main researchable issues, which have to be addressed for this species in India, are (i) Domestication and broodstock development protocol (ii) Breeding and larval rearing protocol with environmental and nutritional interference (iii) Feed management.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

Captive production is a potential solution for reducing pressure on wild natural stocks. Successful captive breeding will relieve stress on wild populations and will reduce market prices making the species more affordable to hobbyists.

SUGGESTED READING

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