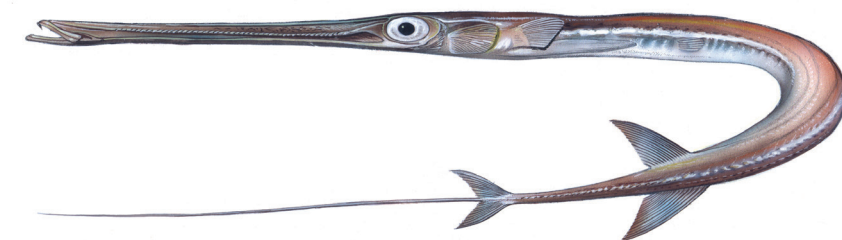


FISTULARIDAE

cornetfishes

Fistularia petimba

Lacepède, 1803



Drawing : Tuvia Kurz

Relevant synonyms: None
 Misidentification: None
 Meristic formula: D, 14-16; A, 14-15; P, 15-16; V, 6

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Body extremely elongated and depressed. Very long head with tubular snout. Two serrated ridges along the snout. Small oblique mouth. Lower jaw slightly protruding. Small teeth. Interorbital space concave and smooth. Dorsal and anal fin triangular, opposite each other, located posteriorly. Caudal fin forked with the two middle rays extremely elongated and filamented. A row of narrow bony plates along dorsal midline in front of the dorsal and anal fins. The posterior part of the lateral line has a series of backward-pointing spines.

color: head, back and flank reddish-brown.

common size: 30-100 cm (max. 200 cm).

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Fistularia commersonii: smooth dorsal midline, without bony plates; no backward pointing spines on the posterior part of the lateral line the length of the outer rays.

BIOLOGY / ECOLOGY

Lives at moderate depths, usually deeper than 10 m, above soft substrate. Feeds on fish and shrimps.

habitat: above the continental shelf over soft substrate.

DISTRIBUTION

Worldwide: Eastern Atlantic from Angola to Senegal and Cape Verde Islands, Indo-west Pacific to Hawaii.

Mediterranean: first recorded off La Linea (Province of Cadiz), Alboran Sea, gill net at 50 m (Cárdenas *et al.*, 1997). Later recorded from Israel and Turkey (Stern *et al.*, 2017, Ünlüoğlu *et al.*, 2018). Recently reported from Cyprus (Michailidis and Manitaras, 2019).

MODE OF INTRODUCTION

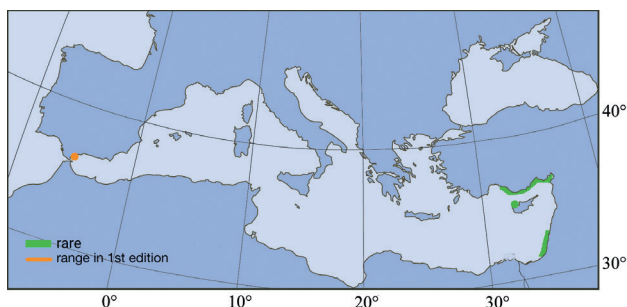
The occurrence of all the recorded individuals can be assigned to a Suez Canal introduction except the first recorded specimen (which probably entered via Gibraltar).

ESTABLISHMENT SUCCESS

Rare.

IMPORTANCE TO HUMANS

None.



1st Med. record
Alboran Sea,
Southern Spain,
1997

KEY REFERENCES

- Cárdenas S., Berastegui and Ortiz J.M. 1997. First record of *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803 (Pisces, Fistulariidae) off the coast of Cadíz (southern Iberian Peninsula). *Boletín del Instituto Español de Oceanografía*, 13: 83-86.
- Michailidis N. and Manitaras I. 2019. First record of the red cornetfish *Fistularia petimba* from Cyprus 650-651pp. In: Dracicevic B. *et al.*, 2019. *New Mediterranean Biodiversity Records 2019- Mediterranean Marine Science*.
- Stern N., Paz G., Yudkovsky Y., Lubinevsky H. and Rinkevich B. 2017. The arrival of a second 'Lessepsian sprinter'? The first record of the red cornetfish *Fistularia petimba* in the Eastern Mediterranean. *Mediterranean Marine Science*, 18(3): 524-528.
- Ünlüoğlu A., Akalin S., Dal İ., Tıraşın E.M. and Aydın C.M. 2018. First record of red cornetfish *Fistularia petimba* (Syngnathiformes:Fistulariidae) from Antalya and Iskenderun Bays along Turkish coasts of the Mediterranean Sea. *Journal of Applied Ichthyology*, 34: 977-980.