

Biodiversity Record: New Singapore records of damselfishes of the genus *Plectroglyphidodon*

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Subjects: Jewel damselfish, *Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus* (Teleostei: Cichliformes: Pomacentridae);
Whiteband damselfish, *Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus* (Teleostei: Cichliformes: Pomacentridae).

Subjects identified by: Charles Z. M. Tan and Zeehan Jaafar.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Pulau Satumu; 8 May and 14 July 2023; around 1000 and 1300 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef. On reef flat and upper reef slopes.

Observers: Charles Z. M. Tan and Zeehan Jaafar.

Observations: Two different species of fish were observed on separate occasions —

1. An adult *Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus* of approximately 10 cm total length (Fig. 1) was observed on the reef flat at around 2 m depth, on 8 May 2023, at around 1000 hrs.
2. One juvenile *Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus* of approximately 5cm total length (Fig. 2) was spotted on the reef flat at around 2 m depth, on 14 July 2023, at around 1300 hrs.



Fig. 1. In-situ lateral view of *Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus* at Pulau Satumu. Fig. 2. In-situ dorso-lateral view of juvenile *Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus* at Pulau Satumu (Photographs by: Charles Z. M. Tan).

Remarks: The observations of the damselfishes *Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus* and *Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus*, mark their first records, as well as of the genus *Plectroglyphidodon*, within the territorial waters of Singapore (see Sin et al., 1994; Wang & Lim, 2011). They were encountered during routine surveys of fish communities on Singapore's coral reefs.

Plectroglyphidodon is an Indo-Pacific genus comprising ten species (Tang et al., 2021). Color and pigment patterns of congeners are diagnostic. *Plectroglyphidodon lacrymatus* can be recognised by the presence of small bright blue spots on the body and dorsal region of the head. Adults of *Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus* are uniformly brown, except for the presence of a vertical white bar that extends from the base of the mid-dorsal fin to a point ventral to the mid-flank, as well as a dark spot at the pectoral fin base. Juvenile individuals exhibit a large black spot with yellow margins on the mid-dorsal fin that will fade with age (Allen & Erdmann, 2012).

Literature cited:

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