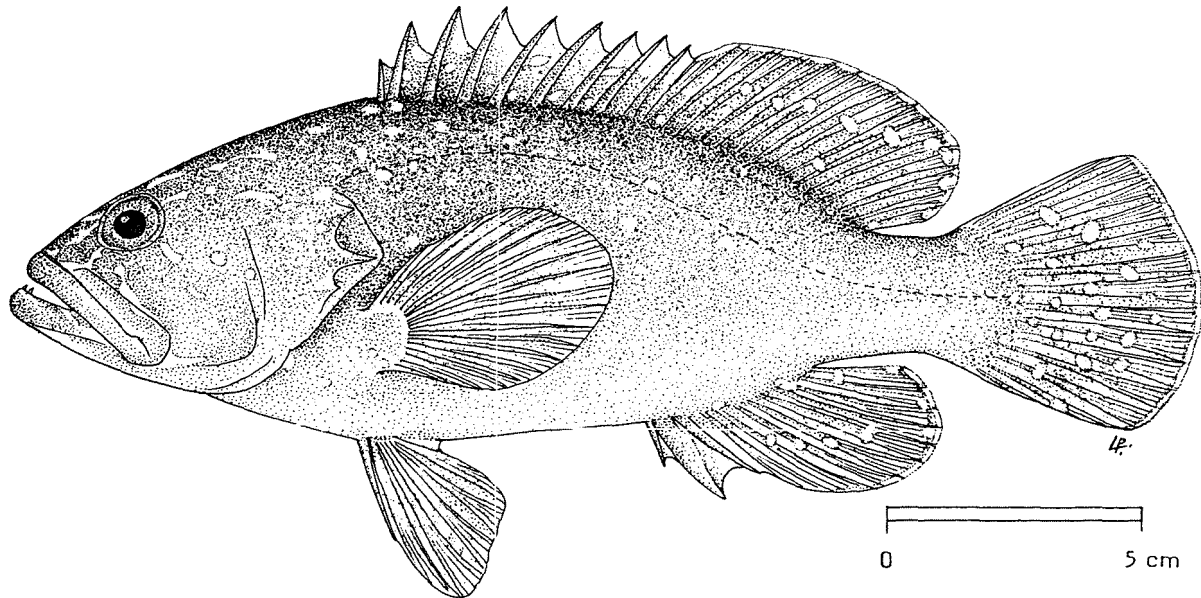


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SERRANIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)Cephalopholis oligosticta (Randall & Ben Tuvia, 1983)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Roughcheek hind  
Fr - Vielle de la Mer Rouge  
Sp - Cherna del Mar Rojo

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body depth contained 2.6 to 3.0 times in standard length, less than head length. Maxilla with a few scales, reaching well past orbit; preopercle rounded, the lower bony edge exposed, coarsely serrate; lower gillrakers 14 to 16. Dorsal fin with 9 spines and 15 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 9 soft rays; pectoral fin rays 16 to 18; pectoral fins 1.4 to 1.6 times in head length; pelvic fins 1.6 to 2.0 times in head, nearly or just reaching anus; caudal and anal fins rounded. Pored lateral line scales 60 to 71; lateral scale series 107 to 123.

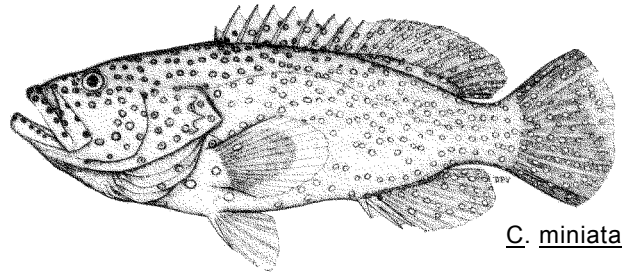
Colour: orange-red, with widely scattered, small pale blue spots on head, body and fins.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA :**

Cephalopholis miniata: blue spots more numerous; lower edge of preopercle fleshy; lateral line scales 47 to 56.

C. argus: colour dark brown; lower edge of preopercle fleshy.

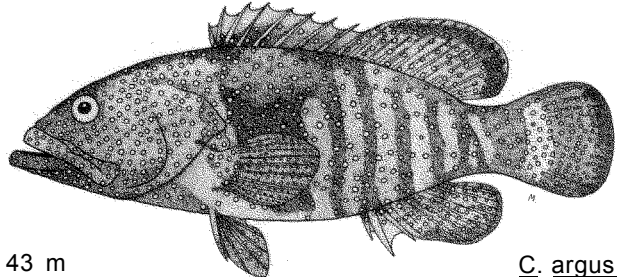
Other Cephalopholis species: lower edge of preopercle fleshy; colour pattern not as above.



C. miniata

**SIZE:**

Maximum: 27 cm.



C. argus

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

Known only from the Red Sea in depths of 24 to 43 m usually in dead reef areas with rather turbid water.

**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

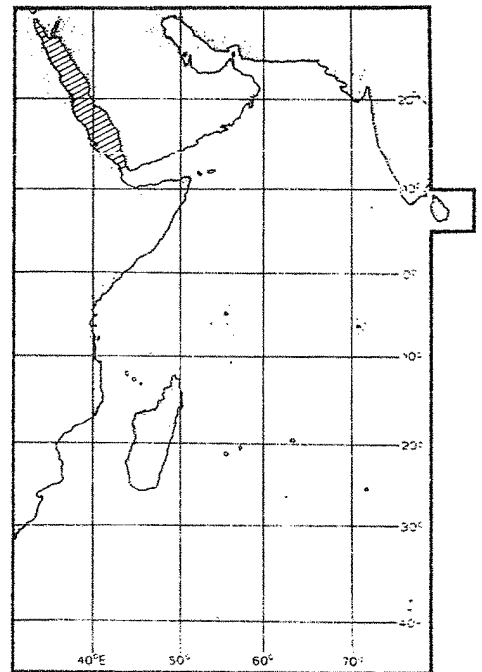
Apparently not common.

**CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:**

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

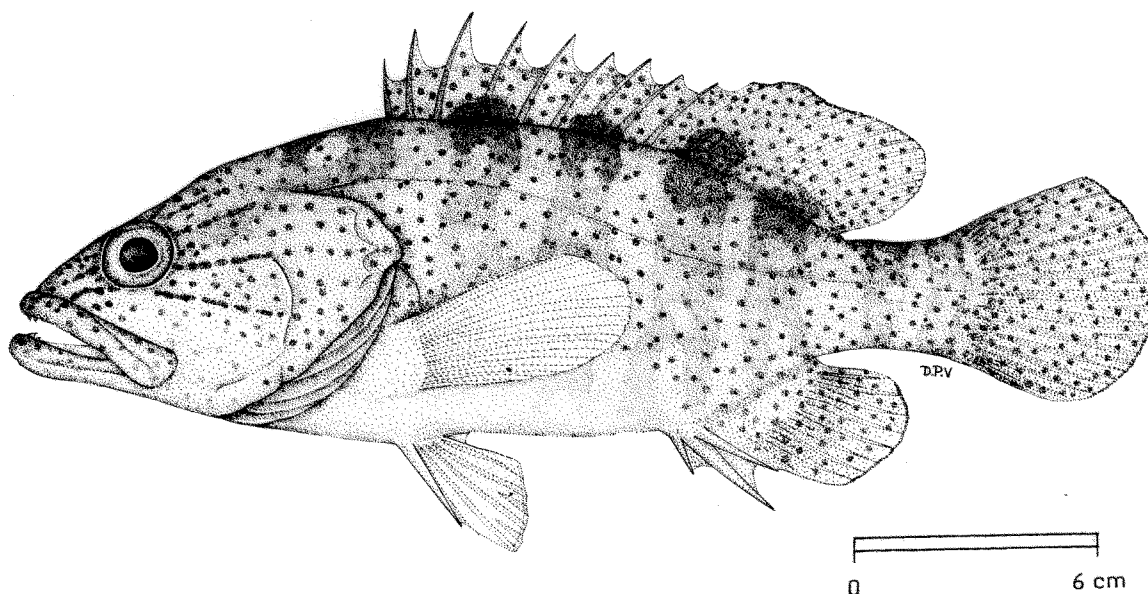
Caught with hook and line, traps and gillnets.

Marketed fresh.



## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY : SERRANIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)Cephalopholis sexmaculata (Rüppell, 1828)OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: Cephalopholis gibbus Fourmanoir; 1954  
Cephalopholis coatesi Whitley, 1937

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :           En - Sixblotch hind  
                  Fr - Vielle six taches  
                  Sp - Cherna de sels

NATIONAL :

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body depth contained 2.6 to 3.0 times in standard length, less than head length. Maxilla reaches to or past vertical at rear edge of orbit; preopercle rounded, the lower edge fleshy; lower gillrakers 14 to 16. Dorsal fin with 9 spines and 14 to 16 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 9 soft rays; pectoral fin rays 16 to 18; pectoral fins 1.4 to 1.6 times in head; pelvic fins not reaching anus; caudal and anal fins rounded. Pored lateral line scales 49 to 56; lateral scale series 99 to 110.

Colour: orange-red with numerous small blue spots on body, head and median fins; four squarish, black blotches on body at base of dorsal fin extending onto the fin and 2 more on the caudal peduncle; pectoral fins yellow-orange.

## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Other *Cephalopholis* species: no black blotches at base of dorsal fin.

## SIZE:

Maximum: 40 cm.

## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

In the Western Indian Ocean, known from the east coast of Africa (to about 21° S), the Seychelles, Mauritius, Réunion, Red Sea, Gulf of Oman and coasts of Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka.

A coral reef species occurring in 20 to 72 m; often seen in large caves.

## PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

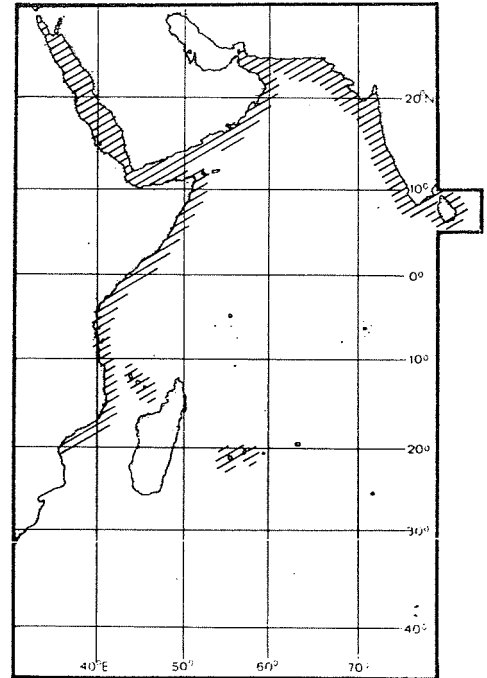
Coral reef areas. Of some importance as foodfish in the Comores.

## CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION:

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Caught with hook and line, traps and gill nets.

Marketed fresh and dried salted.

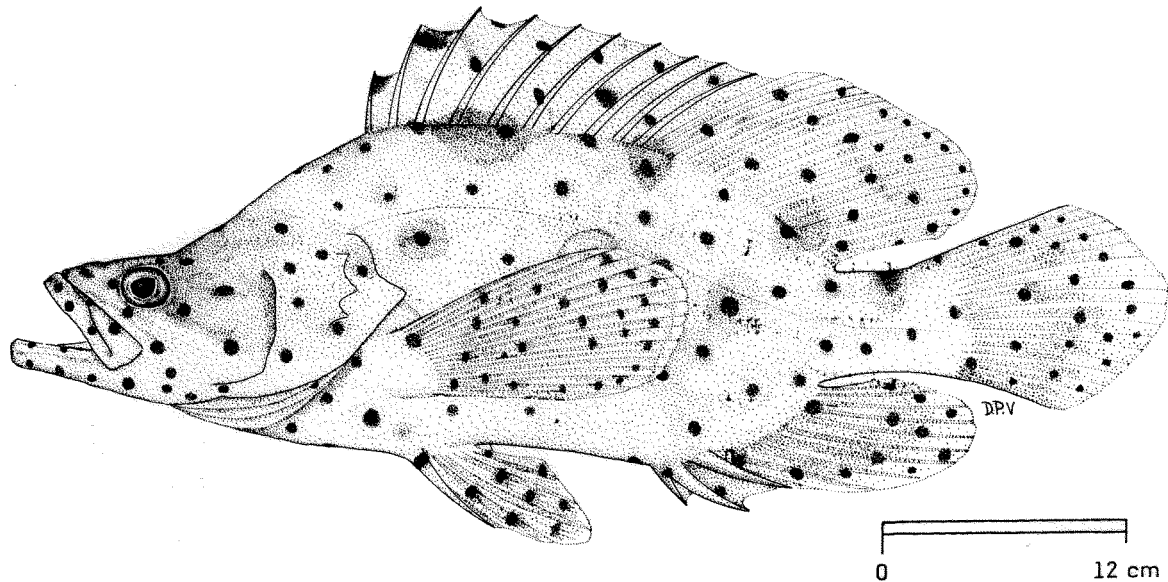


## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: SERRANIDAE

FISHING AREA 51  
(W. Indian Ocean)*Cromileptes altivelis* (Valenciennes, 1828)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO :           En - Humpback grouper  
                   Fr - Mérou bossu  
                   Sp - Mero jorobado

NATIONAL:

## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Body compressed; dorsal profile of head markedly concave, giving the fish a humpback appearance; body depth 2.6 to 3.0 times in standard length. Eye diameter 5 or 6 times in head length; preopercle broadly rounded, serrate; opercle with 2 apparent spines; rear nostril a large crescentric slit; gillrakers almost rudimentary, about 14 on lower limb. Dorsal fin with 10 spines and 17 to 19 soft rays; anal fin with 3 spines and 10 soft rays; pectoral fin rays 17 or 18; caudal fin rounded. Scales cycloid; lateral line scales about 70; lateral scale series 135 to 140.

Colour: pale greenish-brown, with dark spots all over head, body and fins.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:**

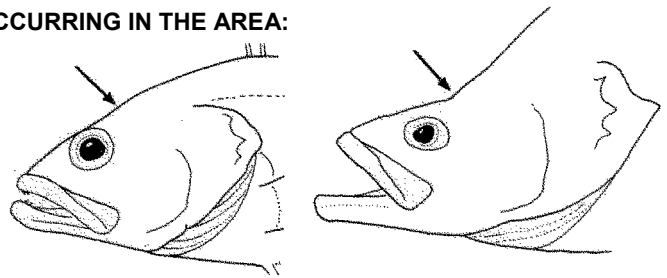
Cephalopholis species: dorsal fin spines 9 (10 in Cromileptes altivelis); dorsal profile of head convex.

Dermatolepis striolatus: dorsal fin spines 11; rear nostrils oval.

Aethaloperca rogae: dorsal fin spines 9; caudal fin truncate; dorsal profile of head convex.

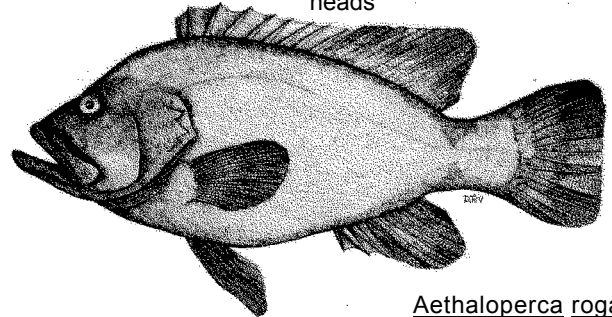
Gracila species: dorsal fin spines 9; caudal fin truncate; dorsal profile of head convex.

Epinephelus species: dorsal fin spines 11; dorsal profile of head straight or convex.

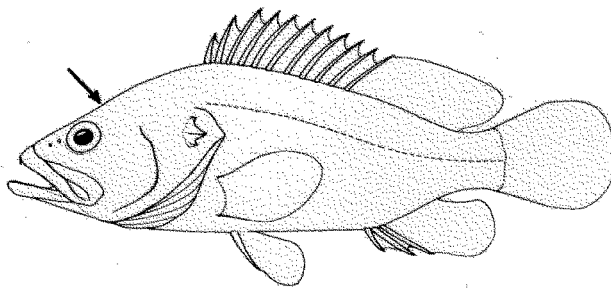


Cephalopholis

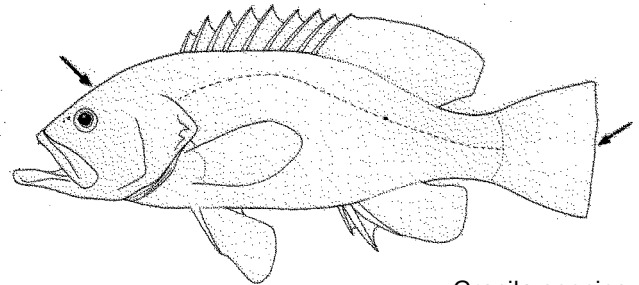
Cromileptes altivelis  
heads



Aethaloperca rogae



Epinephelus



Gracila species

**SIZE:**

Maximum: 70 cm.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:**

In the Western Indian ocean, known from India, Sri Lanka and the Coast of Kenya. Also found in the Eastern Indian Ocean and the Western Central Pacific, eastward to China, southern Japan and Australia.

**PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:**

Apparently rare in the Western Indian Ocean.

