Damselfishes

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES: ADULTS & JUVENILES 1. Rarely black spot on tail base. The presensce of a spot may causes confusion with Cocoa [previous]. **JUVENILE 2. Black spoot ringed in blue on dorsal fin extends onto the back in very young, but rapidly reduces in size in older jubeniles and is contained entirely in the dorsal fin.** This spot may persist, becoming small or fade altogether with adulthood. Without this spot adults are very difficult to distinguish from Coco [previous]. Adult clues; 3. Diagonal dark lines on side soft (not sharp like Coco). 4. Blunt snout, somewhat concave above lips. 5. Often blue spots centered on scales of body.

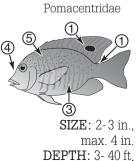
DESCRIPTION: Slim body somewhat elongate. Orange tints in areas of yellow and blue to black tints in dark dorsal areas. **JUVENILES:** Yellow with orange tints with blue wash and brilliant blue lines running from snout to back and spiny dorsal fin.

ABUNDANCE & DISTRIBUTION: Common South Florida, Bahamas, Caribbean; also Gulf of Mexico, north to Maine and Bermuda.

HABITAT & BEHAVIOR:Inhabit flat back reef areas associated with dead coral, algae and rocky rubble. Territorial, but not as aggressive as other damsefishes.



BEAUGREGORY Stegastes leucostictus FAMILY Damselfishes -





Beaugregory Adult

[left & right]





Juvenile/Young Adult [left] There is a spot on the tail base, however, identification is confirmed by the small spot contained entirely within the dorsal fin. Young Adult [far left]

