



## ***Malacoctenus brunoi* sp. n. (Blennioidei: Labrisomidae), a new scaled-blenny from Trindade Island, off Brazil**

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### **Abstract**

*Malacoctenus brunoi* n. sp., a scaled blenny endemic to Trindade Island, is distinguished from its southwest Atlantic congeners by the combination of a higher number of lateral-line scales (typically 62-66), a more elongated body (depth 19-22 % SL), and the presence of two longitudinal series of dark brown spots alongside the body.

**Key words:** Western Atlantic, Trindade Island, Brazil, reef fish, endemism, *Malacoctenus*, Labrisomidae

### **Introduction**

*Malacoctenus* Gill comprises 16 valid species of small reef-dwelling fishes distributed along the tropical and sub-tropical waters of the Western Atlantic and Eastern Pacific (Greenfield and Johnson, 1981; Springer, 1959; 1995; Springer and Gomon, 1975). Two species are currently recognized in the southwestern Atlantic: *Malacoctenus triangulatus* Springer, recorded from Atol das Rocas (Nunan, 1992), Fernando de Noronha Archipelago (Springer & Gomon, 1975; Mendes, 2006), St. Paul's Rocks (Lubbock & Edwards, 1981; Feitoza *et al.*, 2003), Parcel de Manoel Luíz (Rocha & Rosa, 2001) and along the coast of Brazil from Paraíba (Feitoza *et al.*, 2005) southwards to Rio de Janeiro (Bacellar, 1997); and *Malacoctenus delalandei* Quoy and Gaimard, recorded from along the Brazilian coast from Rio Grande do Norte (Springer, 1958) south to Santa Catarina (Lucena & Lucena, 1982). Nunan (1992), Guimarães *et al.* (2001) and Gasparini (2004) also reported a third form from Trindade Island, which is herein described as a new species.

### **Material and methods**

Specimens were collected using hand-nets during day-time SCUBA and free diving, and occasionally taken from tide pools. Counts and measurements follow Springer (1959), except for specimens smaller than 25 mm SL, which were not considered for measuring. Institutional abbreviations are as listed in Leviton *et al.* (1985), except for “LBRP” which stands for Coleção Ictiológica, Laboratório de Biodiversidade de Recursos Pesqueiros, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro; “MBML”, which refers to Coleção Zoológica, Museu de Biologia Professor Mello Leitão; and “CIUFES”, which stands for Coleção Ictiológica, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo.