



Four new records of shore fishes for the Red Sea, with notes on *Parupeneus heptacanthus* and *Diodon liturosus*

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Abstract

New records of fishes for the Red Sea include the Indian Oil Sardine, *Sardinella longiceps* Valenciennes, based on two specimens obtained in the fish market of Hurghada, Egypt; the Needle Pipehorse, *Kyonemichthys rumengani* Gomon from a single specimen from Hamata, Egypt; the Herring Scad, *Alepes vari* (Cuvier), from an underwater photograph taken at the Hanish Islands at the southern end of the Red Sea; and the Twospot Hogfish, *Bodianus bimaculatus* Allen, from an underwater photograph taken of a subadult off Jeddah. An underwater photograph of the Cinnabar Goatfish, *Parupeneus heptacanthus* (Lacepède), taken at Marsa Alam, Egypt was first misidentified as *P. procerigena* Kim & Amaoka; a comparison of these two species is provided. The range of the Blackblotched Porcupinefish, *Diodon liturosus* Shaw, is extended from the southern to the northern Red Sea. Three individuals that were photographed in Egypt had numerous small black spots on the fins. The species lacks spots on the fins elsewhere in the Indo-Pacific region.

Key words: Red Sea; new records

Introduction

Dor (1984) published the first checklist of the fishes of the Red Sea. He listed 139 families and 996 species. Goren & Dor (1994) updated the checklist, recognizing 157 families and 1,248 species of fishes. Golani & Bogorodsky (2010) revised the Red Sea checklist more critically, and reduced it to 154 families and 1078 species. Some species had been previously listed from old records now shown to be erroneous, others from misidentification of specimens or photographs, and still others from presumed range extensions into the Red Sea, as by distribution maps.

Since the 2010 checklist, a new species of blenny, *Entomacrodus solus* Williams & Bogorodsky (2010), has been described from the Red Sea, and three manuscripts reporting new species and new records of gobiid fishes for the Red Sea have been submitted for publication. In the present paper, we report four new records, one in each of the following families: Clupeidae, Syngnathidae, Carangidae, and Labridae, mainly the result of recent field work in the Red Sea by the first author. We also show color variation of the goatfish *Parupeneus heptacanthus* (Lacepède) and the porcupinefish *Diodon liturosus* Shaw.

Material and methods

Specimens representing the new Red Sea record of the sardine *Sardinella longiceps* were deposited in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ), and the Red Sea specimen of the pipehorse *Kyonemichthys rumengani* at the Museum of Victoria, Melbourne (NMV), the institution housing the holotype. Standard length (SL), from tip of snout to base of caudal fin, is used for proportional measurements, and total length (TL) for the maximum length of specimens.