

REEF

www.REEF.org

Top 25 Central Indo-Pacific Fishes

Fishinar 03/16/2020

Dr. Christy Pattengill-Semmens, Ph.D.– Instructor

Co-Executive Director: Science & Engagement- REEF

Questions? Feel free to contact me at christy@REEF.org



Threadfin Anthias (*Pseudanthias huchtii*)

Males have red border on ventral fins (“redfin on threadfin”), long dorsal thread, variable body color (typically yellow). Females are unmarked, pale yellow body with bright yellow border on tail fins.

Up to 4.75”

Photo by: Paul Humann



Pearl-scaled Angelfish (*Centropyge vroliki*)

Pale gray (pearly white) fore-body, graduating to solid black back half. Iris, pectoral fin base, and margin of gill cover are orange. Blue fin margins.

Up to 4.5”

Photo by: Paul Humann



Regal Angelfish (*Pygoplites diacanthus*)

Alternating yellow and blueish-white bars, yellow tail.

Up to 10”

Photo by: Paul Humann



Bicolor Angelfish (*Centropyge bicolor*)

Bright yellow head and front half, deep blue on back half of body. Blueish mask. Tail is yellow.

Up to 6”

Photo by: Paul Humann



Blacklip Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon kleinii*)

Light brown with “dirty” white head, black lips and ventral fins. In some parts of region, blue wash on head.

Up to 5.5”

Photo by: Paul Humann



Eastern Triangular Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon baronessa*)

Body triangular with elongated snout for eating coral polyps. Gray with many chevron markings. Colorful face with two yellow bars and often red on top of head. Pale yellow tail.

Up to 6"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Vagabond Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon vagabundus*)

White body with chevron markings. Broad black bar on rear edge of body. Yellow dorsal, anal, and tail fins.

Up to 9"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Redfin Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon lunulatus*)

More oval than most butterflyfish. Purplish body with pale stripes. Red anal fin.

Up to 6"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Humphead Bannerfish (*Heniochus varius*)

Dark body with white bars outlining a triangle. Body is triangle shaped, steep pointed dorsal fin. Pair of horns above eyes.

Up to 7"

Photo by: Ron Lucas



Moorish Idol (*Zanclus cornutus*)

Elongated snout and long trailing dorsal fin. Body is yellow and black.

Up to 9"

Photo by: Ron Lucas



Brushtail Tang (*Zebrasoma scopas*)

Yellowish brown gradating to nearly black on the tail. Dark brush-like patches of bristles in front of white tail spine. Elongated snout.

Up to 10"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Lined Bristletooth (*Ctenochaetus striatus*)

Dark brown with numerous orange spots on head, thin blue lines on body; may display a small black spot at the rear base of dorsal fin.

Up to 10"

Photo by: Florent Charpin



Bridled Monocle Bream (*Scolopsis frenatus*)

Dark gray to yellow upper body and white below. Three yellow stripes on upper head forming a "bridle". Bridle can sometimes be dark.

Up to 10"

Photo by: Ron Lucas



Clark's Anemonefish (*Amphiprion clarkii*)

Body color can vary from orange to black, with two white body bars. Dorsal fin is always dark (never orange) and there is typically a strong demarcation between body and tail color (sometimes with a thin white border). Lives with a variety of anemone species.

Up to 5.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Three-spot Dascyllus (*Dascyllus trimaculatus*)

Gray with black scale edges; fins dark except rear dorsal which is clear. Occasionally has a diffuse patch of yellow or orange on head and breast. Anal fin orange in Fiji. Juveniles black with bright white spots, often called "domino damsel". White spots are faded in adults.

Up to 5.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Reticulated Dascyllus (*Dascyllus reticulatus*)

A black bar behind head. A wide, diffuse black bar sometimes may appear at the back half of the body, extending from the back of the dorsal fin down to the anal fin. Tail white. Shelters in branching table coral.

Up to 3.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Charcoal Damsel (*Pomacentrus brachialis*)

Uniformly colored, charcoal-gray to black. Has a large black spot at base of pectoral. Distinguished from other species with spot by uniformity of body color. Juveniles are blue with spot at pectoral, but lack any ocellated spot in dorsal. Feed up in water column in groups.

Up to 2.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Golden Damsel (*Amblyglyphidodon aureus*)

Golden in color. No other noticeable markings except for faint blue rings around the eyes. Distinctive body shape with pointed dorsal and anal fins.
Up to 6"

Photo by: Ron Lucas



Neon Damsel (*Pomacentrus coelestis*)

Neon blue damselfish with yellow or blue ventral and anal fins. Tail and anal fin have a blue margin. Relatively shallow species, typically found in groups above rubble.
Up to 3.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Ambon Damsel (*Pomacentrus amboinensis*)

Body color variable based on locality, but typically yellow to cream. Small pale pink and blue spots on face. Small black spot at base of pectoral (sometimes very pale). Juvenile has a black spot on rear dorsal. Different from Ambon Chromis.
Up to 4"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Talbot's Damsel (*Chrysiptera talboti*)

Usually pale mauve (but commonly black in Fiji). Bright yellow area on snout, black spot on middle of dorsal fin.
Up to 2.5"

Photo by: Paddy Ryan



Manybar Goatfish (*Parupeneus multifasciatus*)

Variable coloration and variable number and placement of bars that can be red, white, and/or brown. Base of tail usually dark.
Up to 11"

Photo by: Frank Bossen



Orange-lined Triggerfish (*Balistapus undulatus*)

Body is greenish to brown, with curved diagonal orange lines. Orange or yellow tail. Large black blotch at base of tail.
Up to 12"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Bluestreak Cleaner Wrasse (*Labroides dimidiatus*)

Variable from white to yellowish head and forebody, becomes neon blue toward tail. Stripe from snout becomes progressively wider toward tail. Juveniles are black with neon blue mid-body stripe, and swims in a bouncing manner.
Up to 4.5"

Photo by: Paul Humann



Crescent Wrasse (*Thalassoma lunare*)

Blue to blue-green body with lavender to green bands on head. Lavender pectoral fins with blue margins are obvious when swimming. Deep lunate tail with yellow center. IP similar but more green and less yellow in tail. Juveniles just a few inches long, greenish with colorful bands on face, black spot at base of tail and second spot along back, and sometimes pale white bars along the back.
Up to 10"

Photo by: Paul Humann