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# Identification: Target and Non-target Fish Species

*IOTC ROS SFO TR9*



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# Common Indian Ocean pelagic fish bycatch species

*IOTC ROS SFO TR9.6*

Category: Identification of target and non-target fish species

*IOTC ROS SFO TR9*



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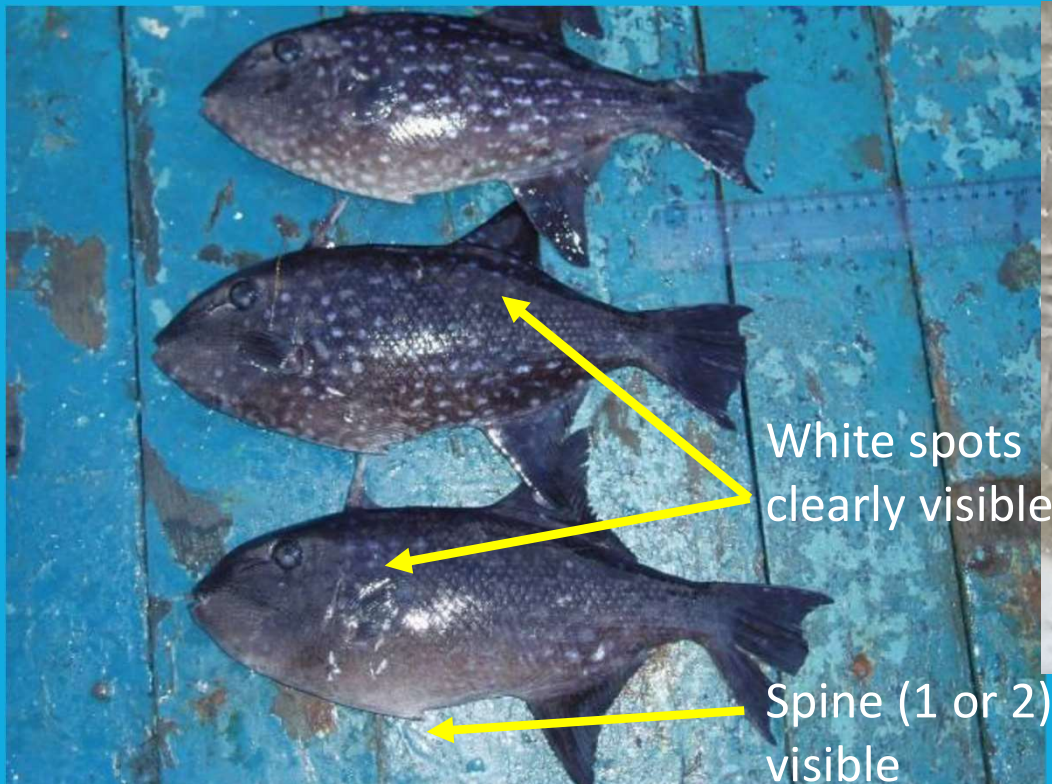


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## SPOTTED OCEANIC TRIGGERFISH - *Canthidermis maculatus* - TRI

Fresh Caught



After freezing in brine



White spots faded or fish appears  
completely black

**Note: very common in purse-seine sets, particularly on logs and FADs**



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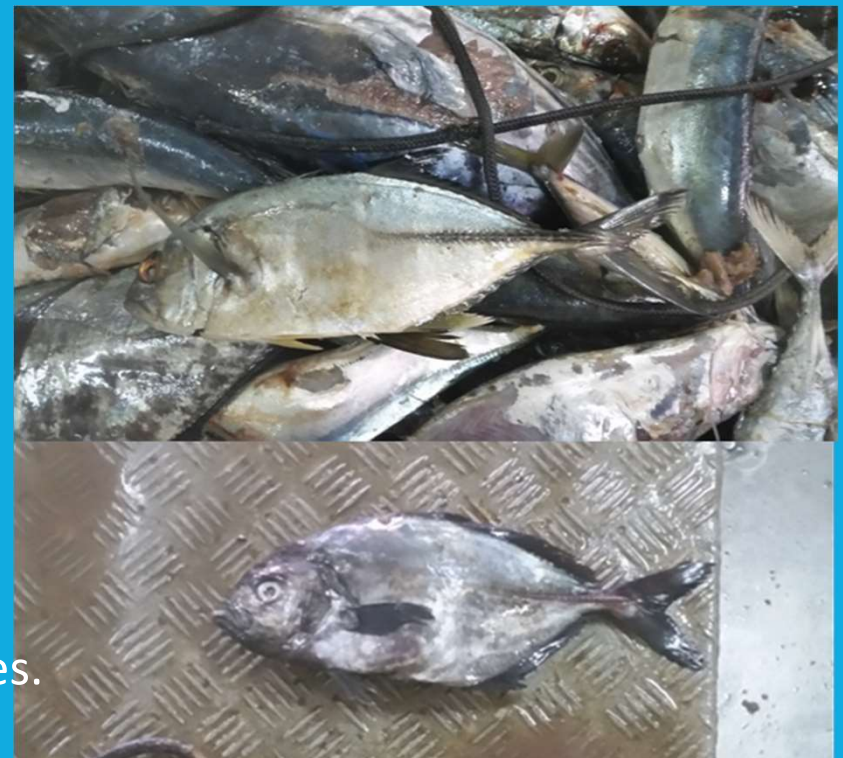
## Caranx - BIGEYE TREVALLY - *Caranidax sexfasciatus* - CSX

**Fresh Caught**



1. Dorsal lobe (soft) and anal fin with white-tipped lobes.
2. Caudal fin yellowish to black.
3. Two detached spines with the anal fin

**After freezing in brine**



- Body color blue-green dorsally, silvery white lower body fades
- Ridge clearly visible



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## RAINBOW RUNNER - *Elagatis bipinnulata* - RRU

**Fresh Caught**



Blue and yellow  
stripes clearly  
visible

Two rayed  
finlets behind  
second dorsal  
and anal fins

**Frozen in Brine**



Stripe colours faded but  
diagnostic finlets still visible



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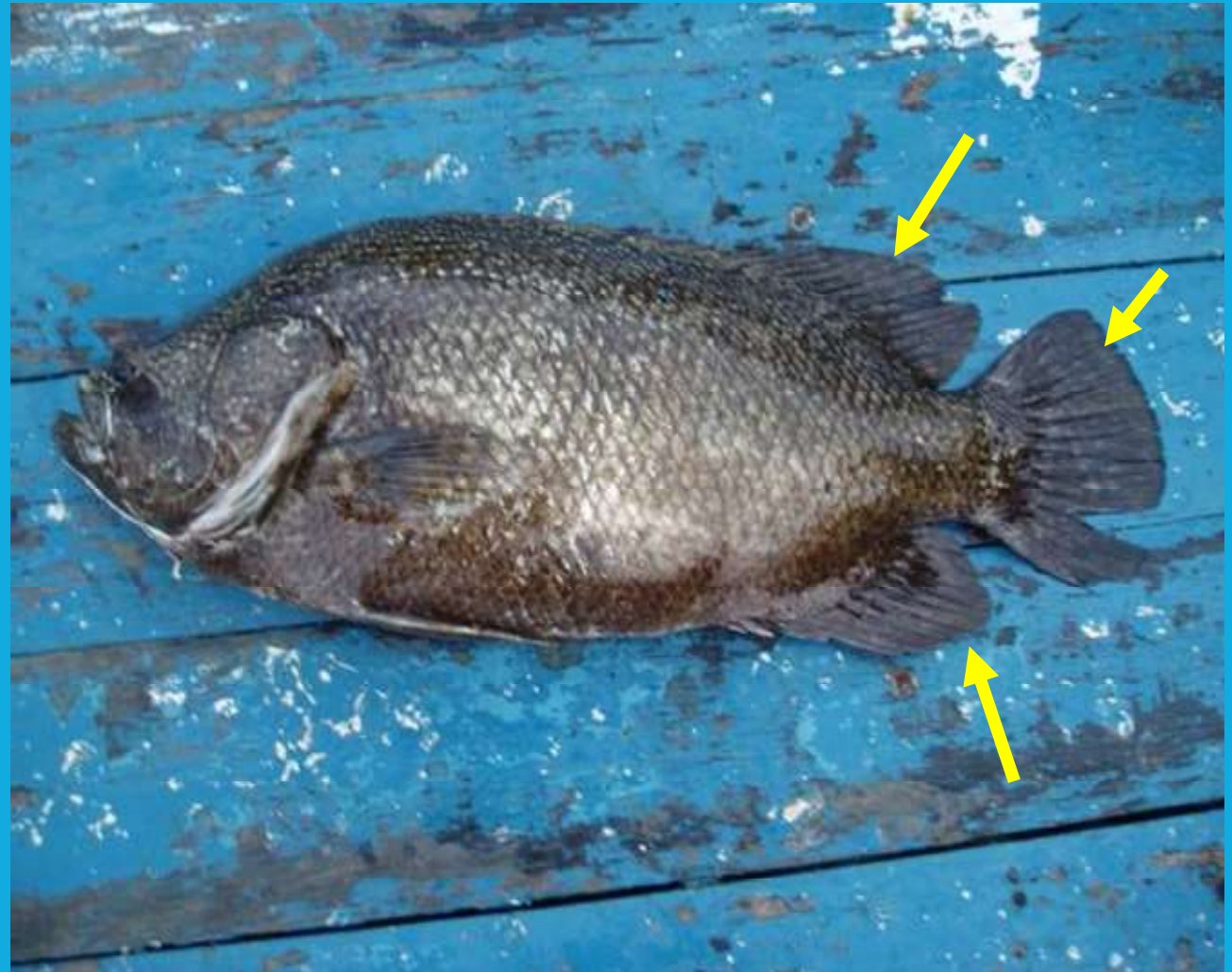
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## TRIPLE TAIL - *Lobotes surinamensis* - LOP

- Upper body dark brown to black.
- Lower body bronze with grey to white edges on scale
- Long and round dorsal and anal fin extend close to the tail
- Small eye close to mouth



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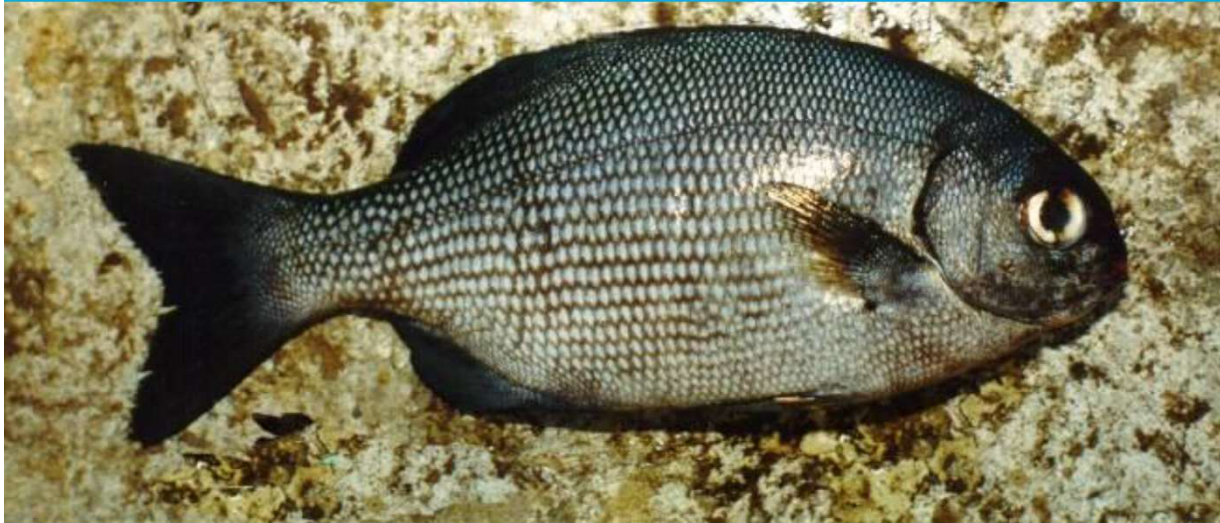
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## BLUE SEACHUB - *Kyphosus cinerascens* - KYC

Fresh Caught



- Grey with dusky fins
- Soft parts of dorsal and anal fins elongated anteriorly
- Horizontal stripes made up of small light spots

Frozen in brine



**Note: very common in purse-seine sets, particularly on logs and FADs**



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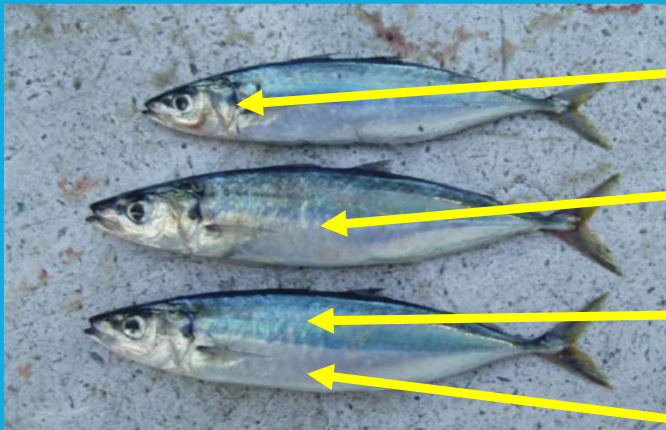
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## MACKEREL SCAD - *Decapterus macarellus* - MSD

### Fresh Caught



- Black mark on the upper operculum
- Body elongate and slender
- Black metallic green upper body
- Lower belly is silvery white

### After freezing in brine



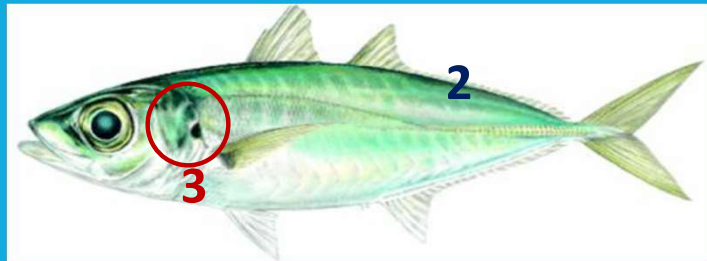
- Black mark on the upper operculum
- Body elongate and slender





## BIGEYE SCAD - *Selar crumenophthalmus* - BIS

### Diagnostic features:



1. Body elongate and compressed
2. Lateral line clearly visible
3. Operculum with black spot
4. Large eye

### Frozen in brine



- Body compressed
- Lateral line clearly visible





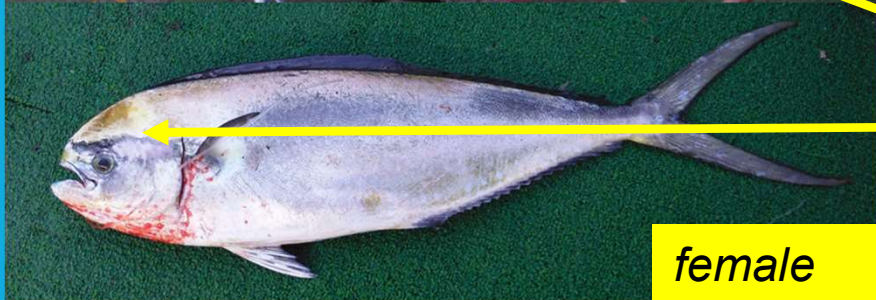
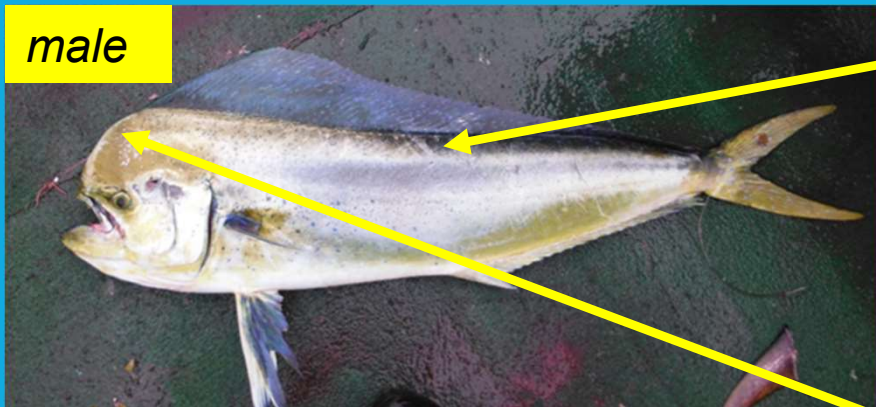
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## DOLPHIN FISH - *Coryphaena hippurus* - DOL

male



female

- Distinct body shape and color
  - *Bright green blue upper body*
  - *Bright yellow lower body*
- Males have high forehead
- Females have rounded forehead

Fresh Caught

Frozen in Brine



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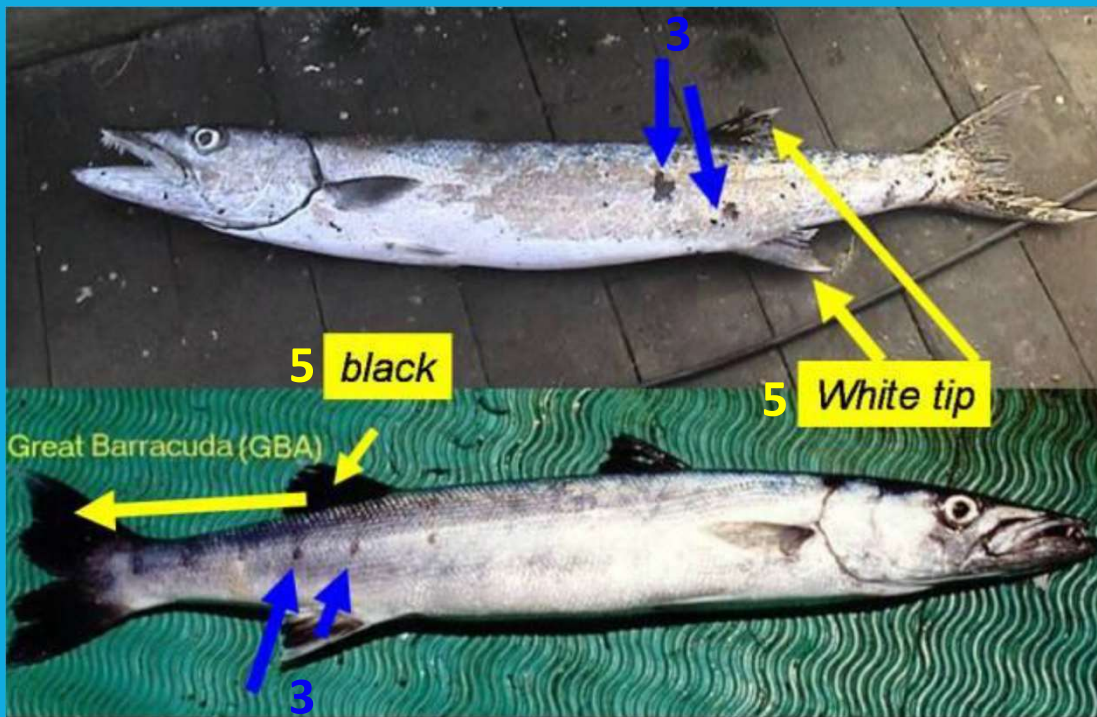


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## GREAT BARACUDA - *Sphyraena barracuda* - GBA

### Fresh Caught



1. Lower jaw extends in front of upper snout
2. Short dark bars on silvery sides, white belly
3. A few irregular dark blotches on sides
4. Large scales
5. Dark second dorsal, anal and tail fins with white tips

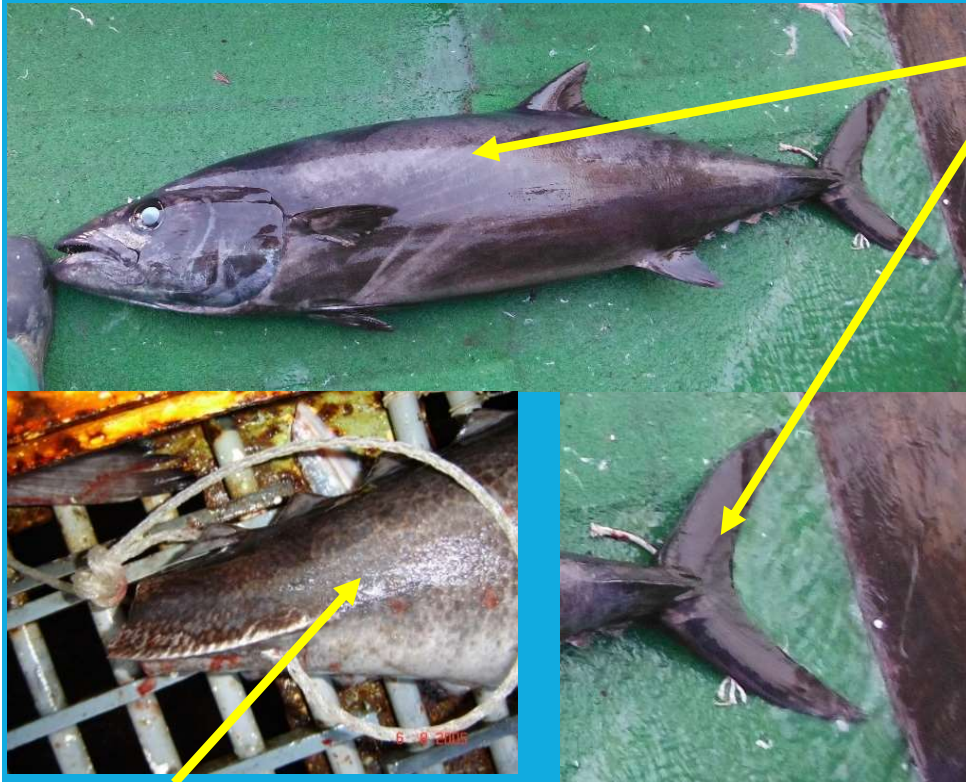


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## ESCOLAR - *Lepidocybium flavobrunneum* - LEC

### Fresh Caught



- Smooth skin
- Main caudal keel with two supplementary keels
- Overall color is dark gray to black, may look dark brown

### Freshly dressed and after blast freezing



- Body is covered with small soft scales
- Many dorsal & anal finlets







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## OILFISH - *Ruvettus pretiosus* - OIL

Fresh Caught



After blast freezing



Shape and  
pattern of scales



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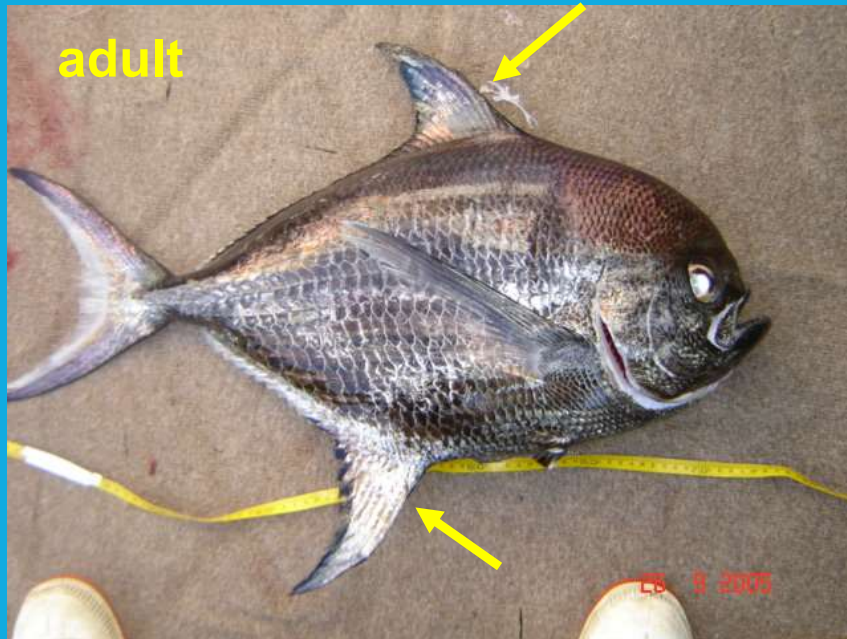


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## SICKLE POMFRET - *Taractichthys steindachneri* - TST

Fresh Caught



- Falcate long dorsal and anal fins
- White margin on trailing edge of caudal fin
- Silver-white tipped pelvic fins

After blast freezing



Notice the extended points of the dorsal  
and anal fins of a juvenile



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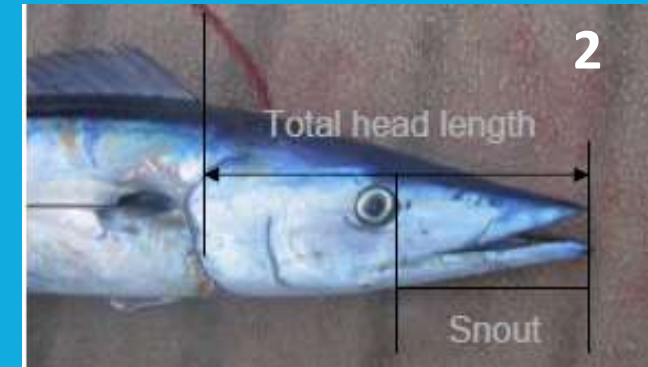


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## WAHOO - *Acanthocybium solandri* - WAH



1. Many vertical bars along the body that may fade after death
2. The length of the snout makes up half of the total head length
3. Distinctive dip in lateral line underneath (not after) the first dorsal fin
4. Prominent caudal keel flanked by two smaller keels on caudal fin base



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## OPHA / MOONFISH - *Lampris guttatus* - LAG

### Fresh Caught



### Processing:



- Body is generally disc shaped
- Body is silvery and covered with white spots, somewhat darker with an orange tone dorsally
- Fins are bright reddish-orange
- Lips are bright red-orange
- Pelvic fins are long and wide, tail is mildly forked



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## OCEAN SUNFISH - *Mola mola* - MOX



Note lack of tail extension



- Disc shaped without a tail
- Grey colour, darker dorsally often with lighter grey/white spots



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## SHARPTAIL Mola - *Masturus lanceolatus* - MRW



Note tail extension

- Tail-like projection in centre of posterior end
- Two tone colour pattern (brown and white/silver)
- Oval/round body shape



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# ANY QUESTIONS?



*send us a message via Talents LMS*



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