

Stars-and-stripes pufferfish in Singapore Straits

Subject: Stars-and-stripes pufferfish, *Arothron hispidus* (Teleostei: Tetraodontidae).

Subject identified by: Kelvin K. P. Lim.

Location, date and time: Singapore Straits, on reef off Pulau Satumu (Raffles Lighthouse), facing Pulau Biola; 11 April 2012; 2005 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef, in about 5 to 6 m depth.

Observers: Contributor and others.

Observation: This large pufferfish of about 60 cm total length, was observed hiding beneath overhanging table coral during a coral spawning event.

Remarks: Although the species is widespread in the central Indo-Pacific (Allen, 1997), *Arothron hispidus* has apparently not been recorded from Singapore previously. The photograph shows a frontal-lateral view of the individual's head.

Reference: Allen, G. R., 1997. *Marine Fishes of Tropical Australia and South-east Asia*. Third revised edition. Western Australian Museum. 292 pp.



Photograph by Tan Heok Hui.

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