

Russell's lionfish in the Singapore Straits

Subject: Russell's lionfish, *Pterois russellii* (Teleostei: Scorpaenidae).

Subject identified by: Kelvin K. P. Lim.

Location, date and time: Singapore Straits, off western part of Pulau Satumu (Raffles Lighthouse); 9 January 2001; late morning.

Habitat: Coral reef, off silty seabed at around 16-18 m depth.

Observer: Tan Heok Hui.

Observation: An individual of about 20 cm total length was observed near the seabed.

Remarks: Four species of the lionfish genus *Pterois* have been recorded from Singapore (Fowler, 1938: 201-202), but only the Russell's lionfish is occasionally encountered by divers in the Singapore Straits. *Pterois russellii* is distinguished from the larger lionfishes in the region by its clear median fins that lack black spots (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 222).

References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume I*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. xiii + 1-424 pp.
Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin*. 1: 1-268.



Photographs by Tan Heok Hui

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