

## Semicircle angelfish from Tuas

**Subject:** Semicircle angelfish, *Pomacanthus semicirculatus* (Teleostei: Pomacanthidae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributor.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Straits, Tuas; December 2013.

**Habitat:** Marine, probably coral reef.

**Observers:** Contributor.

**Observation:** An example of 19.6 cm standard length was purchased from the wet market at Yew Tee estate (Choa Chu Kang) from a fishmonger who claimed to have recently trapped the fish locally at Tuas. The specimen is preserved and deposited at the Zoological Reference Collection of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore, under the catalogue number ZRC 54299.

**Remarks:** This marine angelfish occurs in the tropical Indo-Pacific from East Africa to the western Pacific and grows to 35 cm total length (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 559). Although this widespread species is expected to occur in Singapore waters, it has apparently not been previously recorded (see: Fowler, 1938; Wang & Lim, 2011). In Singapore, *Pomacanthus* spp. are commercially important as ornamental fish and not as seafood. The present specimen is not likely to have been imported as food fish.

### References:

Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume II*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp. 425-856.

Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin*. 1: 1-268.

Wang L. K. & K. K. P. Lim, 2011. Angelfish. In: Ng, P. K. L., R. T. Corlett & H. T. W. Tan (eds.). *Singapore Biodiversity: An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development*. Editions Didier Millet with the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Singapore. p. 223.



Photograph by Tan Heok Hui

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