

## New record of doubletooth soldierfish in Singapore

**Subject:** Doubletooth soldierfish, *Myripristis hexagona* (Teleostei: Holocentridae).

**Subject identified by:** Kelvin K. P. Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Straits, sea off Kusu Island; 3 June 2013; evening.

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

**Observers:** Tan Heok Hui and others.

**Observation:** One example of 118.1 mm standard length and 150.6 mm total length was collected at night with spear at 8 m depth among coral reef. It has been preserved in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore, under the catalogue number ZRC 54131 (see accompanying photograph). There is another specimen of 140.9 mm standard length (ZRC 54236) that was collected off the Raffles Lighthouse in 1975 that was previously not reported.

**Remarks:** This represents the first published record of *Myripristis hexagona* in Singapore waters (see Fowler, 1938). This species is distinguished from its congeners in having the combination of the following morphological features: two pairs of tooth patches exposed on the lower lip; many scales in the axil of the pectoral fins; 25 to 29 scales pierced by the lateral line; no white on the leading edges of the caudal, soft dorsal, anal and pelvic fins. It is widespread in the tropical Indo-west Pacific (Randall & Greenfield, 1999: 2254).

### References:

- Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin*. 1: 1-268.  
Randall, J. E. & D. W. Greenfield, 1999. Holocentridae. In: Carpenter, K. E. & V. H. Niem (eds.). *FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes: The Living Marine Resources of the Western Central Pacific. Volume 4. Bony fishes part 2 (Mugilidae to Carangidae)*. FAO, Rome. pp. 2225-2256.

**Note:** This is a contribution of the Singapore **Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey** conducted by the National University of Singapore's Tropical Marine Science Institute and the National Parks Board.



Lateral view of *Myripristis hexagona* (ZRC 54131). Photograph by Jose C. Mendoza

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