

Blue-striped angelfish and longfin bannerfish from Singapore

Subjects: Blue-striped angelfish, *Chaetodontoplus septentrionalis* (Teleostei: Pomacanthidae) [Fig. 1];
Longfin bannerfish, *Heniochus acuminatus* (Teleostei: Chaetodontidae) [Fig. 2].

Subjects identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait near Sultan Shoal; purchased at wet market in Yew Tee housing estate, Choa Chu Kang; 4 January 2015.

Habitat: Marine, most likely coral reef.

Observer: Tan Heok Hui.

Observation: An example of *Chaetodontoplus septentrionalis* of 97.1 mm standard length (tip of snout to base of caudal fin) (Fig. 1), and one of *Heniochus acuminatus* of 92.1 mm standard length (Fig. 2), were bought from a fish monger who have recently obtained the two fish near Sultan Shoal. Both were caught in fish traps set on the sea bed. They are preserved and deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, at the National University of Singapore. The *Chaetodontoplus septentrionalis* specimen is catalogued as ZRC 54644, and the *Heniochus acuminatus* given the catalogue number ZRC 54645.

Remarks: *Chaetodontoplus septentrionalis* appears to be a new record for Singapore waters, and this may be a southern extension of its known range. It usually occurs in pairs or small groups from southern Korea, Japan, along the Chinese coast and Taiwan to Vietnam (Allen et al., 1998; Debelius et al., 2003). Based on this one specimen, we do not know if there is a native population in Singapore. As it is sometimes available in the ornamental fish trade in Singapore (personal observations), there is a small chance that this individual is an abandoned aquarium pet.

Heniochus acuminatus usually occurs in pairs, individually, or in small groups; and ranges from Persian Gulf and East Africa to Micronesia and French Polynesia, and Australia to Japan (Allen & Erdmann, 2012). It has been recorded from Singapore since 1849 (Fowler, 1938). However, apart from the specimen herein featured, there was no recent record. This species is commonly imported from neighbouring Indonesia and the Philippines as an ornamental fish (personal observations), but is usually not exploited as food fish.

References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies*. Volumes I-III. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. 1292 pp.
- Allen, G. R., R. Steene & M. Allen, 1998. *A Guide to Angelfishes & Butterflyfishes*. Odyssey Publishing & Tropical Reef Research. 250 pp.
- Debelius H., H. Tanaka & R. H. Kuiter, 2003. *Angelfishes, a comprehensive guide to Pomacanthidae*. TMC Publishing, Chorleywood, UK. 208 pp.
- Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin, Singapore*. 1: 1-268.

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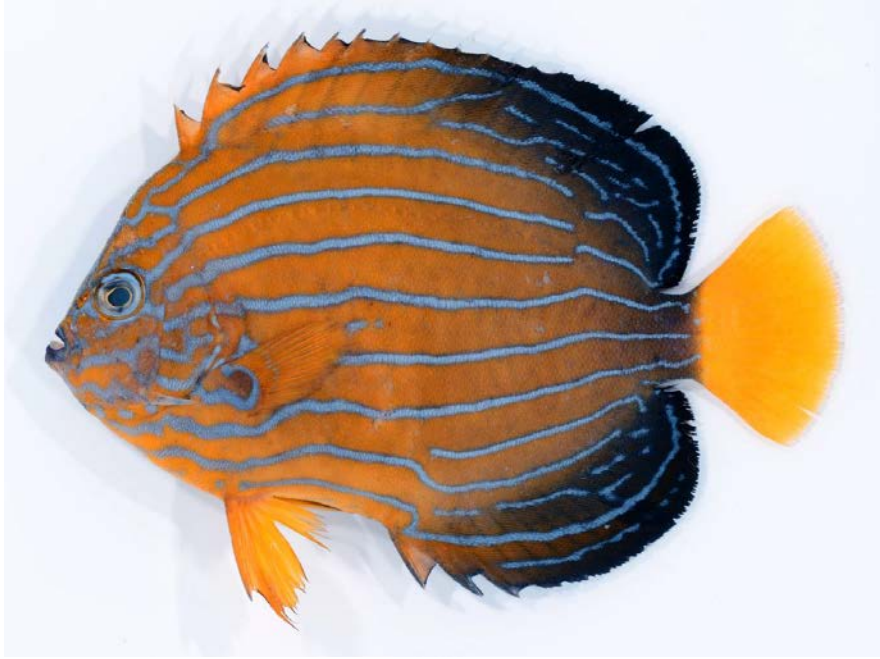


Fig. 1. *Chaetodontoplus septentrionalis* (ZRC 54644).



Fig. 2. *Heniochus acuminatus* (ZRC 54645).

Photographs by Tan Heok Hui