

## Slingjaw wrasse in the Singapore Strait

**Subject:** Slingjaw wrasse, *Epibulus insidiator* (Teleostei: Labridae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributor.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait, off Pulau Satumu; 9 April 2015; around 1900 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine. Fringing coral reef at about 6 m depth.

**Observers:** Contributor, with Karenne Tun.

**Observation:** A single example of about 20 cm total length was observed and depicted in the accompanying photograph. It seemed to be patrolling the reef, swimming in one direction, and then back again.

**Remarks:** The slingjaw wrasse occurs throughout the tropical Indo-west Pacific from the Red Sea and East Africa, through the East Indies, to the Hawaiian, Line and Tuamotu islands (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 666). Apart from an old record cited by de Beaufort in 1940 (p. 74), there appears to be no other record of this fish from Singapore waters. The featured individual has a colour pattern that is indicative of an adult female (Kuiter, 2002: 52-53).

### References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume II*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. p. 425-856.
- de Beaufort, L. F., 1940. *The Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago. VIII. Percomorphi (continued). Cirrhitoidea, Labriiformes, Pomacentriformes*. E. J. Brill, Leiden. xv + 508 pp.
- Kuiter, R.H., 2002. *Fairy and Rainbow Wrasces and their relatives. A Comprehensive Guide to selected Labroids*. TMC Publishing, Chorleywood, UK. 208 pp.



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