

## **New Singapore record of Wassink's cardinalfish**

**Subject:** Wassink's cardinalfish, *Ostorhinchus wassinki* (Teleostei: Apogonidae).

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

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait off Pulau Satumu; 26 April 2016; at around 1920 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine. Fringing coral reef with silty substrate, at about 5 m depth.

**Observer:** Jeffrey K. Y. Low.

**Observation:** One individual of about 5 cm total length was observed hovering near a small overhang in a mixed coral and rubble patch. The accompanying photograph shows a fronto-lateral view of the fish.

**Remarks:** The present observation represents the first record of *Ostorhinchus wassinki* in Singapore waters (see Ng & Lim, 2014). The species is known to reach 6 cm in total length, and is yellowish orange with six silver stripes, the lowermost silver stripe on the head extending to above the base of the anal fin. This example seems to be outside its known geographical range which includes the Philippines and northern Borneo, south to Bali and western Australia (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 405). There is a record of the similar looking yellow-striped cardinalfish (*Ostorhinchus cyanosoma*) from Singapore, but it is regarded as unconfirmed by Ng & Lim (2014: 1062). *Ostorhinchus cyanosoma* can be differentiated from *Ostorhinchus wassinki* by its much broader silver stripes (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 391).

### **References:**

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume I*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. xiii + 424 pp.
- Ng H. H. & K. K. P. Lim, 2014. A preliminary checklist of the cardinalfishes (Actinopterygii: Gobiiformes: Apogonidae) of Singapore. *Check List*. 10 (5): 1061-1070.



Photograph by Jeffrey K. Y. Low

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