

A Singapore record of the yellowtail sergeant, *Abudefduf notatus*

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Subject: Yellowtail sergeant, *Abudefduf notatus* (Teleostei: Pomacentridae).

Subject identified by: Daisuke Taira.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Kusu Island; 28 September 2018; at around 1500 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Seawall and adjacent reef flat, at around one metre depth.

Observer: Daisuke Taira.

Observation: One example of about 10 cm was seen among a small school of Bengal sergeants (*Abudefduf bengalensis*) (Fig. 1) near the riprap seawall during high tide. The fish was swimming near the surface (Fig. 2) and occasionally went into the crevices among the granite rocks.

Remarks: Low & Chou (1994: 95) appears to be among the first to record *Abudefduf notatus* in Singapore. However it appears as a name in a list of fishes found on the coral reefs around the country's southern islands, unsubstantiated by photographs or specimens. The featured subject confirms the presence of *Abudefduf notatus* in Singapore waters. This species is readily distinguished from its congeners by five narrow white bars over its greyish-brown body and distinct yellow caudal fin. It tends to inhabit rocky shores exposed to wave action, and is distributed from East Africa westwards through Indonesia to New Guinea and north to southern Japan (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 563).



Fig. 1 *Abudefduf notatus* (dark individual) swimming among Bengal sergeants.



Fig. 2. The same fish in the open along riprap seawall.

Photographs by Daisuke Taira

References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume II*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp. 425-856.
- Low, J. K. Y. & L. M. Chou, 1994. Coral reef fish communities in a sediment stressed environment. *Proceedings Fourth LIPI-JSPS Joint Seminar on Marine Science, Jakarta, 15-18 November 1994*. pp. 91-99.

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