

Biodiversity Record: Occurrence of the Korean seerfish, *Scomberomorus koreanus*, in Singapore

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Subject: Korean seerfish, *Scomberomorus koreanus* (Teleostei: Scombriformes: Scombridae).

Subject identified by: Aidan Raphael Keh.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, Bedok Jetty; 22 May 2026; 1549 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coastal sea over silty bottom with sparse coral rubble, at around 5 m depth.

Observer: Aidan Raphael Keh.



Fig 1: Lateral view of freshly landed *Scomberomorus koreanus* in life. (Photograph by: Aidan Raphael Keh).

Observation: A juvenile example of 26 cm fork length (measured from tip of snout to the end of the middle caudal fin rays) (Fig. 1) was caught on hook and line, with whiteleg shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) as bait. The specimen was donated to the Zoological Reference Collection, of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, at the National University of Singapore, and assigned the accession number ZRC 70042.

Remarks: This record confirms the occurrence of *Scomberomorus koreanus* in Singapore waters. The presence of this species in Singapore was mentioned by Collette & Nauen (1983), Collette (2001), and Collette & Graves (2019). These could have been based on specimens purchased at markets, and probably obtained outside the territorial waters of Singapore. It is also possible that the species was previously treated as conspecific with the sympatric Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) (see Fig. 2) with which it resembles in having a pattern of dark spots on the sides, but distinguishable mainly by its deeper body (body depth of fork length 24.4–26.7% versus 22.8–25.2% in *Scomberomorus guttatus*) and slightly shorter head (head length of fork length 19.7–20.4% versus 20.2–21.5% in *Scomberomorus guttatus*) (Collette & Nauen, 1983; compare Fig. 1 and Fig. 2).



Fig 2: Lateral view of live *Scomberomorus guttatus* of 35.8 cm fork length, freshly landed at Bedok Jetty on 6 April 2026. Note the distinctly more slender body compared with *Scomberomorus koreanus*. (Photograph by: Aidan Raphael Keh).

Literature cited:

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- Collette BB & Nauen CE (1983) FAO species catalogue. Vol. 2. Scombrids of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of tunas, mackerels, bonitos and related species known to date. FAO Fisheries Synopsis. No. 125, Vol. 2. FAO, Rome, vii + 137 pp.