

HOLOCENTRIDAE

soldierfishes, squirrelfishes

Holocentrus adscensionis

Osbeck, 1765

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Nocturnal fish. Inhabits coral and rocky substrate to depth of 90 m. During the day hides in caves and crevices. Feeds at night, mainly on crustaceans. Able to produce sounds, usually during the spawning season in the spring.



Photo: Jeffrey T. Williams

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: a single record from Malta (Vella *et al.*, 2016). The taxonomical identification was supported by both morphological and molecular analyses.

Original distribution: both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, in the west from North Carolina to the Caribbean Sea, and in the east from St. Helena and Ascension Islands to Angola and Canary Islands.

KEY REFERENCE

- Vella A., Vella N. and Darmanin S.A. 2016. The first record of the longjaw squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis* (Osbeck, 1765) (Holocentridae: Holocentridae), in the Mediterranean Sea, *Natural and Engineering Sciences*, 1(3), 78-85.

CYCLOPTERIDAE

lumpsuckers

Cyclopterus lumpus

Linnaeus, 1758



Photo: Jakov Dulčić

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Swims near the substrate usually at depths of 50-150 m but descends to 400 m. Feeds on large variety of invertebrates and to a lesser extent on small fish. Spawning season in the Atlantic from February to May. Demersal spawning occurs in shallow water. The male guards the eggs for 6-7 weeks until hatching. Larvae planktonic.

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: a single individual was recorded in 2004 from Molunat Bay, Croatia (Adriatic Sea) (Dulčić and Golani, 2006) and from Cyprus in 2017 (Katsanevakis *et al.*, 2020).

Original distribution: North Atlantic from England (rarely in Spain and Portugal) to Greenland and Spitsbergen (Norway) and from New Foundland to New Jersey. Also in the Arctic Ocean (near Nova Zemlya islands).

KEY REFERENCES

- Dulčić J. and Golani D. 2006. First record of *Cyclopterus lumpus* L., 1758 (Osteichthyes: Cyclopteridae) in the Mediterranean Sea. *J. Fish Biol.*, 69: 300-303.
- Katsanevakis S., Poursanidis D., Hoffman R. *et al.* 2020. Unpublished Mediterranean records of marine alien and cryptogenic species. *BiolInvasions Records*, 9 (2): 165-182.