

BLENNIIDAE

blennies

Ophioblennius atlanticus

Valenciennes, 1836



Photo: R. Patzner

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Site-attached benthic species in shallow rocky habitat. Feeds on detritus and algae. Demersal spawner. Male choose a nest among the crevices. One or more females lay their eggs in the nest which is guarded by the male until hatching.

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: two specimens were recorded in the Mediterranean, one from a photograph from Malta (Falzon, 2015) and the other from the island of Lampedusa (Azzurro *et al.*, 2018).

Original distribution: Atlantic coast of West Africa from Senegal to Angola.

KEY REFERENCES

- Azzurro E., Andaloro F., Zonnaki K. and Giardina F. 2018. First record of *Ophioblennius atlanticus* (Valenciennes, 1836) in Italian waters, with consideration on effective NIS monitoring in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas. *BioInvasions Records*, 7(4): 437-440.
- Falzon M.A. 2015. First record of the redlip blenny *Ophioblennius atlanticus* (Osteichthyes: Blenniidae) in the Mediterranean. *Marine Biodiversity Records*, 8: e80.

BLENNIIDAE

blennies

Parablennius thysanius

Jordan and Seale, 1907



Photo: B. Özgür-Özbek

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Inhabits shallow rocky substrate. Its biology and ecology are unknown.

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: only a single individual collected in Antalya, Turkey in 2013 (Özgür Özbek *et al.*, 2014)

Original distribution: wide Indo-Pacific distribution, Oman to Philippines, but no record from the Red Sea.

KEY REFERENCE

- Özgür Özbek B., Özkaya M., Öztürk B. and Golani D. 2014. First record of the blenny *Parablennius thysanius* (Jordan & Seale, 1907) in the Mediterranean. *Black Sea/Mediterranean Environment*, 20(1): 53-59.