

BLENNIIDAE

blennies

Ophioblennius atlanticus

Valenciennes, 1836

Photo: R. Patzne

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.