

PINGUIPEDIDAE

sandperch

**Pinguipes
brasilianus**Cuvier and Valenciennes,
1829

Photo: Marco Relini

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Inhabits shallow coastal waters, on different kinds of substrata, but especially sandy substrate. Carnivorous species feeding primarily on molluscs, crustaceans and other benthic invertebrates.

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: only two records: Messina and Gulf of Genoa (Orsi Relini 2002). The record of Messina was a single photo published by V. Biagi (1990) and identified as *Pinguipes brasilianus* by Orsi Relini (2002).

Original distribution: western Atlantic: Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil.

KEY REFERENCE

- Orsi Relini L. 2002. Occurrence of the South American fish *Pinguipes brasilianus*; Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1829 (Pinguipedidae) in the Mediterranean. *Cybium*, 26(2): 147-2149.

BLENNIIDAE

blennies

**Omobranchus
punctatus**

Valenciennes, 1839



Photo: Daniel Golani

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Site-attached species on rocky and artificial substrate in shallow waters. Feeds on benthic invertebrates. Demersal spawner.

DISTRIBUTION

Mediterranean record: specimens have been collected from Ashdod Port, Israel (Golani, 2004) and Turkey (Bilecenoglu *et al.*, 2014).

Original distribution: Originally Indo-Pacific from Australia to the Persian Gulf. Presumably transferred by ship to Trinidad and other West Indies islands; in the same manner, it reached South Africa and the Suez Canal.

KEY REFERENCES

- Bilecenoglu M., Kaya M., Cihangir B. and Çiçek 2014. An update checklist of the marine fishes of Turkey. *Turkish Journal of Zoology*, 38: 901-929.
- Golani D. 2004. First record of the muzzled blenny (Osteichthyes: Blenniidae: *Omobranchus punctatus*) from the Mediterranean, with remarks on ship-mediated fish introduction. *Mar. Biol. Assoc. of the UK*, 84: 851-852.