



Carangids of Indian Seas



An Illustrated Pocket Guide for Field Identification



ICAR - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
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Prepared by

**ABDUSSAMAD. E.M., PRATHIBHA ROHIT, T.B. RETHEESH, O.M.M.J. HABEEB MOHAMED,
K. JAYABALAN AND D. PRAKASAN**

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Introduction

Carangidae is one of the largest family under the order Perciformes and are represented by 146 species under 30 Genera globally : Most are highly relished food fishes and many have potential for marine and brackish water farming.

From Indian waters, 60 species under 20 genera were reported.

Carangids are highly diverse group of fishes characterised by varying body shape and size.

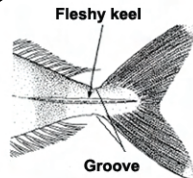
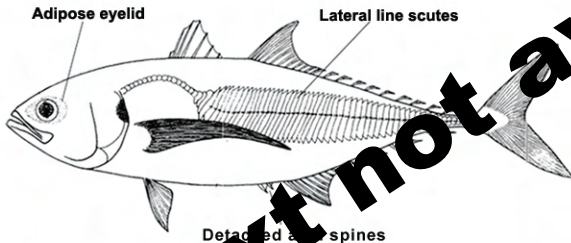
Members exhibit variation in morphologic & meristic characteristic and colour pattern and even sexual dimorphism, which often leads to mis-identification.

This manual was prepared using striking macro-taxonomic characters for field identification of 20 genera and 57 species.

Wherever applicable, morphometric and colour changes with growth and also sexual dimorphism are illustrated with pictures.

General Characters

Carangids possess either one or combination of characters like detached anal spines, lateral line scutes, fleshy caudal keel, dorsal and ventral groove on caudal peduncle



Source: FAO

Three broad categories based on the morphology of first dorsal fin

Category I : First dorsal fin (ID) absent.

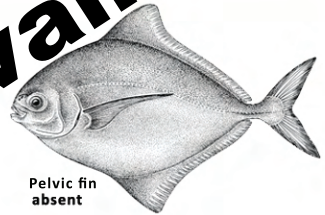
Category II : First dorsal fin (ID) modified in to short spines.

Category III : First dorsal fin (ID) entire and spinous.

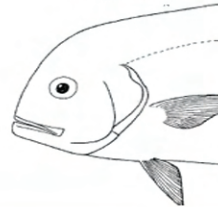
Category I : First dorsal fin absent

Parastromateus

Pelvic fin absent (in young ones, if present, positioned anterior to pectoral base)



First dorsal fin absent



Alectis

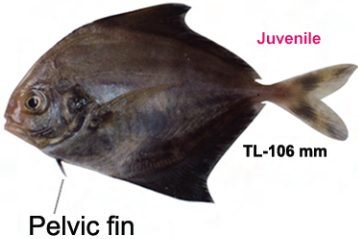
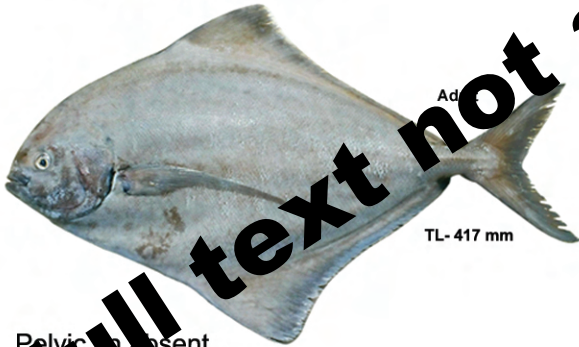
Pelvic fin present, positioned below pectoral.

Parastromateus niger (Bloch,1795) B. ... muret

Body deep, ovate and compressed

Body uniform silvery grey or bluish brown

Body dark brown with 5 to 6 broad dark bands



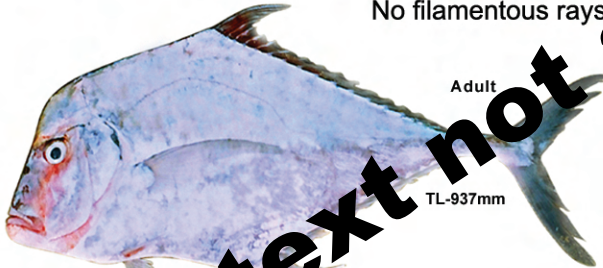
Common fishery length : 30 cm TL

Full text not available

Alectis indicus (Ruppell, 1830)

Indian Threadfin

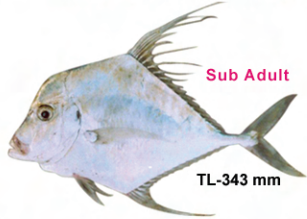
Profile of head and nape angular



No filamentous rays



Filamentous rays long



Filamentous rays shortend

Common fishery length : 100 cm TL

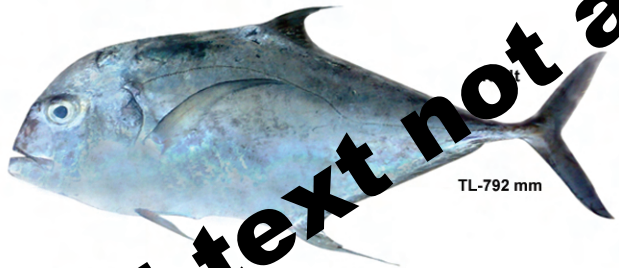
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Upper jaw ending below in front of anterior margin of the eye

Alectis ciliaris (Bloch,1787)

African ...

Profiles of head and nape broadly rounded



TL-792 mm

Upper jaw extends beyond middle of the eye



Juvenile

TL-125 mm

Long filamentous rays



Sub Adult

TL-445 mm

Filamentous rays shortend

Common fishery length : 100 cm TL

Full text not available

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