

First report of the black saddled coral grouper, *Plectropomus laevis* (Lacepede, 1801) from Indian waters

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A single specimen of *Plectropomus laevis* belonging to order: Perciformes, Family: Serranidae was found among the gillnet catch at Cochin Fisheries Harbour on 17th March, 2012. The specimen measured 70 cm in total length and had an approximate weight of 3-4 kg. The fish is easily identifiable with 7 dorsal spines and prominent five dark brown/black irregular blotches on dorsal side. Hitherto there is no published report of this species from Indian waters.



Plectropomus laevis landed at Cochin Fisheries Harbour