

Reef Fishes of Rodrigues



Emperor Lehrinus nebulosus - Capitaine (CN)

- Attains 60cm
- One of the largest and most common emperors
- Occurs on coral and rocky reefs
- Feeds on sand-dwelling invertebrates



Chaetodon interruptus - Pavillon (CN)

- Size 20 cm
- Omnivorous
- Feeds on coral polyps, crustaceans, worms and algae
- Inhabits coral and rocky reefs



Acanthurus cristatus - Chirurgien (CN)

- Occurs in shallow tropical waters
- The name comes from a sharp scapel-like structure on each side of the tail base
- Feeds mainly on algae, detritus or zooplankton



Variola louti - Croissant queue jaune (CN)

- Attains 80cm
- Lives on coral rich areas of lagoon and seaward reefs, 1m - 150m
- Feeds primarily on fishes and occasionally on crustaceans



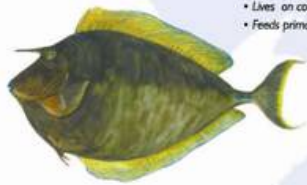
Mugil cephalus - Muller (CN)

- Inhabits inshore lagoons, sandy shores
- Forms schools especially before spawning season
- Feeds mainly on detritus



Myripristis muriei - Lion gros yeux (CN)

- Attains 30 cm
- Eats plankton, fish, worms, cephalopods
- Inhabits caves and under ledges



Naso unicornis - Corne (CN)

- Inhabits lagoons and reef slopes
- Swims in schools, feeds on zooplankton above coral reefs, algae and detritus



Labroides dimidiatus - Labre nettoyeur (CN)

- Attains 10 cm
- Feeds on parasites of other fish
- Inhabits coral and reef slopes and cleans other fishes



Dasyllus arcuatus-Brettere (CN)

- Can reach 8 cm.
- Often seen in branching coral
- Feeds on zooplankton, benthic invertebrates and algae



Plectrus lineatus - Masouran (CN)

- Carnivorous
- Inhabits shallow coral or rocky reefs, sandy bottoms
- Usually makes small schools
- First dorsal and pectoral spines are poisonous



Scaurus sp. - Coteau (CN)

- Feeds on algae and eats coral polyps
- Secretes a protective cocoon of mucus around itself while asleep
- Sex change is common
- Attains 70 cm



Fandus cornutus - Pavillon (CN)

- Attains 20 cm
- Inhabits coral, rocky areas in lagoon
- Popular aquarium fish
- Omnivorous, feeding on benthic invertebrates (sponges, brittlestars, crustaceans, worms, bivalves, algae and detritus)



Pterois sp. - Laffe volante (CN)

- Inhabits unexposed places on rubble, sand and coral areas around lagoons
- Spines are venomous. The stings from these spines are intensely painful
- Feeds primarily on crustaceans



Grammistes sexlineatus - Savon (CN)

- Size range 4 - 25 cm
- Protects eggs in the mouth
- Nocturnal, feeds on invertebrates and zooplankton



Balistoides conspicillum - Bourso (CN)

- Generally near shore in shallow water coral reefs, where they often seek shelter in crevices or holes
- Makes a nest and defends it aggressively
- Feeds on sea urchins, crustaceans, mollusks and fish



Amphiprion chryrogaster - Clown (CN)

- Lives in poisonous sea anemone
- Feeds on filamentous algae and zooplankton
- Lives in partnership with the anemone as the latter feed on the food dropped by the anemone fish
- Acts as a 'bait' to attract other fish into the anemone



Siganus sutor - Cordonnier (CN)

- Attains 40 cm
- Has an oval-shaped body, small mouth and venomous fin spines
- Occurs in small numbers on shallow coral and rocky reefs
- Feeds mainly on seaweed and seagrasses



Chaetodon trifasciatus - Pavillon

- Attains 15 cm
- Inhabits coral rich areas of shallow lagoon and seaward reef to 20m
- Feeds exclusively on coral polyps

Mobula japonica - La raie (CN)

- Horn like in front of mouth, can attain 670cm, and weight 1,820kg
- Swims in mid water or often in or near channels
- Harmless, feeds on plankton



Pseudanthias Evansi - Maquereau fond (CN)

- Attains 10cm
- Common species found on coral reefs
- Feeds on zooplankton
- If the male is taken by a predator, a dominant female changes sex and colour patterns to replace the missing male.



Lutjanus kasmira - Madras (CN)

- Inhabits lagoons and reef slopes
- Juveniles inhabit seagrass beds around coral reefs
- Feeds mainly at night on crustaceans and small fish



Synodus dermatogenys - Tacar (CN)

- Attains 22 cm
- Very small fish with a large mouth of sharp teeth
- Voracious predators of small fish and crustaceans
- Occurs on coral reefs and found singly or in pairs