



Hamlets

Fishinar 3/3/2015, Carlos & Allison Estape - Instructors

Questions? Feel free to contact me at Allison.carlos@me.com

All photos by Carlos & Allison Estape

	<p>Juvenile Hamlet – Pale body Prominent black & white markings on tail base are typical of juvenile hamlet With maturity acquire adult color & markings</p>
	<p>Butter Hamlet– Up to 5" RANGE: S. Carolina thru the Caribbean Head, body & fins whitish to pale yellow Large black saddle blotch on upper tail base Memory Clue: Black tail blotch is a pat of butter Often have black spot outlined in blue on snout Blue line around eye that extends below as a thin blue bar</p>
	<p>Florida Barred Hamlet – Up to 6" RANGE: SE FL to the NE Gulf of Mexico 6 dark brown to red-brown/yellow-brown bars on head & body 1st body bar is wide, deep & intense 2 distinct spots (colon :) on base of tail fin – 1 above the other Memory Clue: My two favorite spots to go bar-hopping in Florida</p>
	<p>Barred Hamlet – Up to 6" RANGE: Gulf of Mexico to the Caribbean Broad bar on mid-body – intensity & completion of head/body bars varies Lacks 2 dots at tail base Memory Clue: Bars on side of body</p>
	<p>Black Hamlet – Up 6" RANGE: FL Keys, Bahamas through the Caribbean Head & body – black, grey or dark brown All fins have same color as body except the pectorals Pectorals are black in black bodied fish & clear with grey bodies Ventral fins unusually long</p>

	<p>Bluelip Hamlet – Up to 4 ½" RANGE: FL Keys to Caribbean (Species description has not been published) Reddish brown above; paler below – dorsal & tail fins brown Mouth, throat & belly pale mauve to <i>bluish</i> Memory Clue: Lips can be blue Pelvics & front of anal fins whitish mauve to blueish white Black spot at pectoral fin base</p>
	<p>Blue Hamlet – Up to 4 ½" RANGE: Northern Greater Caribbean Tail fin clear with black borders Memory Clue: Bright iridescent blue color</p> <p>(Maya Hamlet looks exactly the same EXCEPT no Black Borders on tail fin)</p>
	<p>Indigo Hamlet – Up to 6 ½" RANGE: Bahamas through the Caribbean Blue & white bars on head & body Memory Clue: Deep blue like Indigo</p>
	<p>Shy Hamlet – Up to 5" RANGE: Bahamas through the Caribbean, rare FL Keys Dark-brown/black body Head & fins are bright yellow Blue ringed black blotch before eye Memory Clue: Hides in the dark shadow, because it's so shy</p>
	<p>Bicolored Hamlet – Up to 5" RANGE: Bahamas to Panama (RARE) Upper head, back & spiny dorsal dark grey-brown; rest of fins & body yellow Large ocellated black spot on snout Large black saddle on tail base Memory Clue: Blue Blotch on the Bicolor</p> <p>VERY SIMILAR to the Yellowbelly which does not have a strong tail-base blotch</p>
	<p>Yellowbelly Hamlet - Up to 5" RANGE: Bahamas to Caribbean Yellow underside extends to tail with dark brown to slate blue upper body Dorsal fin yellowish brown lightens towards rear; other fins yellow May have: Irregular blue spots & markings on head Diffuse dark saddle spot on upper tail base Dark stripes along the top & bottom edges of the tail fin</p>
	<p>Yellowtail Hamlet – Up to 5" RANGE: Bahamas through Caribbean, rare FL Keys Yellow or clear tail fin with a dark body Pectoral fins vary from black to yellow</p>

Not included in this fishinar: Tan Hamlet, Masked Hamlet, Golden Hamlet, Maya Hamlet, Jarocho Hamlet, Veracruz White Hamlet, Spotted Hamlet

RESOURCES:

REEF FISH IDENTIFICATION, 4TH Edition; Paul Humann & Ned DeLoach

Shorefishes of the Greater Caribbean online; Smithsonian Research Institute

<http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/caribbean/en/gallery/gspecie/3511>