



The Grunt Club: New Members!

Top 13 Grunts of the Caribbean




Fishinar 2/12/2016, Jonathan Lavan – Instructor

Questions? Feel free to contact me at jonathan@REEF.org

Grunts 101:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classic Fish<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Basic "fish-like" shape○ Relatively large mouth○ Rounded back shape, flat bottom○ Notched tail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common name is derived from the unusual "grunt" sound produced when teeth grinding deep within their throats is amplified by the air bladder.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Related to Snapper○ No canine teeth○ Schoolers
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Basic Grunts:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bluestriped Grunt - 18"<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Blue and yellow stripes on head and body○ Dark tail with translucent yellow margins
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caesar Grunt – 15"<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Silver and yellow stripes○ Dark tail with translucent margins (not yellow)○ Often very shiny compared to the Bluestriped○ <i>Render all your gold to Caesar</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White Grunt– 18"<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Blue and yellow stripes on head, none on body○ White tail with no border

Smaller Grunts:



- **Smallmouth Grunt- 9"**
 - 5 or 6 yellow stripes go all the way from top of body to bottom
 - Fins yellow



- **Striped Grunt- 9"**
 - Normally have five yellow to brown stripes on upper body (none on belly)
 - Fins white or opaque



- **French Grunt- 10"**
 - Yellow stripes below lateral line set on a diagonal. All fins yellow. "designer stripes" or "cigarette smoke"

Broadstriped Grunts



- **Tomate – 8"**
 - Prominent yellow to bronze stripe runs from snout through eye to base of tail; another thinner stripe on back.
 - Fins pale.
 - Black spot on base of tail (not always present)



- **Cottonwick- 10"**
 - Bold black stripe on dorsal fin continues to form a "v" on tail (not present in pale phase)
 - *Think CottonVick*
 - Black stripe begins on snout, runs across eye and continues to tail; color may change to yellow behind eye



- **Spanish Grunt- 10"**
 - Bold black stripes on upper body
 - Yellow green dorsal hump
 - Yellow saddle or spot on base of tail
 - *Beefy body and lips like a Spanish Conquistador*

Weird Grunts



- **Porkfish– 12"**
 - Bright yellow gold
 - Two bold diagonal bands (*bacon*) on head
 - High back profile



- **Sailors Choice – 17"**
 - Silvery gray with rows of darker spots on each scale, makes the scales stand out (*like miniature sails*)
 - Dark tail and dorsal fin, prominent lateral line
 - Larger eye, golden edges

New Members



- **Boga – 9"**
 - Two dorsal fins close set
 - Midbody stripe curves slightly above side of fish (*not straight*)



- **Bonnetmouth – 9"**
 - Two dorsal fins set far apart
 - Midbody stripe straight down side of fish