

Common Angelfish of the Tropical Pacific

REEF Fishinar March 7, 2017, Amy Lee - Instructor Questions? Feel free to contact Amy@REEF.org



Bicolor Angelfish (Centropyge bicolor)

- Bright yellow head and front of body
- Blue color on posterior (back) of body
- Completely yellow tail
- Blue saddle-like patch above eyes

Photo by: Richard Ling

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 6 inches



Two-spined Angelfish (Centropyge bispinosa)

- Purple to deep blue head and fins
- Orange-red midbody has numerous dark blue or purple bars
- Variation in body color orange area may appear more white

Photo by: Florent Charpin Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 4 inches



Flame Angelfish (Centropyge Ioricula)

- Red-orange body color
- 5 broad, black body bars
- Blue streaks on rear edges of dorsal and anal fins

Photo by: Andreas Martx

Regions: CIP, HAW, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 4 inches



Pearl-scaled Angelfish (Centropyge vroliki)

- Pale tan or light gray body color, becomes dark towards back of body
- Iris, pectoral fin base, and margin of gill cover are orange
- Blue margin on dorsal, anal and tail fins
- Pearly-looking white section of body behind gill cover

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Regions: CIP, SOP Size: Up to 4.75 inches



Lemonpeel Angelfish (Centropyge flavissima)

- Bright, "lemon yellow" body color
- Blue accents: cheek spine, gill cover, outline around eye
- Thin blue margin on dorsal, anal and tail fins

Photo by: Paddy Ryan Regions: CIP, SOP Size: Up to 6 inches

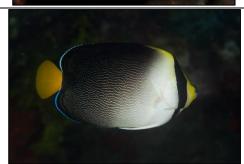


Keyhole Angelfish (Centropyge tibicen)

- Dark cobalt blue body
- White oval marking on side of body keyhole
- Thick, bright yellow margin on anal fin

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Regions: CIP, SOP Size: Up to 7 inches



Vermiculated Angelfish (Chaetodontoplus mesoleucus)

- White behind head, becomes dark to black towards back of body
- Yellow tail
- Black eye bar
- Looks more like a Butterflyfish than an Angelfish

Similar species: Graytail Angelfish

Photo by: Mark Rosenstein Regions: CIP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 7 inches



Three-spot Angelfish (Apolemichthys trimaculatus)

- Yellow body color, may also appear dark green or brownish-yellow
- Gray spot on each side behind head and black spot on forehead
- Blue lips
- Broad black margin on anal fin

Photo by: Paddy Ryan

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean, Red Sea

Size: Up to 10 inches



Regal Angelfish (Pygoplites diacanthus)

- Alternating yellow and bluish-white bars
- Dark area around eyes
- Blue and orange bands on anal fin
- Completely yellow tail

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean, Red Sea

Size: Up to 10 inches



Blue-girdled Angelfish (Pomacanthus navarchus)

- Yellow-orange midbody, dorsal and tail fins
- Long, filamentous blue pelvic fins
- Deep blue body "girdle" starts on forehead and extends across belly

Photo by: Ken Bondy Regions: CIP, SOP Size: Up to 10 inches



Yellow-mask Angelfish (Pomacanthus xanthometopon)

- Golden yellow pectoral area
- Blue face with golden speckles on cheecks
- Yellow eye mask
- Large spot on rear part of dorsal fin

Photo by: Paddy Ryan

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 15 inches



Emperor Angelfish (Pomacanthus imperator)

- Alternating narrow yellow and broad blue body bands
- Greenish-yellow forehead area
- Dark eye mask

Photo by: Paddy Ryan

Regions: CIP, HAW, SOP, Indian Ocean, Red Sea

Size: Up to 15 inches



Semicircle Angelfish (Pomacanthus semicirculatus)

- Dusky brownish-green body has blue spotting throughout
- Can also have brown variation with blue spotting
- Blue markings on cheek and gill cover, blue cheek spine
- Blue margins on all fins except pectorals

Photo by: Elias Levy

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 14 inches



Six-banded Angelfish (Pomacanthus sexstriatus)

- Tan body with blue scale centers
- 6 dark vertical bars
- Dark head with white bar behind eye
- Bright blue spots on rear dorsal, anal and tail fins

Photo by: Dennis Polack

Regions: CIP, SOP, Indian Ocean

Size: Up to 18 inches