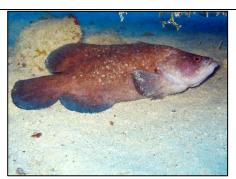


Overlooked Fish of Turks and Caicos

REEF Fishinar April 10, 2017, Amy Lee - Instructor Questions? Feel free to contact Amy@REEF.org



Greater Soapfish (Rypticus saponaceus)

Family: Sea Bass (Subfamily: Soapfish)

- Drab, gray to blue-ish tinged body
- Pointed head with upturned mouth
- Small, irregular, pale flecks on head, fins, and body
- Solitary, rest against the bottom during the day

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Size: Up to 13 in.



White Margate (Haemulon album)

Family: Grunt

- Pearly to gray body with no distinct markings
- High back profile
- Scales on upper body have dark margins

Photo by: ReefNet Size: Up to 2.5 ft.



Smooth Trunkfish (Lactophrys triqueter)

Family: Boxfish

- Dark body with white spots
- Pale, honeycomb markings on central midbody
- Dark area around mouth and base of pectoral fin

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Size: Up to 1 ft.



Spotted Trunkfish (Lactophrys bicaudalis)

Family: Boxfish

- White to tan body with dark spots (opposite of Smooth Trunkfish)
- White area around mouth
- Two sharp spines in front of anal fin

Photo by: ReefNet Size: Up to 16 in.



Orangespotted Filefish (Cantherhines pullus) **Family: Filefish**

- Body color can vary greatly may be brown, gray, or mottled
- Pale orange stripes and spots on body
- White marking at base of tail

Photo by: ReefNet Size: Up to 8.5 in.



Sunshinefish (Chromis insolata)

Family: Damselfish/Chromis

- Juvenile has brilliant yellow upper body and bright blue to purple lower body
- Adult phase is olive to brown with yellow on outer portion of tail and second dorsal fin
- Usually seen below 60 ft. in small groups near the bottom Photos by: ReefNet

Size: Up to 4 in.



Arrow Blenny (Lucayablennius zingaro)

Family: Blenny (Tube Blenny)

- Elongated body with reddish-brown or gold tinge
- Long, pointed snout
- Several black dots on dorsal and anal fins
- Keeps tail "cocked" so it can shoot forward to grab prey Photo by: Florent Charpin

Size: Up to 2 in.



Goldspot Goby (Gnatholepis cauerensis)

Family: Goby

- Whitish to tan with dusky square-like blotches on body
- Dark bar runs from top of head across eyes and down cheeks
- Gold spot rimmed in black above pectoral fin
- Perch on sand or rubble, never far from protective cover

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Size: Up to 3 in.



Rosy Razorfish (*Xyrichtys martinicensis*)

Family: Razorfish/Wrasse

- Many phases and color patterns vary with age and gender
- Straight margins on tail fin
- Female has bright white belly patch starting behind pectoral fin
- Male has yellowish head and small dark spot where pectoral fin meets body

Photos by: ReefNet Size: Up to 6 in.



Puddingwife (Halichoeres radiaus)

Family: Wrasse

- Five white bars or along upper back pudding blobs
- Greenish-yellow margin on mail
- Juvenile has navy blue spot on upper tail base ringed in white or light

Photo by: Florent Charpin

Size: Up to 18 in.



Creole Wrasse (Clepticus parrae)

Family: Wrasse

- Forked tail and streamlined body not like other wrasses
- Dark purple to lavender body, with deeper purple snout
- Terminal phase is bicolored front half is purple, rear half is golden yellow, may also have reddish area
- Feed on plankton in water column seen in schools above the reef Photo by: ReefNet

Size: Up to 1 ft.



Blue Runner (Caranx crysos)

Family: Jack

- Silvery body with blue-green color on near dorsal area
- Both upper and lower tips of tail fin lobes are black tennis shoes
- Small black spot on margin of gill cover
- Open ocean swimmers usually seen in water column

Photo by: ReefNet Size: Up to 2.5 ft.



Cero (Scomberomorus regalis)

Family: Mackerel

- Elongate, silvery body with yellow-gold streaks
- Small gold spots on both sides of streaks
- Dark dorsal fin with white at base of second dorsal
- Usually solitary, swims over reefs and along drop-offs Photo by: ReefNet

Size: Up to 4 ft.