



## 2011 WINTER PRINT: PEPPERMINT BASSLET

Dear REEF Contributor:

Thank you for your most generous contribution to REEF. Without your help REEF could not continue to assemble and disseminate vital information about fish population trends and biodiversity needed by the marine life management and environmental communities to help save our marine life heritage. A fine example being the 2011 decision by State and Federal authorities to continue the ban on the taking of Goliath Groupers, based in large part on REEF data. In the past year REEF's work documenting and studying the lionfish invasion of the Western Tropical Atlantic continues to be of significant importance. Additional funding will be critical to REEF's attempts to subdue the damage to the marine life community being caused by this invasion.

This year's print is of a Peppermint Basslet, *Liopropoma rubre*, the most commonly observed of four cryptic basslet species (Candy, Cave and Wrasse) that reside under ledge overhangs and dark reef recesses. It is regrettable that these stunning species only give us quick glimpses of their beauty, but that is part of what makes sightings a special treat.

For you photo buffs, the picture was taken in 2008 during the St. Vincent REEF field survey trip. Picture was taken with a Canon EOS 5D and Sigma 70mm 1:1 lens at f22 and ISO set on 250 in an Ikelite housing.

Best "Fishes"  
Paul Humann

**Thank you for supporting marine conservation!**