

**Timor Snapper, *Lutjanus timorensis* (Quoy et Gaimard), Collected from Japanese Waters**

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The poorly known lutjanid fish, *Lutjanus timorensis* (Quoy et Gaimard) (Timor snapper), is distributed mainly in the western Pacific Ocean from Fiji to the Malay Peninsula, and was also recorded from the Andaman Sea, off Thailand, in a review of *Lutjanus* by Allen and Talbot (1985). Furthermore, several records of the species were given by Kyushin et al. (1977, 1982) and Gloerfelt-Tarp and Kailola (1984).

*Lutjanus timorensis* has not been previously recorded from Japan (Akazaki, 1984; Allen and Talbot, 1985); two specimens were recently captured from Iriomote Island, Okinawa Prefecture and described below. This is the northernmost record of the species and first record from Japanese waters.

Specimens are deposited in the Fisheries Science Course, Department of Animal Science, Miyazaki University (MUFS) and Fisheries Research Laboratory, Mie University (FRLM). Comparative material from the California Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Stanford University (SU, specimens now deposited at CAS) was also examined. Identification was based on Quoy and Gaimard (1824) and Allen and Talbot (1985). Measurements followed Allen and Talbot (1985).

***Lutjanus timorensis*** (Quoy et Gaimard, 1824)  
(New Japanese name: Wakiguro-akafuedai, Fig. 1)

**Materials.** MUFS 9559, 1 specimen, 351.0 mm standard length (SL), Funauki Bay, Iriomote Island, Okinawa, Japan (24°20.15N, 123°44.55E), ca. 50 m, captured by hook and line, May 26, 1993; FRLM 12934, 1 specimen, 242.0 mm SL, same locality as MUFS 9559, May 27, 1993.

**Description.** Dorsal fin rays XI, 14; anal fin rays III, 8; pectoral fin rays 16-17; lateral-line scales 46-

47; gill rakers 6-7+12-13=19 (including 4-5+3-4 rudiments); scales above lateral-line scales 6; scales on cheek 6-7. Body depth 2.24-2.30, head length 2.24-2.51, both in SL. Snout 2.62-2.74, eye 4.69-4.81, interorbital 5.09-5.26, maxilla 2.63-2.64 and preorbital depth 4.49-4.88, all in head length.

Body relatively deep; dorsal profile of head steeply sloped; preorbital depth greater than eye diameter; preopercular notch and knob poorly developed; vomerine tooth patch crescentric, without a median posterior extension; tongue smooth, without teeth. Posterior corner of dorsal and anal fins sharply angled. Caudal fin truncate or slightly emarginate. Scale rows on back rising obliquely above lateral-line.

**Color in life.**—Back and uppersides reddish; lower sides and belly red or pinkish to silvery-white; dorsal and caudal fins reddish, margined strongly with black (dorsal margin only on former, distal margin on latter); anal fin reddish, anterior margin white, distal margin slightly blackened; axil and uppermost part of pectoral fin base black, surrounded by yellow on lower axil; pectoral fin translucent, upper 1/3 strongly yellowish, the remainder colorless; anterior margin of pelvic fin white, pale yellowish-pink along fin rays, webbing between rays translucent, colorless.

Head reddish dorsally and on sides, indistinct yellow patches on opercular region behind jaw angle; interopercle with a distinct silver patch on exposed surface; posterior and posteroventral margin of eye with a cobalt-blue band (only in FRLM 12934), half-pupil width in diameter.

An indistinct pearl-white saddle on the otherwise dark red dorsal surface of the caudal peduncle in smaller specimen (FRLM 12934, 242.0 mm SL), not apparent in larger specimen (MUFS 9559, 351.0 mm SL).

**Comparisons.** *Lutjanus timorensis* is most similar to *Lutjanus malabaricus* Schneider, 1801 and *Lutjanus erythropterus* Bloch, 1790, both in overall appearance and the red body coloration. However, *L. malabaricus* lacks a black pectoral fin axil and *L. erythropterus* has the posterior corner of the dorsal and anal fins rounded and a shorter head (Allen and Talbot, 1985, pers. obs.).

**Remarks.** The two specimens from Iriomote Island corresponded well to the description of *Lutjanus timorensis* in Allen and Talbot (1985). However, several subtle differences were apparent. Allen and Talbot (1985) described the pectoral fins of *L. timor-*

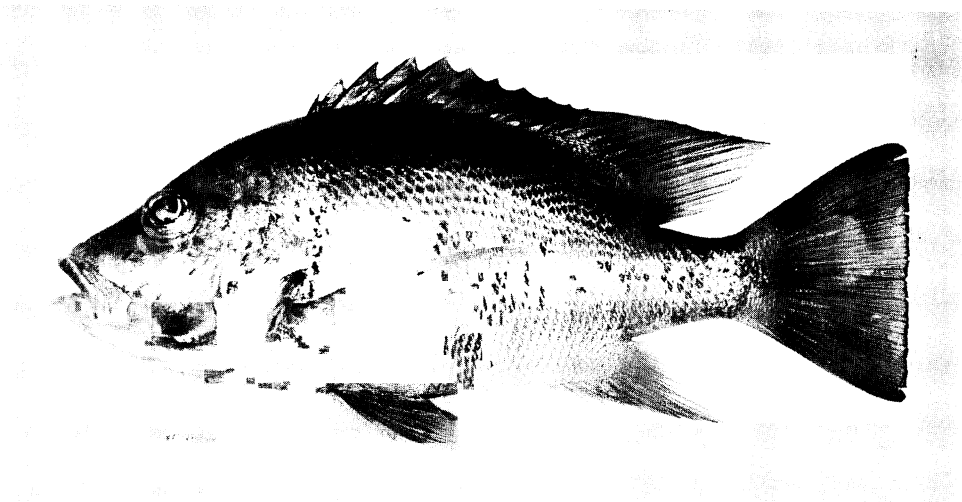


Fig. 1. *Lutjanus timorensis* from Iriomote Island, Japan. MUFS 9559, 351.0 mm in standard length.

*ensis* as “translucent with a suffusion of red” but the pectoral fins of the Iriomote specimens were translucent with a suffusion of yellow on the upper third. Furthermore, a cobalt-blue band was present along the posterior and posteroventral margin of the eye in FRLM 12934 but absent in MUFS 9559. These differences might reflect geographical variation in this species.

The black margins on the dorsal and caudal fins in the Iriomote and Philippine (SU 38805) specimens were wider and darker than the corresponding margins in the comparative material of *L. erythropterus* and *L. malabaricus*. Allen and Talbot (1985) did not mention this difference.

Kyushin et al. (1977: 84; 1982, fig. 32) misidentified *L. timorensis* as *L. malabaricus*, giving “Kurakake-tarumi” = “snapper with saddle spot” as the Japanese name. Previously, Ida (1976) had used the same name, Kurakake-tarumi, for *L. malabaricus*. Akazaki (1984) used the Japanese name, Yokofuedai, for the closely related *L. erythropterus*, but his figure was of *L. malabaricus*. In fact, *L. erythropterus*, despite its supposed distribution in Japan (Allen, 1985), has not been recorded from Japanese waters to date, and clearly the red snapper complex in Japan has been confused, with respect to scientific and Japanese names.

A new Japanese name, “Wakiguro-akafuedai” meaning “red snapper with black pectoral fin axil,” is herein proposed for *L. timorensis*. The name, “Kurakake-tarumi,” is not appropriate because all three

species have a saddle spot on the caudal peduncle, even though it apparently fades in *L. timorensis* subadults of over about 350 mm SL.

#### Comparative Material

*Lutjanus erythropterus*: MUFS 3301, 1 specimen, 383 mm SL, Singapore, Mar. 8–14, 1973; CAS 55017, 1 specimen, 178.0 mm SL, North Bay Blvd., Novotas Rizal, Manila Bay, Philippines, Apr. 10, 1953. *Lutjanus malabaricus*: MUFS 9560–9561, 2 specimens 419.0–421.0 mm SL, ca. 50 m, captured by hook and line, Funauki Bay, Iriomote Island, Okinawa, Japan (24°20.15N, 123°44.55E), May 26–27, 1993. *Lutjanus timorensis*: SU 38805, 1 specimen, 159.0 mm SL, Miagao, Iloilo, Panay, Philippines, Aug. 4, 1940.

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ワキグロアカフエダイ (新称) (*Lutjanus timorensis*) の日本からの記録

岩槻幸雄・木村清志

先島諸島の西表島から2個体のワキグロアカフエダイ (新称) (*Lutjanus timorensis*) が採集された。本種の出現は、日本沿岸水域からは、初めての記録であり、本種の最も北限の記録になる。本種は、胸鰭の脇および基部が黒色を呈し、背鰭、臀鰭及び尾鰭軟条部縁辺が非常に尖ることと縁辺の黒い幅が明瞭に広いことにより、同属の類似する赤いフエダイ類と容易に区別される。

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