



Get to know more about me.....!

Lagocephalus sceleratus, (Gmelin 1789)

 Silver-cheeked toadfish



Size

When I am an adult, I usually measure between 40 and 60 cm. The tallest members of my species can measure until 1.10 m!



Habitat

I generally live between 20 and 50 meters deep. I prefer to swim around sandy bottoms and near rocks or even coral reefs in my native region. Sandy bottoms are important for the juveniles of our species. Adult, we get closer to the Posidonia meadows. My relatively rapid expansion across the Mediterranean Sea shows that I can easily adapt to new habitats (EastMed 2010b; Kalogirou 2011).



Origins

I am a common fish in the tropical waters of the Red Sea, Indian and Pacific Oceans. I am a “Lessepsian” migrant because I reached the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal. I was first observed in 2003, in the eastern basin, since then I have gradually spread to the western basin.



Diet

I am a very aggressive and generalist carnivorous fish. I eat crustaceans, fishes and squids. My jaw and teeth are so strong and sharp they can cut a finger.



WARNING

Like my Japanese cousin, the *fugu*, my flesh is poisonous. It contains a neurotoxin already responsible for several cases of fatal poisoning in the Mediterranean basin.

Source: FAO,2012 /ECOSEAS



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