



**Accession Number: - ZOO106**

**Scientific Name: -*Hyporhamphus xanthopterus***

**Family: Hemiramphidae**

**Common Name: Red-Tipped Halfbeak**

**Physical Characteristics:**

It has an elongated, slender body that is often streamlined for fast swimming. They can vary in size, with most species ranging from 15 to 30 centimetres in length, although some can grow larger. One of the most distinctive features is their elongated lower jaw, which is significantly longer than the upper jaw, giving the appearance of having a "half-beak." The upper jaw is typically shorter and blunter. They possess a single dorsal fin positioned far back on the body, near the tail, and a similarly placed anal fin. Their pectoral fins are short, and the pelvic fins are located mid-body. Halfbeaks have smooth cycloid scales.

**Geographical Distribution:**

They are commonly found in the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans around Southeast Asia, Australia, the eastern coast of Africa, the Caribbean, and parts of Central and South America.

**Economic Importance:**

They are essential for commercial and subsistence fisheries, have potential for aquaculture, are valued in recreational fishing, and are kept as ornamental fish in aquariums. They also play significant ecological roles in their habitats and contribute to the livelihoods of coastal communities.

