



**Accession Number: - ZOO109**

**Scientific Name: -*Drepane punctata***

**Family: Drepaneidae**

**Common Name: Spotted Sicklefish**

**Physical Characteristics:**

It has a deep, laterally compressed body that is almost circular in cross-section. They can reach a maximum length of about 50 centimetres, although most individuals are smaller. They have long, sickle-shaped pectoral fins that extend backwards towards the tail. The dorsal and anal fins are also elongated. The dorsal fin has a series of spines followed by soft rays. The mouth is small and positioned at the end of a slightly protruding snout. Their teeth are small and suited for their omnivorous diet.



**Geographical Distribution:**

Across the Indo-West Pacific, from the eastern coast of Africa, including the Red Sea, to the western Pacific, including areas around India, Southeast Asia, northern Australia, and the Philippines.

**Economic Importance:**

It is crucial in commercial and subsistence fisheries, as well as in local markets, and to a lesser extent in recreational fishing and public aquariums. It plays a significant ecological role in its habitats, and sustainable management practices are essential for its conservation.