



Accession Number: - ZOO110

Scientific Name: *Johnius amblycephalus*

Family: Sciaenidae

Common Name: Bearded jewfish or bearded croaker

Physical Characteristics:

It has an elongated, slightly compressed body with a rounded belly. They typically grow to 30-50 centimetres, though larger specimens can reach 60 centimetres. They have a single, long dorsal fin divided into two parts: the first part is spiny, and the second part is softer. The anal fin is shorter but also has spines. The pectoral fins are large and rounded. The mouth is slightly inferior (below the snout), and they have a small chin barbel used to detect prey in the substrate.

Geographical Distribution:

The Indian Ocean, including the eastern coast of Africa, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the coastal waters of India, Sri Lanka, and Southeast Asia.

Economic Importance:

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

