



Accession Number: - ZOO119

Scientific Name: *Monodactylus argenteus*

Family: Monodactylidae

Common Name: Silver moonyfish

Physical Characteristics:

It has a flattened, diamond-shaped body with both eyes on the upper side, a characteristic of flatfish species. It has a distinctive spiny ridge along the dorsal side, giving it the name "spiny turbot. The upper side varies from light brown to olive-green, often with darker blotches or spots, while the underside is typically white or pale. This species can grow to lengths of 30-40 centimetres.



Geographical Distribution:

It is native to the Indian Ocean and adjacent waters, with a distribution ranging from the eastern coast of Africa to the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the western Indian Ocean.

Economic Importance:

It plays a role in commercial fisheries and contributes to the livelihoods and food security of communities in the Indian Ocean region. While not as economically significant as some other flatfish species, it remains a crucial component of marine ecosystems and fisheries within its range.