



**Accession Number: - ZOO129**

**Scientific Name: -*Antennarius hispidus***

**Family: Antennariidae**

**Common Name: Shaggy frogfish**

**Physical Characteristics:**

Typically grows to 10-15 centimetres (4-6 inches). Highly variable; can be brown, yellow, red, or even pinkish. Often has spots or blotches that aid in camouflage. Round, stocky body with warty projections covering its skin, giving it a rough texture. Large mouth with extendable jaws. Has a modified dorsal fin spine (illicium) with a lure (esca) at the tip, used to attract prey.



**Geographical Distribution:**

Found in tropical and subtropical waters of the Indo-Pacific region, including the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean.

**Economic Importance:**

It's essential to note that, while hispid frogfish have economic significance in the aquarium trade and tourism sectors, their primary value lies in their ecological role in marine ecosystems. Conservation efforts to protect coral reefs and other aquatic habitats benefit species such as the hispid frogfish, thereby contributing to their long-term viability.