

# LINED SURGEONFISH

*Acanthurus lineatus*

Linnaeus, 1758



PIERRE DE CHABANNES

## CLASSIFICATION

**Class:** Actinopteri

**Order:** Acanthuriformes

**Family:** Acanthuridae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

COMMON



## LEAST CONCERN

**Identification:** Maximum length is 38 cm. Unmistakable. Entire body (except bluish-white belly) is bright yellow and features horizontal turquoise to pinkish-violet lines edged with dark blue. Lines are more curvy on face. Tail yellowish with bands.

**Range:** This species occurs in the Indo-Pacific region, from East Africa to Hawaii, north to South Japan, south to Great Barrier Reef and New Caledonia.

**Habitat :** Inhabits surge zones of exposed seaward reefs, down to 15 meters deep.

**Behavior:** This species is very territorial with males patrolling an area and controlling a harem of females. Feeds on algae and small crustaceans. Caudal spine venomous.

**Status in the wild:** The species remains common in protected areas but has declined significantly elsewhere because of over-exploitation for food and aquarium trade.

**In captivity:** This species is very popular and one of the commonest of its genus. It's displayed in about 40 zoos and aquariums in Europe and is equally common elsewhere. Often sold in aquarium fish markets but never bred in captivity so far.