



Marine Science Center-University of Basrah

Mesopotamian Journal of Marine Sciences

Print ISSN: 2073-6428

E- ISSN: 2708-6097

www.mjms.uobasrah.edu.iq/index.php/mms



Northernmost record of the pinjalo snapper, *Pinjalo pinjalo* (Bleeker, 1850) (Perciformes: Lutjanidae) in the northern Indian Ocean: a record from the Iraqi marine waters

ID Abbas J. Al-Faisal ^{1*}, and **ID** Falah M. Mutlak ¹

1- Marine Science Centre, University of Basrah, IRAQ

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: abbas.al-faisal@uobasrah.edu.iq

Article info.

✓ Received: 25 May 2023

✓ Accepted: 4 October 2023

✓ Published: 29 December 2023

Key Words:

Al-Ezz River,
Water pollution,
Heavy metal,
north of Basra

Abstract - One specimens measured 270 mm TL is collected from the deeper waters area inside the marine waters of Iraq in 2021. This record is considered the new northern most record of the lutjanid species *Pinjalo pinjalo*, where Kuwaiti waters record was the old northernmost extension. Possibilities for the presence of this species further north in the Indian Ocean have provided.

تسجيل اسماك البنجالو (*Pinjalo pinjalo* (Bleeker, 1850) في اقصى شمال المحيط الهندي، من المياه البحرية العراقية

¹ و فلاح معروف مطلق¹ عباس جاسم الفيصل
1- مركز علوم البحار، جامعة البصرة، العراق

المستخلص – جمع نموذج واحد من اسماك البنجالو *Pinjalo pinjalo* قياس الطول الكلي له 270 ملم، من المياه البحرية العراقية في شهر ايلول 2021. يعتبر هذا تسجيل جديد للنوع في اقصى شمال المحيط الهندي. وفرت هذه الدراسة الاسباب المحتملة لامتداد انتشار النوع في شمال المحيط الهندي.

كلمات مفتاحية: تسجيل جديد، نطاق النوع، *Pinjalo pinjalo*، الخليج العربي، البصرة.

Introduction

The members of the family Lutjanidae are circumtropical fish species. This family comprises of 17 genera and 110 valid species (Fricke *et al.*, 2021). The genus *Pinjalo* is among the small genera of the Lutjanidae family, with only two species, *P. pinjalo* and *P. lewisi* (Randall *et al.*, 1987).

Pinjalo pinjalo is a marine species living at depth ranging between 15 and 100 m (Allen and Erdmann, 2012). Adults of this species inhabit reefs and rocky bottoms (Sommer *et al.*, 1996). Usually, they form schools in shallow depths of a few meters in open ocean reefs, while they inhabit deeper regions in general (Kuiter and Tonzuka, 2001). Benthic and planktonic invertebrates and to certain extents small fishes form the main food items of *P. pinjalo* (Allen and Erdmann, 2012).