



## FACT SHEET

### Indian Goatfish

*Parupeneus indicus*

**Family:** Mullidae

**Other common names:** Indiese bokvis

#### Description

Recognised by the two long barbels on the chin and two distinctly separate dorsal fins. Body is greyish-white or brownish with yellow-edged scales. Large oval black blotch on the base of the tail and a larger golden blotch on the lateral line above the tip of the pectoral fin.

#### Distribution

Indo-West Pacific found from East Africa to Australia. In southern Africa extends south to Port Alfred.

#### Habitat

Inhabits rocky shores, sandy bays and offshore reefs to depths of 30 m. Often on sandy bottoms near shallow reefs and seagrass beds.

#### Feeding

Feeds on crustaceans, molluscs, polychaete worms and small fish, which are found by using their sensory barbels.

#### Movement

Little known but probably quite resident. Often solitary or in small groups.

**Reproduction** Little known.

**Age and growth** They can reach a maximum size of about 40 cm total length and a weight of about 1 kg. They have not been aged.

**Current status** Not assessed. They have been evaluated as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List (2016).  
South African Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) List: Not assessed.

NOT EVALUATED (NE) DATA DEFICIENT (DD) **LEAST CONCERN (LC)** NEAR THREATENED (NT) VULNERABLE (VU) ENDANGERED (EN) CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW) EXTINCT (EX)

**SASSI** Not Assessed

**Capture** Occasionally caught by shore anglers along the northern KwaZulu-Natal and Mozambique coasts. Elsewhere caught by handlines, traps and trawls.

**Current recreational fishing regulations**  
**Daily bag limit:** 10 per person per day  
**Minimum size limit:** None  
**Closed Season:** None  
**Other regulations:** None  
**Marine protected areas (MPAs):** This species benefits from protection within no-take MPAs throughout its distribution and is common in both the iSimangaliso and Ponta do Ouro MPAs.

**Reference** Information from the ORI Fish App. [www.saambr.org.za](http://www.saambr.org.za)

