

# *Doryrhamphus excisus abbreviatus* (Dawson, 1981)



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Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Chordata  
Class: Actinopterygii  
Order: Syngnathiformes

Family: Syngnathidae  
Genus: *Doryrhamphus*  
Species: *D. Excisus*  
Subsp.: *D. Excisus abbreviatus*

*D. Excisus abbreviatus* is classified by **IUCN Red List**, it is belong to a group of brightly-coloured flagtail pipefish. This species is endemic to the Red Sea from the Gulf of Suez south to Massawa and Jiddah on the east coast, we report for the **first time from Persian Gulf (Kish Island, Iran)**. Most *Doryrhamphinae* pipefishes will breed readily in captivity when given enough shelter and can live for about five to ten years. Males may be brooding at 33 mm Standard Length (Dawson 1981). Male *Doryrhamphus* brood eggs semi-exposed under the trunk, and sometimes have a thin skin covering over the sides of the brood (Kuitert 2000). The pouch of a 41 mm standard length male contained a total of 88 eggs with a maximum diameter of c. 1.0 mm.

**Food:** Pipefishes generally feed on small living crustaceans that drift by or reside in the coral branches or algal mats. Many *Doryrhamphus* species are known to be active cleaners, picking tiny parasitic crustaceans from other fishes, and adults work mostly in pairs. The species feeds on planktonic crustaceans. This species picked parasites off **moray eels**.

**Habitat:** Globally, *D. excisus abbreviatus* is known as a coastal marine species that lives in crevices in rocks and corals and areas beneath ledges. Also known to occur in lagoons and seaward reefs and occasionally hides in sea urchin spines. Found at depths of up to 3-8 m in **Island Kish**, occasionally in pairs. The species feeds on planktonic crustaceans.

