

Blenniella periophthalmus (Valenciennes, 1836)



Kingdom: Animalia
 Phylum: Mollusca
 Class: Actinopterygii
 Order: Perciformes
 Family: Blenniidae
 Genus: *Blenniella*
 Species: *B. periophthalmus*

Blenniella periophthalmus is a species of combtooth blenny found in coral reefs. It is commonly known as the **blue-dashed rockskipper**, **bullethead rockskipper**, **false rockskipper**, or the **peppered blenny**. *B. periophthalmus* is a marine, reef-associated species that occurs in tropical climates with a depth range of 0-5 m. **We report for the first time from Persian Gulf (Kish Island, Iran).** This species inhabit exposed outer intertidal reef flats, where it can hide in cracks and holes. It is commonly observed clinging to rocks as the water recedes below them during the low cycle of the swell and this species is often confused with mudskipper gobies. Maximum length is 10 cm in **Persian Gulf (Iran, Kish Island)**. *B. periophthalmus* has an oviparous life cycle, exhibits distinct pairing, eggs are demersal and adhesive, and are attached to the substrate via a filamentous, adhesive pad or pedestal. Larvae are planktonic, often found in shallow, coastal waters.

Food: *Blenniella periophthalmus* feed on filamentous algae and associated small invertebrates, such as foraminiferans, ostracods, copepods, and gastropods. **Distribution:** *Blenniella periophthalmus* is widespread in the Indo-West Pacific from South Africa, East Africa, **Persian Gulf**, Mozambique Channel, Madagascar, and Mascarenes, north to the Red Sea and Strait of Hormuz, east to the Hawaiian Islands, Marquesas Islands and Gambier Islands, south to Western Australia, New Caledonia and Austral Islands, north to Ryukyu Islands; throughout Micronesia.

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