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NOTES

A first Seychelles record of the ghost-pipefish *Solenostomus cyanopterus*

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The ghost-pipefish *Solenostomus cyanopterus* (Bleeker, 1854) (Syngnathidae) is widely distributed in the Indo-Pacific, with western Indian Ocean records from Zanzibar, the comores, Madagascar and Mauritius (and was included in a list of species expected to occur in Seychelles waters by Smith & Smith (1963)). There are no published records of this species from Seychelles.

On 4th July 1985 two ghost-pipefish were found in *Sargassum* weed growing at the base of a boulder on the reef flat at Mare Angalise, Mahe. One was an adult female (total length 105mm) and the other an adult male (114mm) with eggs in its brood pouch. These individuals were identified by Dr. Alwyne Wheeler of the British Museum (Natural History) as *Solenostomus cyanopterus* although the colouration of both individuals differed from descriptions, being light green with black spots and brown fins, and with bright blue ocelli on the dorsal fins (rather than brown with black ocelli). On 10th July 1986 a juvenile (51 mm) was found in the same habitat and locality. This individual was the more typical dark brown, but with green ocelli.

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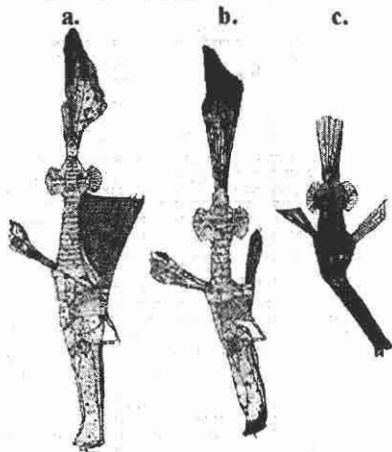


Fig 1. *Solenostomus cyanopterus* from Mahe (drawn from life)
a). male (1985)
b). female (1985)
c). juvenile (1986)

NOTES

On *Edentulina moreleti*, the first herbivorous streptaxid (Gastropoda)

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Several distinctive Streptaxidae have been described from Seychelles (Gerlach & Bruggen 1999), some taxa closely resemble African genera, although there is some doubt as to their true generic placement (Gerlach & Bruggen 1999). *Edentulina* is the largest and most conspicuous of these genera. One species, *E. dussumieri* (Dufo, 1840) is the most abundant streptaxid in the islands (pers. obs.) but the other Seychelles member of the genus, *E. moreleti* (Adams, 1868), is known from only 4 collections, comprising 34 specimens (Gerlach & Bruggen 1999).

The species was originally described from one specimen from Silhouette island (as *Gibbus (Gibbulina) Moreleti*) without any record of precise locality or habitat (Adams 1868). Subsequent records refer to the holotype (Pfeiffer 1941; Nevill 1868; Martens 1880). Seven specimens were collected by A. Brauer in 1894 on Mahé (Copolia, Mare aux Cochons, Morne Blanc, Morne Seychellois), one by G. Lionnet in the 1960s (Mahé: Congo Rouge) and 12 by Van Mol & Benoit in 1972 (Silhouette: Mare aux Cochons) (Gerlach & Bruggen 1999). Brauer's specimens were reported to be found "under damp leaves on the ground" (Martens 1898), none of the other specimens have associated micro-habitat data although it