

BANDED DRUM (*Larimus fasciatus*)

COLOR: Olive-gray dorsal surface. Silver ventral surface. Vertical dark bands.

HEAD: Large, superior mouth. No barbels on chin.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Atlantic croaker (pg. 79), black drum (pg. 81), spot (pg. 80).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

DRUMS

DRUMS

ATLANTIC CROAKER (*Micropogonias undulatus*)

COLOR: Diagonal bar pattern comprised of small dark spots. Spotted dorsal fins.

HEAD: Subterminal mouth with small chin barbels.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Banded drum (pg. 78), black drum (pg. 81), spot (pg. 80).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

SPOT (*Leiostomus xanthurus*)

COLOR: Distinct spot behind operculum. Diagonal bar pattern made up of small dark spots.

FINS: Forked caudal fin.

HEAD: Subterminal mouth.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Atlantic croaker (pg. 79), banded drum (pg. 78), black drum (pg. 81).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

DRUMS

DRUMS

BLACK DRUM (*Pogonias cromis*)

COLOR: Silver-gray with 4-5 vertical dark bars in juveniles. Dark fins.

HEAD: Many chin barbels.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Atlantic croaker (pg. 79), banded drum (pg. 78), red drum (pg. 82), spot (pg. 80).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

RED DRUM (*Sciaenops ocellatus*)

COLOR: Bronze. Obscure stripes.
Black spot(s) near caudal fin.

HEAD: Terminal mouth.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Black drum (pg. 81).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / ESB

DRUMS

DRUMS

NORTHERN KINGFISH (*Menticirrhus saxatilis*)

COLOR: Dusky bands on body.
Bands make V-shaped saddle beneath first dorsal fin.

FINS: Elongated leading rays of first dorsal fin. Undulated caudal fin.

HEAD: Subterminal mouth with barbel under chin.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Southern kingfish (pg. 84).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

SOUTHERN KINGFISH (*Menticirrhus americanus*)

COLOR: Dusky bands or blotches on body. No V-shaped saddle beneath first dorsal fin.

FINS: Undulated caudal fin.

HEAD: Subterminal mouth with barbel under chin.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Northern kingfish (pg. 83).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / SEFSC / Pascagoula Laboratory; Collection of Brandi Noble

DRUMS

DRUMS

WEAKFISH (SEATROUT) (*Cynoscion regalis*)

COLOR: Dark olive-blue dorsal surface. Spots may form obscure diagonal lines.

HEAD: Large, superior mouth. Two large fangs on upper jaw. No chin barbels.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Silver seatrout (pg. 86), spotted seatrout (pg. 87).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / NEFSC / Cooperative Research

SILVER SEATROUT (*Cynoscion nothus*)

COLOR: Silver-gray. Dorsal and lateral surfaces may have faint, irregular spots.

HEAD: Large, superior mouth. Two large fangs on upper jaw. No chin barbels.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Spotted seatrout (pg. 87), weakfish (seatrout) (pg. 85).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / SEFSC / Pascagoula Laboratory; Collection of Brandi Noble

DRUMS

DRUMS

SPOTTED SEATROUT (*Cynoscion nebulosus*)

COLOR: Many dark spots that extend onto dorsal and caudal fins. Broad dark stripe on lateral surface in juveniles.

HEAD: Large, superior mouth. Two large fangs on upper jaw. No chin barbels.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Silver seatrout (pg. 86), weakfish (seatrout) (pg. 85).

PHOTO CREDIT: MBL / Flescher Collection