

**FIRST RECORD OF *ERYTHROCLÉS MONODI* (EMMELICHTHYIDAE) IN THE NORTH-EASTERN ATLANTIC.** Marie-Noëlle de CASAMAJOR, UPPA - Laboratoire IFREMER, B.P. 3. 64310 Saint-Pée-sur-Nivelle [decasa@st-pee.inra.fr] et GEMFA, Groupe d'Étude Marine de la Faune Atlantique, B.P. 75, 40130 Capbreton, **Alexandre DEWEZ**, GEMFA, & **Jean-Claude QUÉRO**, IFREMER, Place du séminaire, B.P. 7, l'Houmeau, 17137 Nieul-sur-mer, FRANCE.

**RÉSUMÉ.** - Première capture d'*Erythrocles monodi* (Emmelichthyidae) dans l'Atlantique nord-est. Les conditions de captures aux abords du Gouf de Capbreton et les caractéristiques biométriques de ce spécimen sont présentées.

**Key words.** - Emmelichthyidae - *Erythrocles monodi* - ANE - France - First record.

One specimen of Crimson rover, *Erythrocles monodi* Poll & Cadenat, 1954, was caught for the first time in the North-eastern Atlantic at 43°40'N and 1°44'W (Fig. 1) by the vessel "Oiseau des îles", 6-7 nautical miles off Capbreton, Bay of Biscay, in August 1997, at a depth of 130-140 m, by mesh net. Biometric data are presented. This specimen agreed with the descriptions available in the literature (Heemstra, 1972).

It is deposited in the collection of the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN 1999-1215).

Of the five species of the genus *Erythrocles* in the Atlantic, Indian and Western Pacific Oceans, *Erythrocles monodi* is the only species in

the Atlantic Ocean. In the Eastern Atlantic, *E. monodi* has been collected from off Mauritania and Senegal, the Gulf of Guinea, and off the mouth of the Congo River (Heemstra and Randall, 1977; Heemstra, 1990). It is a representative of the benthic-pelagic ichthyofaunal community of the outer continental shelf.

Body colour of our specimen was predominantly reddish pink dorsally (Fig. 2) and silvery ventrally. Measurements taken according to Heemstra and Randall, 1977, are given in table I. Fin ray, gill-raker and lateral line scale counts are given in table II according to Heemstra and Randall (1977).

A mouth without teeth and the well developed distinctive supramaxillary bone are the main characters that distinguish this family from the other percoids. The lateral line is single and ends at the caudal fin base; the caudal peduncle has a low mid-lateral keel on each side. The dorsal fin is divided to the base, but without a distinct gap between the two fins.

The stomach was empty. It appears that the species of this family feed on large zooplankters (Heemstra and Randall, 1977; Nor *et al.*, 1985). The biology of this species is not known.

**Acknowledgements.** - The authors acknowledge Patrick Lafargue fisherman on the vessel "Oiseau des îles" and Rinaldo and Patrick Trentin who gave us information about this record.

#### REFERENCES

HEEMSTRA P.C., 1972. - *Erythrocles monodi* (Perciformes: Emmelichthyidae) in the western Atlantic, with notes on two related species. *Copeia*, 1972(4): 875-878.

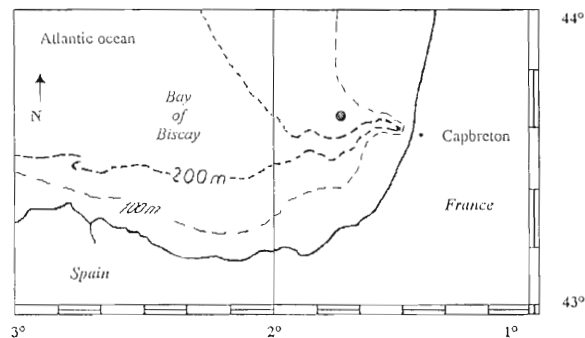


Fig. 1. - Record area of *Erythrocles monodi* specimen.

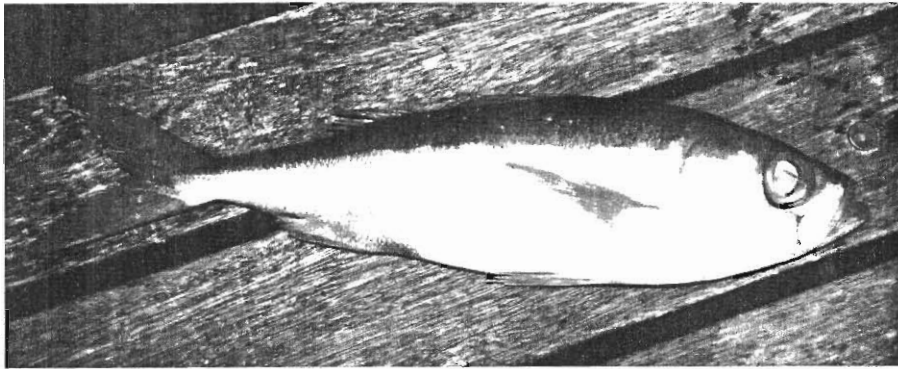


Fig. 2. - Specimen of *Erythrocles monodi* Poll & Cadenat, 1954 caught off Capbreton in August 1997 (MNHN 1999-1215). Photo: P. Trentin.

Table I. - Biometric data of *Erythrocles monodi* caught off Capbreton in August 1997.

Measurements	(in mm)	(in % SL)	Measurements	(in mm)	(in % SL)
Total length	440		Caudal peduncle height	30	7.7
Standard length (SL)	390		Caudal peduncle width	30	7.7
Maximum height	110	28.2	Dorsal fin length (2)	160	41.0
Head height	80	20.5	Anal fin length	50	12.8
Head length	85	21.8	Caudal fin length	80	20.5
Pupil diameter	15	3.8	Pectoral fin length	80	20.5
Orbit diameter	30	7.7	Pelvic fin length	70	18.0
Interorbital width	40	10.3	Eye-mouth length	20	5.1

	Counts	
	Standard*	Specimen
Dorsal spine	11	11
Fin ray		
Dorsal ray	11 - 12	11
Pectoral ray	18 - 20	19
Anal ray	9 - 10	10
Gill-raker (first)	36 - 40	38
Lateral line scale	68 - 72	72

Table II. - Meristic data of *Erythrocles monodi*.  
\*Standard data from Heemstra and Randall (1977).

- HEEMSTRA P.C. 1981. - Emmelichthyidae.  
*In*: Fiches FAO d'Identification des Espèces pour les Besoins de la Pêche. Atlantique centre-est; zones de pêche 34, 47 (Fischer W., Bianchi G. & W.B. Scott, eds), 374 pp. Rome: FAO.
- HEEMSTRA P.C. 1990. - Emmelichthyidae.  
*In*: Check-List of the Fishes of the eastern Tropical Atlantic, Vol.2 (Quéro J.-C., Hureau J.-C., Karrer C., Post A. & L. Saldanha, eds), p. 767. Paris: UNESCO, SEI; Portugal: JNICT.
- HEEMSTRA P.C. & J.E. RANDALL, 1977. - A revision of the Emmelichthyidae (Pisces: Perciformes). *Aust. J. Mar. Freshw. Res.*, 28(3): 361-396.
- NOR L.A., KYKHAREV N.N. & A.K. ZAYTIEV, 1985. - The biology of *Erythrocles schlegeli* (Richardson) (Emmelichthyidae) of the South China Sea. *J. Ichthyol.*, 25(2): 146-149.
- POLL M. & J. CADENAT, 1954. - Description de *Erythrocles monodi* sp.n. de la côte occidentale d'Afrique tropicale. *Bull. Inst. R. Sci. Nat. Belg.*, 30(22): 1-4.

Reçu le 24.06.1999

Accepté pour publication 12.11.1999

---