

## Occurrence of Gobi *Yongeichthys criniger* (Valenciennes, 1837) off Ratnagiri, Maharashtra

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On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013, during an experimental trawl fishing at about 20 m depth along the Ratnagiri coast (17° 03.187 N - 73° 14.092 E) a single specimen of 'Hair-finned gobi' *Yongeichthys criniger* (Fig. 1) was also caught among the catch comprised of groupers, squilla, crab, gastropods, croackers, jellyfish, sea snakes, cephalopods, bivalves etc. The length of the fish was 94 mm and weighed 10.1 g. *Y. criniger* is a tropical Indo-Pacific gobi inhabiting shallow to deep coastal mud or silty sand flats.

Gobies are prey species for commercially



Fig. 1. *Yongeichthys criniger* (Valenciennes 1837)

important fishes such as haddock, sea bass, and flatfish. Several gobies are also of interest as aquarium fish.