



Fishes of the Sea: The North Atlantic and Mediterranean

John Lythgoe, Gillian Lythgoe

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This photographic and descriptive guide to the fish species that inhabit the North Atlantic and Mediterranean is unique in its emphasis on the appearance of marine fish in their natural habitats. It expands and recasts the Lythgoes' highly regarded first edition published two decades ago. In particular, all of the more than 200 color photographs are new, and most are accompanied by line drawings that emphasize distinctive traits. The fish are arranged by class, family, and species, and succinct descriptions give detailed information about anatomy, distribution, food, and breeding habits.

Most of the photographs were taken underwater, providing valuable information on how the fish swims in nature, its true colors and pattern, and whether or not it is camouflaged against its natural background.

The geographical area covered in the book includes the Atlantic coastal waters of the United States and Canada north of Chesapeake Bay; the Mediterranean; and from Gibraltar north to the Arctic, including all the coasts of Europe.

John Lythgoe, a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Bristol, is an expert on the appearance and color of fish underwater. The section of the book on the gobies, a group of fish that are as difficult to study as they are interesting, has been contributed by Peter J. Miller.

Gillian Lythgoe is a diver, photographer, and the future and managing director of Planet Earth Pictures, whose collection covers a wide range of natural history and environmental subjects.

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However, Mediterranean and North East Atlantic regions differ in oceanographic and climatic processes, human impacts, cultural heritage, spatial scales and heterogeneity and size of habitats and populations, that condition the nature of the fisheries (Smith and Garcia, 2014). Therefore, any proposal to improve management strategies should consider other complementary actions, especially taking into account that local, small-scale, coastal, artisanal fisheries constitute an important component of the idiosyncrasy of Mediterranean fisheries. Phylogenetic relationships of the north-eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean blenniids. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 86: 283–295. CrossRefGoogle Scholar. Bardin, O. & D. Pont, 2002. Environmental factors controlling the spring immigration of two estuarine fishes *Atherina boyeri* and *Pomatoschistus* spp. into a Mediterranean lagoon. *Journal of Fish Biology* 61: 560–578. CrossRefGoogle Scholar. Ben Souissi, J., D. Golani, H. Mejri & C. Capape, 2005. New records of fishes from the Mediterranean coast of Israel including Red Sea immigrants. *Cybum* 10: 285–291. Google Scholar. Golani, D. & O. Sonin, 1996. The occurrence of the tropical west African marine fishes *Acanthurus monroviae* (Acanthuridae) and *Arius parkii* (Ariidae) in the Levant.