



---

Tadpole-Fish *Raniceps raninus* (L.)

Author(s): D. T. G. Quigley and K. Flannery

Source: *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, Vol. 27, No. 10 (2004), p. 409

Published by: Irish Naturalists' Journal Ltd

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25536563>

Accessed: 01/06/2010 17:28

---

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use, available at <http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>. JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use provides, in part, that unless you have obtained prior permission, you may not download an entire issue of a journal or multiple copies of articles, and you may use content in the JSTOR archive only for your personal, non-commercial use.

Please contact the publisher regarding any further use of this work. Publisher contact information may be obtained at <http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublisher?publisherCode=inj>.

Each copy of any part of a JSTOR transmission must contain the same copyright notice that appears on the screen or printed page of such transmission.

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).



*Irish Naturalists' Journal Ltd* is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

*Irish Naturalists' Journal* **24**: 155-157). *S. pachygaster* appears to have been gradually increasing its range northwards into NW European waters since the late 1970s (Quigley, D. T. 2002 *Sherkin Comment* **32**: 4; Wheeler, A. & Clarke, K. R. 2002 *Journal of the Marine Biological Association, U.K.* **82**: 177-189)

**D. T. G. Quigley**

*Carrigadrohid Smolts Ltd, Macroom, Co Cork*

**K. Flannery**

*Dingle Oceanworld (Mara Beo Teo), The Wood, Dingle, Co Kerry*

## **Tadpole-fish *Raniceps raninus* (L.)**

During December 2001 a specimen of the tadpole-fish measuring 21.5cm T.L. and weighing 125.0g, was captured by the MFV 'Golden Feather' (Skipper: Mr Arthur Hand, Dingle) while trawling NW of the Basket Islands (V2595), Dingle, Co Kerry. The identity of the specimen was confirmed using the key given by Svetovidovi (A. N. 1986 *Fishes of the North-eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* **2**: 680-710).

The status of *R. raninus* in Irish waters was recently reviewed by Quigley, D. T. G., O'Shea, J. & Flannery, K. (1997 *Irish Naturalists' Journal* **25**: 332-336). Although the species appears to have a fairly widespread distribution around the Irish coast, it seems to be relatively common in only a few areas (W, SW, E and NE) and uncommon or completely absent from other areas (SE). More information regarding its distribution in the latter areas is required.

**D. T. G. Quigley**

*Carrigadrohid Smolts Ltd, Macroom, Co Cork*

**K. Flannery**

*Dingle Oceanworld (Mara Beo Teo), The Wood, Dingle, Co Kerry*

## **Partial albinism in black sole *Solea solea* (L.)**

A black sole *Solea solea* L. measuring 28.7cm T.L. and exhibiting partial albinism was captured during June 2003 by the MFV 'Rose Crest' (Skipper: Mr Gerald Fitzgerald, Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry) while trawling at a depth of c100m SSW of the Skellig Islands, Co Kerry (V2561). The specimen was almost completely white apart from a small area of normal pigmentation on the anterior ocular side which included the head and opercular region. There were also faint traces of pigmentation on the tip of the caudal fin and posteriorly on the outer margins of the dorsal and ventral fins.

According to Wheeler (A. 1969 *The fishes of the British Isles and north-west Europe*. Macmillan, London), albinism is by no means uncommon (amongst the flatfish group – Pleuronectiformes), but is usually incomplete (partial), part of the eyed (ocular) side retaining its normal colour. Albinism and particularly partial albinism has been previously reported in a number of flatfish species from the same area in Irish waters, including: *S. solea*, plaice *Pleuronectes platessa* L., flounder *Platichthys flesus* (L.) and turbot *Scophthalmus maximus*