



Smallmouth Flounder

Etropus microstomus



Description:

- ◆ left eye flounder
- ◆ body unspotted
- ◆ olive brownish, usually with large blotches of darker color
- ◆ 2 or 3 dark pigmented blotches along portions of the anal and dorsal fins
- ◆ white blind side
- ◆ ovate body
- ◆ blunt snout
- ◆ small mouth (does not extend much below the lower eye)
- ◆ rounded caudal fin
- ◆ narrow ventral fin
- ◆ nearly straight lateral line
- ◆ pectoral fin on the eye side is much larger than the fin on the blind side (ocular side pectoral fin has 9-12 fin rays, blind side has 8 or 9 fin rays)

Size:

- ◆ up to 5 in

Range:

- ◆ Massachusetts to North Carolina, sometimes found in South Carolina and Florida

Facts:

- ◆ very similar to the Gulf Stream Flounder (the Smallmouth lacks a bony projection on its snout)
- ◆ eaten by other fish like spiny dogfish and winter flounder
- ◆ spawn near the shore
- ◆ sometimes like channels and mud bottoms
- ◆ found in water temperatures of 50-75° F

SMALLMOUTH FLOUNDER CATCH TOTALS

Year	Total
1995	1
Grand Total	1

*smallmouth flounder were only caught during the year shown