

# CNMI FISH FACT SHEET



Specimen caught off Saipan at approximately 300ft, hook and line by John S. Castro on 11/5/04. Photo by: Michael C. Tenorio.

**Scientific Name:** *Iniistius geisha* (Myers, R.F. 1999). A Member of the wrasse family; this genus is characterized by their vertically compressed bodies. Photo records have been obtained thru sources.

**Common Names:** Blackbacked Razorfish, the Bride in Red, the Japanese Woman, the Four-Tooth. Other scientific names are: *Xyrichtys geshia*.

**Maximum size:** Unknown

**Size recorded:** FL-35.1cm, SL 30.3cm

**Physiology:** The Blackbacked Razorfish has a black coloration dorsal and ventrally, with a pinkish-orange coloration from head to caudal peduncle. This fish has four exposed conical teeth, two in the upper jaw and two in the lower jaw. The caudal tail is slightly rounded to truncate.

**Key Information:** LL-12+6, D- 9+12, A- 3+12

**Gender:** Female

**Habitat:** Reef associated; marine; depth range 10 - 132 meters.

**Distribution:** Western central pacific, Japan, Taiwan, Marianas

**Diet:** Possibly feeds on small fish and invertebrates.

**Climate:** Tropical

*!FACTOID!*

*The Blackbacked Razorfish is a member of the Wrasse family.*