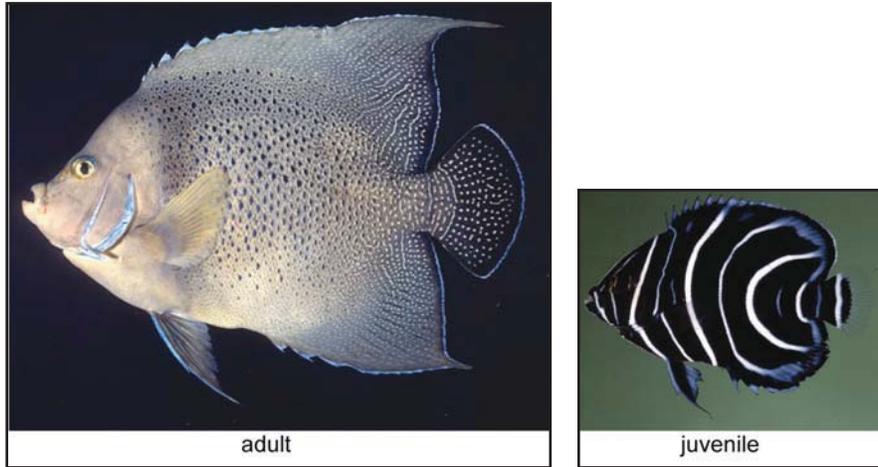


***Pomacanthus semicirculatus* (Cuvier 1831)**
Semicircle Angelfish



Photos by J. Randall, Bishop Museum

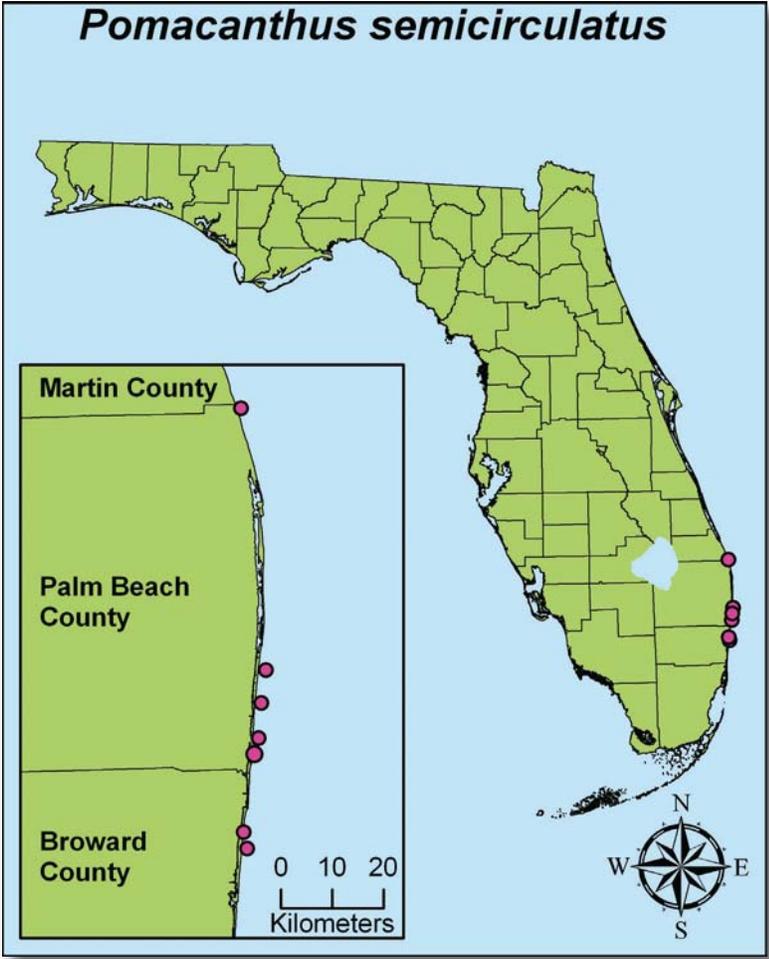
Identification: Adults are dusky brownish-green along the anterior and posterior thirds of the body; the center third is a paler yellow-green. Scales along the flanks are blue at the base. All fins are edged in blue except pectoral fins; dorsal and anal fins end in filaments. Mouth is pale yellow. Blue margins on cheek, spine and gill cover. Juveniles have a dark blue to black base color, with distinct narrow white and blue stripes. The stripes are more vertical near the head (i.e., anteriorly), and semicircular towards the posterior of the body. Juveniles intergrade to adult coloration at 8 to 16 cm TL. Grows to 35 cm TL. Also known as the Koran Angelfish. Dorsal fin XIII (20-23), anal fin III (18-22); pectoral rays 19-21. From Allen et al. (1998 and 2003), Randall et al. (1996) and Randall (2005).

Similar Species: Intermediate Gray Angelfish (*Pomacanthus arcuatus*) lacks blue margins on opercle and opercular spine, and lacks markings in tail. Juvenile Queen Angelfish (*Holacanthus ciliaris*) and Blue Angelfish (*Holacanthus bermudensis*) have bright blue body bars. Juvenile French Angelfish (*Holacanthus paru*) and Gray Angelfish (*Holacanthus arcuatus*) have bright yellow body bars on black body.

Native Range: Widely dispersed in the Indo-West Pacific, from East Africa to Palau and Fiji; southern Japan to New South Wales, Lord Howe Island and New Caledonia. From Allen et al. (1998), Randall et al. (1996) and Randall (2005).

Ecology: The species is found on protected coral reefs with well-developed coral growth to depths of 40 m. Juveniles are secretive and difficult to approach. Adults feed mainly on sponges, tunicates and algae. From Allen et al. (1998 and 2003) and Randall (2005).

Nonindigenous Occurrences: In Florida, the Semicircle Angelfish has been seen off Boca Raton (1999), Boynton Beach (2001), Deerfield Beach (2001), Delray Beach (2002), Pompano Beach (2004) and Lauderdale-By-The-Sea (2004). The species has also been observed in Oahu, Hawai'i (Mundy 2005).



Pomacanthidae (angelfishes)