

Manuscript Number: FOODCONT-D-14-00722R1

Title: DNA and Mini-DNA Barcoding for the identification of Porgies species (family Sparidae) of commercial interest on the international market.

Article Type: Research Article

Keywords: DNA Barcoding, Mini-DNA Barcoding, Sparidae, COI gene, mislabeling, seafood identification.

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Abstract: The morphological similarity among Sparidae species, which are characterized by a different market price, represents a serious problem for their trade and for stock management, since it encourages fraud for substitution. The most accredited morphological method for their identification is based on the dental-plate, but this approach is not simple and cannot be used for prepared products. When molecular methods are used the DNA degradation induced by cooking is the main drawback. In this work, we collected 314 reference tissues belonging to 75 Sparidae species and we produced a dataset of full (FDB) and mini-barcode (MDB) reference sequences starting from DNA extracted from fresh and ethanol-preserved tissues using universal primers. Moreover, some fresh samples were cooked. The FDB was successfully amplified in 91% (fresh), 50% (cooked) and 81% (ethanol-preserved) samples, while the amplification rates of the MDB were considerably higher in case of cooked (100%) and ethanol-preserved (94%) samples. The same primers were used for the amplification of the DNA obtained from 58 market samples (MS). All the DNA barcodes were compared with BOLD and GenBank using IDs and BLAST analysis. FDB was able to provide unambiguous species-level identifications for 53 (78%) and 44 (64.7%) reference samples analyzed on BOLD and GenBank, respectively. Mini-DNA barcode (MDB) showed a lower discriminating power with 32 (45.7%) and 29 (41.4%) sequences unambiguously matched to a species on BOLD and GenBank. However, the MDB allowed to identify all the reference sequences as belonging to the Sparidae family. FDB and MDB showed a similar performance in analyzing the MS, allowing to highlight 21 (38%) mislabeled MS. Our study, while confirming the FDB as a reliable tool for fish authentication, proposes the MDB as a promising tool to recover molecular information in case of cooked products.

Dear Editor,

We would like to submit the following manuscript for possible publication.

“DNA and Mini-DNA Barcoding for the identification of Porgies species (family Sparidae) of commercial interest on the international market”

Among the globally marketed fish, the species belonging to the family Sparidae are excellent food-fishes of high economic value. This family includes about 115 species divided in 33 genera and nowadays 85 species of Sparidae are commercialized worldwide.

The morphological similarity among Sparidae species, which are characterized by a different market price, represents a serious problem for their trade and for stock management. The specialized dentition is the most used criterion for their identification but, the marked similarities, which represent a problem even in the presence of whole specimens, make it almost impossible to distinguish the prepared or processed products during the inspection.

The DNA-based techniques are a useful tool to overcome the problems related to morphological identification and DNA barcoding has been successfully used to enforce traceability regulations in the seafood chain. Despite excellent performances when applied to fresh products, DNA barcoding has shown some weaknesses in case of processed products. For this reason, and considering that targeting a shorter region would increase the likelihood of successful amplification from degraded DNA, in this study, together with the full-barcode, the ability of a mini-DNA barcode was also assessed to produce a correct identification of Sparidae species.

In this work, we collected 314 reference tissues belonging to 75 Sparidae species and we produced a dataset of full and mini-barcode reference sequences using universal primers. The same primers were used for the amplification of the DNA obtained from 58 market samples (MS). All the DNA barcodes were compared with BOLD and GenBank using IDs and BLAST analysis. Full-DNA barcode was able to provide unambiguous species-level identifications for an higher percentage of samples than the mini-barcode on both databases. However, the mini-barcode allowed to identify all the reference sequences as belonging to the Sparidae family. Both barcodes showed a similar performance in analyzing the MS highlighting 21 mislabeled MS.

Our study, while confirming the full-DNA barcoding as a reliable tool for fish authentication, shows that the mini-barcode is a valid approach to recover molecular information from processed samples, allowing to assess the authenticity of imported products preventing commercial fraud, but also to enforce fishery control.

Best regards,

Andrea Armani

Dear Editor,

we revised the manuscript as suggested by the Reviewer and here below you can find our answers, comments and rebuttals.

Best Regards

Andrea Armani

Reviewers' comments:

The manuscript from Armani *et al.* is interesting since they have used both the full and mini-barcode methodology to analyze a commercially important fish family, the Sparidae or Porgies. In addition, they have also developed a reference dataset of COI sequences for 75 Sparidae fish species using universal primers.

However, the manuscript gets confused when the authors choose to test a range of problems that may affect amplification by PCR and species identification by BOLD and Genbank.

Moreover, I could find at least four aims in the manuscript:

- (1) Development of a COI Barcode dataset for Sparidae,
- (2) Testing the full and mini-barcodes;
- (3) Market mislabeling and
- (4) Factors affecting PCR amplification (i.e. ethanol preservation and cooking) when using full and mini barcodes.

All these aims together make the manuscript very hard to read. I suggest splitting the manuscript into at least four distinct sections and results presented separately. I would recommend looking at the market samples' analysis and data set development forensically instead of discussing other technical related problems.

We appreciated the Reviewer's suggestions and decided to follow his advice to make easier the reading of the manuscript.

The chapter 3 (Results and discussions) have been reorganized in four different sections.

Moreover, some "too much specific parts" have been removed or summarized.

Specifically:

Section 3.1 (Sample collection) line 206-211 (original manuscript) has been moved in section 2.1 (Sample collection: reference and market samples) line 122-125 (revised manuscript)

Line 222-224 (original manuscript) have been removed

Line 311-324 (original manuscript) have been summarized line 283-288 (revised manuscript)

Line 459-462 (original manuscript) have been removed

A new sentence line 501-505 (revised manuscript) and a new table (Table 3) have been added in section 3.4.3 (Mislabelled products: what and why?)

Table 6SM has been changed in table 2 (and thus inserted in the text) to facilitate the comprehension of the results.

Other minor corrections have been made but not highlighted

After reading the manuscript organized this way and observing it was much more readable, we decided not to split the section Results and Discussion. In fact, this would have implied some repetitions, in order to reintroduce topics of discussion every time.

1 **DNA and Mini-DNA Barcoding for the identification of Porgies species (family Sparidae)**
2 **of commercial interest on the international market.**

3

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27 **Abstract**

28 The morphological similarity among Sparidae species, which are characterized by a different
29 market price, represents a serious problem for their trade and for stock management, since it
30 encourages fraud for substitution. The most accredited morphological method for their
31 identification is based on the dental-plate, but this approach is not simple and cannot be used for
32 prepared products. When molecular methods are used the DNA degradation induced by cooking is
33 the main drawback. In this work, we collected 314 reference tissues belonging to 75 Sparidae
34 species and we produced a dataset of full (FDB) and mini-barcode (MDB) reference sequences
35 starting from DNA extracted from fresh and ethanol-preserved tissues using universal primers.
36 Moreover, some fresh samples were cooked. The FDB was successfully amplified in 91% (fresh),
37 50% (cooked) and 81% (ethanol-preserved) samples, while the amplification rates of the MDB were
38 considerably higher in case of cooked (100%) and ethanol-preserved (94%) samples. The same
39 primers were used for the amplification of the DNA obtained from 58 market samples (MS). All the
40 DNA barcodes were compared with BOLD and GenBank using IDs and BLAST analysis. FDB was
41 able to provide unambiguous species-level identifications for 53 (78%) and 44 (64.7%) reference
42 samples analyzed on BOLD and GenBank, respectively. Mini-DNA barcode (MDB) showed a
43 lower discriminating power with 32 (45.7%) and 29 (41.4%) sequences unambiguously matched to
44 a species on BOLD and GenBank. However, the MDB allowed to identify all the reference
45 sequences as belonging to the Sparidae family. FDB and MDB showed a similar performance in
46 analyzing the MS, allowing to highlight 21 (38%) mislabeled MS. Our study, while confirming the
47 FDB as a reliable tool for fish authentication, proposes the MDB as a promising tool to recover
48 molecular information in case of cooked products.

49

50 **Keywords:** DNA Barcoding, Mini-DNA Barcoding, Sparidae, *COI* gene, mislabeling, seafood
51 identification.

52

53 **1. Introduction**

54 Trade globalization is one of the main challenges for the identification of fishery products. In
55 fact, due to the depletion of the stocks of the most requested fish on the market, alternative and
56 underutilized species are now exploited. As a consequence, the number of products commercialized
57 over the world is widely increased, especially in the western Countries. In Italy, the number of
58 official denominations for seafood species has augmented from around two hundred to more than
59 nine hundred in about ten years.

60 The international authorities, due to an increased attention on nutritional, ecological and safety
61 concerns related to seafood, have issued a traceability legislation in the fishery sector. The
62 European Union has adopted a very stringent approach: seafood must be labeled with the
63 commercial and the scientific name, the production method, the catch area (EU Reg. No. 104/2001
64 and 404/201) and, from the 1st January 2015, the category of fishing gear (EU Reg. No. 1379/2013).

65 A global seafood traceability network requires the harmonization of regulatory and commercial
66 practices across the whole fishing sector. However, some developing Countries still have
67 difficulties to conform to the rules of the international trade chain (Environmental Justice
68 Foundation 2012; Armani, D'Amico, Castigliego, Sheng & Gianfaldoni, 2012a; Cawthorn,
69 Steinman & Witthuhn, 2012; Clarke, 2009). Moreover, considering that a single commercial name
70 can be used at the international level for different species, unscrupulous traders could take profit
71 from this confusion by selling illegal products. Recent surveys showed that frauds are becoming
72 widespread and seafood mislabelling has reached alarming levels (Armani, Tinacci, Giusti,
73 Castigliego & Gianfaldoni, 2013; Carvalho, Neto, Brasil & Oliveira, 2011; Wong & Hanner, 2008).

74 Among the globally marketed fish, the species belonging to the family Sparidae (Porgies) are
75 excellent food-fishes of high economic value (Antonucci, Costa, Aguzzi & Cataudella, 2009).

76 This family includes about 115 species divided in 33 genera (Nelson, 2006) although, according
77 to Fishbase, the species are 133 and the genera 35
78 (<http://www.fishbase.org/Nomenclature/FamilySearchList.php?>). On the basis of the official lists

79 consulted (Table 1SM), 85 species of Sparidae are commercialized worldwide with different
80 commercial designations, and other unexploited species could attract the interest of the market in
81 the future.

82 Porgies are very similar to each other and their morphological identification can only be
83 performed by skilled operators. The specialized dentition, on the basis of which the Sparidae family
84 has been grouped in six subfamilies, is the most used criterion for their identification (Smith &
85 Smith 1986; Akazaki, 1962). These marked similarities, which represent a problem even in the
86 presence of whole specimens, make it almost impossible to distinguish the prepared or processed
87 products during the inspection.

88 The DNA-based techniques are a useful tool to overcome the problems related to the
89 morphological identification (Armani, Castigliego & Guidi, 2012c) and the DNA barcoding, based
90 on the analysis of the first part of the cytochrome c-oxidase I (*COI*) gene sequence, is the most
91 promising approach (Hebert, Ratnasingham, & de Waard, 2003). In fact, this DNA region usually
92 shows a greater interspecific than intraspecific variation (Hajibabaei, Singer, Hebert & Hickey,
93 2007; Hebert *et al.*, 2003) allowing discrimination among species. Consequently, many researchers
94 have investigated the use of DNA barcoding to enforce traceability regulations and to fight illegal
95 fishing and frauds (Handy, Deeds, Ivanova, Hebert & Hanner, 2011; Ward, Hanner, & Hebert,
96 2009; Yancy, Zemplak, Mason, Washington & Tenge, 2008). Even though this method has been
97 successfully used for the identification of fresh seafood products (Di Pinto, Di Pinto, Terio, Bozzo
98 & Bonerba, 2013; Cawthorn *et al.*, 2012; Barbuto, Galimberti, Ferri, Labra & Malandra, 2010;
99 Wong & Hanner, 2008), it has shown some weaknesses in the case of processed products, due to the
100 DNA fragmentation induced by heating (Cawthorn *et al.* 2012; Wong & Hanner, 2008). At the
101 same time, the DNA degradation induced by prolonged storage in ethanol, which can occur in
102 museum reference samples (Hajibabaei, de Waard, Ivanova, Ratnasingham & Dooh, 2005), could
103 affect the amplification of the full *COI* barcode region, limiting the construction of sequence
104 datasets, necessary for seafood “molecular inspection”. These considerations and the possibility that

105 fish substitutions could occur not only at the market level but also during catering activities, has
106 prompted us to assess, together with the full-DNA barcode (FDB) fragment, also the capability of a
107 mini-DNA barcode (MDB) in identifying the Sparidae species of commercial interest for the
108 international market.

109 In this work, we collected 75 species of Sparidae, from fresh and ethanol-preserved reference
110 tissues, and we produced a dataset of full-length *COI* barcode reference sequences by using
111 universal primers. Then, by aligning these sequences and those retrieved from databases, we
112 developed a new reverse primer to amplify a mini-DNA *COI* barcoding region of ~ 190bp. The
113 FDB and MDB obtained from the reference samples and from 58 market samples were compared to
114 BOLD and GenBank databases. Lastly, a phylogenetic analysis using the Neighbor-Joining (NJ)
115 method was performed. The information on the label of the market samples were evaluated in the
116 light of the molecular results.

117 **2. Materials and Methods**

118 ***2.1 Sample collection: reference and market samples***

119 Eighty whole fresh fish were collected and morphologically identified by the Official
120 veterinarian of the wholesale market of Milan. Two hundred thirty four ethanol-preserved reference
121 tissues were kindly provided by Research Institutes. Overall, we collected 75 species, distributed
122 across 26 genera, out of the 133 included in the Sparidae family (Table 2SM), and 72 out of the 85
123 species of commercial interest included in the official lists consulted (Table 1SM). The mean
124 number of the collected specimens per species was 4.2 (range 1-11). Fifty-eight market samples
125 (MS) were collected from retail markets, large-scale distribution and restaurants (Table 3SM). Each
126 fish/tissue was labeled with an internal code and stored at -20°C.

127 ***2.2 Preparation of processed samples***

128 Thirty-four whole fresh fish were used for the preparation of processed samples according to
129 standard recipes. Part of them were baked as whole in an oven preheated at 180°C for a variable

130 time (25-40 min) depending on the size. The rest were filleted and cooked in a frying pan for 10-15
131 min.

132 Fresh muscle tissue samples were collected before and after cooking and used for DNA
133 extraction.

134 ***2.3 DNA extraction and evaluation of DNA fragmentation by gel electrophoresis***

135 The ethanol-preserved reference samples were re-hydrated in 100 mM TRIS-base (pH 7.8) for
136 30 min at Room Temperature (RT) on a thermoshaker. Total DNA extraction was performed
137 starting from at least 20 mg of tissue as described by Armani, Castigliego, Tinacci, Gandini &
138 Gianfaldoni, (2012b). DNA from fresh and cooked samples was extracted as described by Armani,
139 Tinacci, Xiong, Titarenko & Guidi (2014). The DNA quality and quantity was determined with a
140 NanoDrop ND-1000 spectrophotometer (NanoDrop Technologies, Wilmington, DE, US).

141 One thousand nanograms of total DNA were electrophoresed on 1% agarose gel GellyPhorLE
142 (Euroclone, Wetherby, UK), stained with GelRed™ Nucleid Acid Gel Stain (Biotium, Hayward,
143 CA, USA) and visualized via UV transillumination. DNA fragment size was estimated by
144 comparison with the marker SharpMass™50-DNA ladder (Euroclone, Wetherby, UK).

145 ***2.4 Amplification and sequencing of the full-COI barcode (FDB)***

146 Some universal primers for the FDB region (Table 4SM) were aligned with the *COI* complete
147 sequences of the Sparidae species available in GenBank. Those proposed by Handy *et al.* (2011)
148 were selected. The reverse primer (SPACOIREV) was slightly modified and tailed as proposed by
149 Steffens, Sutter, & Roemer (1993) (Table 4SM).

150 A 655bp fragment of the *COI* gene was firstly amplified from the DNA extracted from fresh
151 reference specimens with the following PCR protocol: 20 µl reaction volume containing 2 µl of a
152 10x buffer (5Prime, Gaithersburg, USA), 100 µM of each dNTP (Euroclone, Pavia, Italy), 300 nM
153 of forward primers, 400 nM of reverse primer, 25 ng/µL of BSA (New England BIOLABS® Inc.
154 Ipswich, MA, USA), 1.25 U PerfectTaq DNA Polymerase (5Prime, USA), 100 ng of DNA and
155 DNase free water (5Prime, USA) with the following cycling program: denaturation at 94 °C for 3

156 min; 45 cycles at 94°C for 30s, 53°C for 30s, 72°C for 35s; final extension at 72°C for 10 min. Five
157 µL of PCR products were checked by electrophoresis on a 1.8% agarose gel and the presence of
158 expected amplicons was assessed by a comparison with the standard marker SharpMass™50-DNA
159 ladder. Amplicons were purified and sequenced by High-Throughput Genomics Center
160 (Washington, USA). The same PCR protocol was used for the amplification of cooked, ethanol-
161 preserved and market DNA samples. The ethanol-preserved and the market DNA samples that gave
162 the expected amplicon were sequenced.

163 ***2.5 Full-DNA barcode (FDB) sequence analysis and comparison with databases***

164 The obtained sequences were analyzed using Clustal W in MEGA version 6 (Tamura, Stecher,
165 Peterson, Filipski, & Kumar, 2013). Fine adjustments were manually made after visual inspection.
166 Before the upload on the database, all the sequences were used to run a BLAST analysis on
167 GenBank and analyzed using the Identification System (IDs) on BOLD (Species Level Barcode
168 Records) (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007) to assess the concordance between the morphological and
169 the molecular analysis (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2013). A top match with a sequence similarity of
170 at least 98% was used to designate potential species identification (Barbuto *et al.*, 2010). Then, all
171 the reference sequences were deposited on BOLD and GenBank (Table 5SM). Moreover, the
172 sequences deposited on BOLD were used to produce a Barcode Index Number discordance report
173 (BINdr). The mean genetic distances were calculated within species, genus and family using the
174 Kimura 2-parameter model (Kimura, 1980) using the Distance Summary tool on BOLD.

175 The 55 *COI* sequences from MS, not originating from expert-identified specimens, were not
176 submitted to the databases and were only used to assess the discriminatory ability of the barcoding
177 region (Table 3SM).

178 ***2.6 Reverse primer design for the amplification of a mini barcoding region of the COI gene***

179 Five hundred and sixty two reference sequences belonging to 73 Sparidae species available on
180 GenBank and BOLD were downloaded and aligned with those produced in this study using Clustal
181 W in MEGA. Once a potential region was found spanning from the 140th and the 190th bp, all the

182 sequences were examined for the presence of polymorphisms. The projected reverse primer
183 (REVshort1) (Table 4SM) was tailed (Steffens *et al.*, 1993).

184 ***2.7 Amplification and sequencing of the mini-barcode (MDB)***

185 The DNA of the reference samples was used to test the performance of the primer pair
186 FISHCOILBC_ts/REVshort1 for the amplification of a ~190bp DNA region (139bp without
187 primers). The PCR was made in 20 µl reaction volume, containing 2 µl of a 10x buffer (5Prime,
188 USA), 100 µM of each dNTP, 300 nM of primers, 25 ng/µL of BSA, 1.25 U PerfectTaq DNA
189 Polymerase, 100 ng of DNA and DNase free water. The cycling program was the following:
190 denaturation at 94 °C for 3 min; 45 cycles at 94°C for 25s, 51°C for 30s, 72°C for 10s; final
191 extension at 72°C for 5 min. This protocol was also applied to samples for which the amplification
192 of the 655bp *COI* barcoding region failed. All the PCR products were sequenced as reported in
193 section 2.4.

194 ***2.8 Mini-DNA barcode (MDB) sequence analysis and comparison with databases***

195 The obtained MDB were checked as reported in section 2.5 and those obtained from the
196 reference samples were deposited in the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) (Table 5SM) due
197 to the fact that BOLD and GenBank do not allow the submission of sequences shorter than 200bp.
198 All the sequences were compared to the databases as reported in section 2.5. The mean genetic
199 distances were calculated using the Kimura 2-p model in MEGA.

200 The sequences obtained from the MS were only used to assess labeling non conformities.

201 ***2.9 Phylogenetic analysis.***

202 Two datasets were used to produce NJ dendrograms in MEGA computing the distance using the
203 Kimura 2-parameter model with 2000 bootstrap re-samplings (Saitou & Nei, 1987).

204 In case of the FDB 460 reference sequences of 546bp (219 from this study and 241 from
205 databases) and 52 sequences from MS were used while for the MDB 478 reference sequences of
206 138bp (254 from this study and 224 from databases) and 55 sequences from MS were used.

207 **3. Results and Discussion**

208 **3.1 Development of a COI Barcode dataset for Sparidae**

209 *3.1.1 Full DNA barcode (FDB): primers amplification performances and DNA amplifiability.*

210 Since the different origin and preservation of tissue samples may affect the primers amplification
211 performances, we calculated the specificity and the rate of successful amplifications on the number
212 of the species collected rather than on the totality of the samples analyzed. The primers selected in
213 this study presented a specificity of 100% for the target region. Overall, the rate of successful
214 amplifications was 95%, and rose to 100% for fresh samples.

215 The overall DNA amplifiability was 85%. The DNA of the fresh specimens was successfully
216 amplified in 91% of the cases; the rate drastically decreased to 50% after cooking. The DNA
217 amplifiability of ethanol-preserved tissue was 81%.

218 *3.1.2 Full DNA barcode (FDB) sequence analysis.* Sequencing yielded 225 COI FDB with an
219 average length of 650bp (520-655), without stop codons, insertions or deletions. We obtained at
220 least one FDB for 68 species (91%), with an average of 3.3 (range 1-8) per species.

221 The sequences belonging to the species *Acanthopagrus palmaris*, *A. sivicolus*, *Calamus*
222 *arctifrons*, *C. proridens*, *Dentex angolensis*, *D. canariensis*, *D. gibbosus*, *D. maroccanus*, *Diplodus*
223 *noct*, and *Pagrus africanus* were obtained in this study for the first time.

224 As expected, the congeneric divergence was found to be higher than the conspecific divergence,
225 with mean pairwise genetic distances of 0.43%, 9.16%, and 16.18% for conspecific, congeneric and
226 confamilial, respectively. These values were very similar to those obtained by Keskin & Atar,
227 (2013) and Ward *et al.*, 2009.

228 *3.1.3 Mini DNA barcode (MDB): primer design for the amplification of a 139 bp region.* DNA
229 barcoding should be effective in recovering “molecular information” even from processed products,
230 whose DNA is expected to be severely degraded. In this study, considering that DNA extracted
231 from different kind of samples did not yield the expected amplicon, we designed a new reverse
232 primer (REVshort1) for the amplification of a ~ 190bp MDB.

233 As well as for the FDB, the specificity was 100% and the overall rate of successful amplification
234 was 93%. The DNA of the 3 species that were not amplified had been preserved in formalin or in
235 ethanol for a long time.

236 The DNA amplificability was 95%, 100% and 94% for fresh, cooked and ethanol-preserved
237 tissues. In case of cooked and ethanol-preserved samples the rates were considerably higher than
238 with the FDB (91% for fresh, 50% for cooked, and 81% for ethanol-preserved samples) and we
239 obtained molecular data also for *D. cervinus* and *P. africanus*.

240 *3.1.5 Mini DNA barcode (MDB) sequence analysis.* Thirty four MDB with an average length of
241 135bp (60-139bp) were produced and registered. No insertions, deletions or stop codons were
242 found, indicating that nuclear DNA sequences (NUMTs) were not amplified (Zhang & Hewitt,
243 1996).

244 **3.2 Testing the full (FDB) and mini-barcodes (MDB)**

245 *3.2.1. BOLD: full barcode (FDB) IDs results and BINdr.* The BOLD System includes a tool for
246 the characterization of unknown specimens, the Identification System (IDs) resource, that delivers a
247 species identification if the query sequence shows a divergence less than 1% to a reference
248 sequence. When less than 1% divergence is found with two or more taxa all possible species
249 assignments are shown (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007). On the other hand, the BIN module assigns
250 new *COI* sequences longer than 500bp to an existing or a new BIN, clustering them into OTUs
251 independently from their previous taxonomic assignment. This analysis allows to confirm the
252 concordance between barcode sequence clusters and species designations.

253 The IDs results and the BINdr are summarized in Table 5SM and 2, respectively. A maximum
254 species identity in the range of 98–100% was obtained for 220 sequences (98%). For *C. arctifrons*,
255 *D. canariensis* and *D. gibbosus*, the absence of reference sequences in the database resulted in “no
256 match”. The identification approach based on IDs results was coherent with the morphological
257 approach for 39 species out of 68 (57.4%), according to an identity value $\geq 98\%$. Usually, when a
258 sequence matches with more than one species, the highest value is obtained for the species inferred

259 from the morphological identification (Table 5SM). A previous work suggested that a threshold
260 value of 2% was effective in distinguish different species (Hebert *et al.*, 2003). In this work this
261 threshold did not allow to identify the remaining 29 species (42.6%). However, among these “non-
262 identifiable” species, 9 (13.2%) were not identified due to the lack of reference sequences (Table
263 5SM).

264 We found that inconsistencies, such as indecision among species, were confirmed in most of the
265 cases by the BINdr (Table 2). Among the 259 sequences that obtained a BIN, 37 were discordant at
266 the genus level and 56 at the species level.

267 Considering the high number of “ambiguous” results we further investigate the issues
268 highlighted by the IDs analysis and the BINdr, with the aim to interpret and possibly solve them.

269 In most of the cases, only a few sequences were responsible for the discordance at the genus
270 level. In particular, among the most interesting cases, the sequences of *Boops boops*, *Pagellus*
271 *acarne*, *Pagellus erythrinus*, and *Pagrus pagrus*, for which all the discordances were related to
272 sequences of *O. melanura* produced in an unpublished work. The probable misidentification of
273 these sequences was already supposed by Keskin & Atar, (2013). However, a 7% mean genetic
274 distance between our sequences and those of Keskin & Atar, (2013) highlights a remarkable
275 intraspecific variation within the specimens of *O. melanura*. The reliability of our morphological
276 identification is supported by the fact that our sequences show a mean identity value of 99.7% with
277 other private sequences available on BOLD. Interesting to note that, while our specimens were
278 collected in the Western part of the Mediterranean Sea, those analyzed by Keskin & Atar, (2013)
279 came from the Eastern Mediterranean. Similar values of intraspecific divergence have been reported
280 for the most diverse fish groups, and often attributed to cryptic species (April, Mayden, Hanner &
281 Bernatchez, 2011; Ward, Holmes & Yearsley, 2008).

282 Also in the case of the sequences of *Evynnis cardinalis*, *V. acromegalus*, and *Rhabdosargus*
283 *haffara*, which showed misidentification with *E. tumifrons*, *P. acarne*, and *S. aurata* respectively,
284 the discordance might come from mislabeled specimens. In particular, in case of *R. haffara*,

285 considering the different geographical origin of the two species, it could be possible that the
286 specimen identified as *S. aurata* was a misidentified specimen of *R. haffara* migrated through the
287 Suez Canal (Golani, 1992).

288 All the discrepancies at the genus level are reported in Table 5SM and 2. These findings could be
289 due to the fact that the barcodes are not filtered as they enter BOLD, even if they show deep
290 sequence divergence from existing records (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007). This eventuality could
291 distort the outcomes of studies relying on database comparison.

292 Regarding the discrepancies at the species level, different issues were found. For instance, the
293 species belonging to the genus *Acanthopagrus* are very similar from both a genetic and a
294 morphological point of view (Hsu, Guillén Madrid, Burrige, Cheng & Gwo, 2011). There have
295 been many re-descriptions within this genus and currently 15 species and 2 subspecies are
296 recognized (Hsu *et al.*, 2011). The impossibility encountered in this work to distinguish *A. pacificus*
297 from *A. berda* could be due to a misidentification of specimens or to an identification based on
298 previous classification, considering that *A. pacificus*, very similar in overall appearance to *A. berda*,
299 has been recently re-described as a new species (Iwatsuki, Kume, & Yoshino, 2010). The barcodes
300 were not even able to distinguish among *A. schlegelii*, *A. schlegelii schlegelii*, and *A. sivicolus*,
301 which are closely related species belonging to the “black seabream complex” (Hsu *et al.*, 2011).

302 Moreover, the occurrence of hybrid-like individuals among the *Acanthopagrus* species makes
303 the study of this group even more difficult (Hsu *et al.*, 2011). In fact, by using a mitochondrial gene,
304 only the matrilineal lineage is examined (Carvalho *et al.*, 2011; Costa, Landi, Martins, Costa &
305 Costa, 2012). In this case, supplemental analyses on nuclear genes would be advisable.

306 When two or more species of the same genus cluster together, misidentification among them
307 could have occurred (Costa *et al.*, 2012).

308 The reason why the DNA barcode has not been capable to distinguish among *Pagrus major* and
309 *P. auratus* could be related to the fact that they might be two subspecies, as suggested by Tabata &
310 Taniguchi (2000). As well, the system was neither able to distinguish the *D. sargus* subspecies due

311 to the close phylogenetic relationship of the genus *Diplodus*, which includes 13 species and 11
312 subspecies (Summerer, Hanel & Sturmbauer, 2001).

313 However, the DNA barcoding approach is always capable to distinguish this genus from the
314 other belonging to the family Sparidae.

315 On the basis of this elaboration process, 53 additional sequences (belonging to 14 species) were
316 considered resolvable and therefore the IDs could discriminate 53 species out of 68 (78%), strongly
317 increasing the ability of the FDB in discriminating among Porgies species. Summarizing, the
318 system was not able to identify 15 species due to the lack of reference sequences (n=9) or due to
319 close phylogenetic relationship among species (n=6) (Table 1).

320 3.2.2. *Full barcoding (FDB) BLAST analysis on GenBank*: A maximum species identity in the
321 range of 98–100% were obtained in GenBank for 208 sequences (92.4%) belonging to 37 species
322 out of 68 (54.4%).

323 The impossible identification of the remaining 31 species was related to the absence of reference
324 sequences or to the presence of problematic sequences (Table 5SM). In particular, identity values
325 lower than 98% were obtained for *A. pacificus*, *C. arctifrons*, *C. leucosteus*, *C. proridens*, *D.*
326 *canariensis*, *D. gibbosus*, *D. spariformis*, *V. acromegalus*, *O. melanura* and *A. spinifer* (Table
327 5SM).

328 As for BOLD, when a sequence matched with more than one species, the highest identity value
329 was attained for the species inferred from the morphological identification (Table 5SM).

330 In the case of *D. puntazzo* and *P. aeneum*, the ambiguous identification was due to sequences of
331 *D. labrax* and *P. sordida* (Moronidae and Lutjanidae family), while in the case of *D. holbrookii*, *D.*
332 *vulgaris*, *E. cardinalis*, *P. bellottii*, *P. auratus*, *P. major*, *P. pagrus*, and *S. cantharus* the
333 identification problems were the same observed on BOLD (section 3.5.1). However, for all of them,
334 with the exception of *E. cardinalis*, the system was able to correctly identify the sequences at the
335 genus level.

336 Summarizing, the BLAST analysis could clearly discriminate 44 species out of 68 (65%),
337 increasing the ability of the FDB in discriminating among Porgies species (Table 1), while it was
338 not able to identify 24 species (35.3%), due to absence of reference sequences (n=17) or due to
339 close phylogenetic relationships (n=7).

340 *3.2.3 Full DNA barcoding (FDB): comparison between BOLD and GebBank.* Even though the
341 DNA barcoding is a useful tool for the species identification, many cases of ambiguous results due
342 to species misidentification, wrong labeling or mistakes during sequences submission have been
343 reported (Barbuto *et al.*, 2010; Carvalho *et al.*, 2010). These types of mistakes are readily detected
344 when specimens from different orders or families cluster together, but must be carefully considered
345 and analyzed when species belonging to the same genus are involved.

346 We observed that the discriminatory ability of the FDB was strictly related to the availability of
347 correctly identified reference sequences. In fact, after the correction of the ambiguous results,
348 BOLD was able to identify 53 species (78%) while GenBank only 44 (64%). The higher resolution
349 of BOLD compared to GenBank agrees with the results obtained by Wong *et al.* (2008) and
350 Cawthorn *et al.* (2012), who analyzed different groups of fish. In our study, this could be due to the
351 fact that on BOLD only 9 reference sequences were missed, while on GenBank the lacking
352 sequences were almost twice.

353 Our results are similar to those obtained by Barbuto *et al.* 2010, who, using the DNA barcoding
354 approach for the identification of *Palombo*, recognized at the species level 34 out of 45 (75.6%)
355 samples. In fact, in case of *Mustelus* spp., the high genetic correlations and morphological
356 similarities made difficult their recognition by the IDs system, as in the case of the species
357 belonging to the genus *Acanthopagrus* and *Diplodus*. On the contrary, in other studies the FDB
358 allowed to unequivocally identify a higher percentage of samples (Cawthorn *et al.*, 2012; Keskin &
359 Atar, 2013). On the basis of this data, it seems that the DNA barcoding approach is more precise
360 when applied to species belonging to different genus and families.

361 Interestingly to note that on BOLD the number of problematic sequences that could lead to
362 misinterpretation and need thorough analysis were higher (n= 73) than on GenBank (n=59), making
363 this latter database more suitable for “non-skilled” users. A systematic revision (elaboration
364 process) of the “raw data” obtained by the IDs system should be performed to resolve “ambiguity”
365 produced by unreliable sequences. Therefore, considering that published sequences are susceptible
366 to occasional inaccuracies, a more stringent process of confirmation and validation is desirable.

367 *3.2.4 Phylogenetic analysis of the full-barcode (FDB).* The NJ phylogenetic analysis of the FDB
368 allowed to solve the most part of issues highlighted with the DNA barcoding analysis. In particular,
369 the most part of the species and subspecies formed discrete clusters (Fig. 1SM), with bootstrap
370 values > 70%, showing the presence of unique and diagnostic polymorphism. However, a few
371 species still could not be distinguished, such as: *D. maroccanus* from *D. angolensis*, *P. auratus*
372 from *P. major*, *A. sivicolus* from *A. schlegellii*, *D. cervinus* from *D. cervinus hottentotus*, *S.*
373 *chrysops* from *S. caprinus*.

374 *3.2.5 139bp mini DNA barcodes (MDB) sequence analysis and comparison with databases.*
375 Hajibabaei *et al.*, (2005) have tested “*in silico*” the possibility to use MDB of 218bp and 109bp for
376 the identification of fishes, observing that they generally provided sequence variability comparable
377 to that of FDB at both intraspecific and intrageneric levels.

378 Meusnier, Singer, Landry, Hickey & Hebert, (2008) found that, even though the FDB performed
379 slightly better (97% species resolution), 250bp MDB gave only slightly lower rates (95%), while
380 with 100bp MDB resolution decreased to 90%.

381 The MDB sequences were compared with BOLD and GenBank databases. The BINdr could not
382 be performed due to the limit of the system in processing sequences shorter than 500bp.

383 Only 251 MDB were used on BOLD because sequences shorter than 80bp cannot be processed
384 by the IDs. All the analyzed sequences retrieved a max identity value from 98 to 100% allowing to
385 unequivocally identify 28 species (40%). Of the remaining species, 10 (14.3%) were not identified
386 due to the absence of reference sequences, and 32 (45.7%) were not identifiable or showed

387 ambiguous results. After an interpretation process, the number of correctly identified species rose to
388 32 (45.7%) (Table 1). Furthermore, the MDB allowed identifying at the genus level 50% of the
389 remaining not identifiable 28 species

390 Two hundred fifty five sequences were analyzed by BLAST analysis on GenBank and a max
391 identity value ranging from 98 to 100% was obtained for 243 sequences (95.2%). Sequences from
392 *C. arctifrons*, *D. macrophthalmus*, *D. spariformis*, *O. melanura*, *R. haffara*, and *V. acromegalus*
393 gave lower identity values (95-97%). MDB allowed to unequivocally identifying 26 species
394 (37.1%). For the remaining species, 18 (25.7%) were not identified due to the absence of reference
395 sequences, 26 (37.1%) showed ambiguous results or were not identifiable to the species level. Once
396 that this issues have been resolved the number of correctly identified species rose to 29 (41.4%).
397 However, the 139 mini-barcode allowed to identify at the genus level 13 (56%) of the unidentifiable
398 23 species (Table 1).

399 The analysis of the MDB highlighted a similar discriminatory power on both databases, with a
400 comparable number of species correctly identified (32 and 29, respectively) (Table 1). Even though
401 the discriminatory power was lower than the FDB the MDB allowed to identify 60% and 65% of
402 the species correctly identified analyzing the FDB on BOLD and GenBank, respectively. The
403 higher discriminatory power associated to GenBank could be explained considering that, in this
404 database, also shorter sequences are used by the identification engine.

405 Finally, the MDB allowed to unambiguously identify all the reference sequences as belonging to
406 the Sparidae family. This is a further advantage when Porgies species are replaced with species
407 belonging to different group of fish.

408 *3.2.6 Phylogenetic analysis of the mini-barcode (MDB)*. The NJ phylogenetic analysis obtained
409 with the MDB (Fig. 2SM), despite the average lower bootstrap values at species and subspecies
410 level, were able to correctly cluster most of the reference sequences with the exception of: *D.*
411 *maroccanus*, *D. angolensis*, *D. canariensis*, *P. auratus*, *P. major*, *E. cardinalis*, *P. edita*, *S.*
412 *emarginatum*, *S. cantharus*, *C. nodosus*, *C. calamus*, *D. sargus*, *D. noct*, *D. holbrookii*, *D.*

413 *argenteus*, *A. sivicolus*, *A. schlegellii*, *D. cervinus*, *D. cervinus hottentotus*, *S. chrysops* and *S.*
414 *caprinus*.

415 **3.3 Factors affecting PCR amplification when using full (FDB) and mini barcodes (MDB)**

416 The DNA electrophoresis clearly showed that the cooked samples had a more degraded DNA
417 with respect to the fresh ones (data not shown) and that the degradation was extremely variable
418 among the samples. In some cases, the degradation patterns revealed a scarce presence of fragments
419 longer than 300bp. In particular, the level of degradation was higher in fish of smaller dimensions.
420 No marked differences were observed between cooking processes.

421 In case of ethanol preserved specimens the degradation patterns were variable, with a smear in
422 the range of 100 to 1000bp, not always comparable between samples belonging to the same batch
423 (Institution).

424 Considering that other DNA samples of the same species were amplified with the same primers,
425 the amplification failure of the DNA extracted from fresh samples cannot be explained with an
426 improper primers annealing, but it might be more likely caused by DNA degradation. In fact, in
427 some cases, the DNA obtained from fresh tissues after 5 days of storing at 4°C can be fully
428 degraded (Rodriguez-Ezpeleta, Mendibil, Álvarez & Cotano, 2013).

429 The reduced amplificability of the DNA extracted from the cooked products agrees with the
430 observed degradation patterns. Thermal treatments, ingredients and storage conditions are among
431 the most important factors that can induce DNA degradation (Armani *et al.*, 2013; Armani,
432 Castigliero, Tinacci, Gianfaldoni & Guidi, 2012d; Rodriguez-Ezpeleta *et al.*, 2013). In fact, even
433 though the cooking procedure used in this study was not comparable to that caused by canning
434 processes, the amplificability was strongly affected. Similar problems were reported by Wong &
435 Hanner, (2008) and Cawthorn *et al.*, (2012), who were not able to produce the FDB from smoked,
436 pickled and canned products, confirming that DNA degradation is the main obstacle to the
437 application of the “classical DNA barcoding” approach.

438 The lower rate of DNA amplificability of ethanol-preserved could be due to the preservation of
439 samples in formalin or in ethanol for a long time. Many evidences suggest that formaldehyde
440 induces DNA degradation (Diaz-Cano & Brady, 1997), whereas alcoholic reagents yield superior
441 results in terms of DNA amplificability (Srinivasan, Sedmak & Jewell, 2002). Therefore it is
442 generally difficult to recover the FDB from museum specimens (Hajibabaei *et al.*, 2005).
443 Nevertheless, even short-term conservation can affect DNA integrity. Rodriguez-Ezpeleta *et al.*,
444 (2013) found that fish muscle stored in ethanol for 120 days showed a lower DNA integrity than
445 those stored for only 30 days. In accordance, we found that samples that were soaked in ethanol just
446 before the shipping showed a higher rate of DNA amplificability than those preserved for a longer
447 time.

448 In the light of the aforesaid issues, it would be advisable to collect many samples per species in
449 order to obtain at least 3 reference barcodes.

450 **3.4 Mislabeled of commercial samples**

451 Fifty eight samples (43 from market and 15 from restaurant) have been collected throughout
452 Italy. The 55 DNA FDB (average length 653bp) and 58 MDB (average length 139bp) (55
453 extrapolated from the FDB) obtained have been compared to the databases and used for the
454 phylogenetic analysis.

455 *3.4.1 Full-DNA barcodes (FDB) comparison with BOLD and GenBank.* A maximum species
456 identity in the range of 98–100% was obtained in BOLD for 54 sequences (98%) and in GenBank
457 for 47 sequences (85%). On the basis of the identity value obtained and considering the correction
458 factors already discussed (section 3.2) for the reference sequences, 45 samples (83%) and 38
459 samples (81%) were unambiguously identified at the species level on BOLD and GenBank,
460 respectively. Only considering a top match of 100% the number of MS identify at the species level
461 rises to 50 (91%) on BOLD and to 42 (89%) on GenBank (Table 3SM). Even though, on both
462 databases 100% of the remaining MS not identified at the species level were identified at the genus
463 level, this did not allow to verify the traceability information on the remaining samples.

464 Overall, the analysis performed on both databases matched and allowed to highlight 21
465 mislabeled samples (38%). In particular, we found 7 (33%) mislabeled restaurants products and 14
466 (67%) mislabeled samples from retail food and large-scale markets distribution.

467 *3.4.2 Mini DNA barcodes (MDB) comparison with BOLD and GenBank.* A maximum species
468 identities in the range of 98–100% were obtained in BOLD for 58 sequences (100%) and in
469 GenBank for 57 sequences (98.2%). On the basis of the identity value obtained, and considering the
470 correction factors already discussed (section 3.2), 37 samples (64%) and 42 samples (74%) were
471 unambiguously identified at the species level on BOLD and GenBank, respectively. Only
472 considering a top match of 100% the number of MS identified to species level rises to 47 (81%) on
473 BOLD and to 51 (89%) on GenBank (Table 3SM). The MDB confirmed the mislabeling already
474 detected by the barcode. No additional mislabeling was found for the three MS for which only the
475 short fragment was amplified.

476 In summary, we found that FDB and MDB applied to MS were characterized by a similar
477 discriminatory power on GenBank (89% vs 89%) while on BOLD a discrepancy was observed
478 (91% vs 81%). Interestingly, all the MS were correctly identified with the NJ analysis using the
479 FDB (Fig. 1SM), while using the MDB 5 MS could not be unequivocally assigned to a species (Fig.
480 2SM).

481 *3.4.3 Mislabeled products: what and why?*

482 This study confirmed that, as reported by Cawthorn *et al.*, (2012) and Stiles, Lahr, Lahey, Shaftel
483 & Bethel, (2011) more than one third of the commercialized fish is mislabeled.

484 On the contrary, our data are quite different from most of the studies reporting that the
485 mislabeling rate is usually higher in processed products (Carvalho *et al.*, 2011; Cawthorn *et al.*,
486 2012). In this work, 71% of the mislabeled samples were sold as whole fish while the rest were
487 fillets. This could be explained taking into consideration the high morphological similarity among
488 Porgies.

489 Some of the mislabeling, such as *S. salpa* sold as *S. auratus*, *Diplodus* spp. sold as *O. melanura*,
490 and *Spicara maena* sold as *S. salpa*, could be voluntary and aimed at charging higher prices on low
491 commercial value species.

492 Other cases were due to the improper use of commercial denomination, such as the utilization of
493 a generic name for the whole genus rather than the specific commercial name stated in the Italian
494 list: Seabream (Pagello) instead of Red Pandora (Pagello fragolino) for *P. erythrinus*, Seabream
495 (Sarago) instead of Sharp snout seabream (Sarago pizzuto) for *D. puntazzo*, Dentex (Dentice)
496 instead of Canary dentex (Dentice atlantico) for *D. canariensis*.

497 In some European countries, such as Italy, many different commercial names have been issued
498 for the different species of Sparidae, while in the UK, all the species of the family Sparidae except
499 *Boops boops* (Bogue), *Diplodus sargus* (White sea bream) and *Pagrus auratus* (Golden seabream)
500 can be referred to as Porgy. The ratio among the total number of commercial denominations and the
501 total number of Porgies species considered in the official lists of seafood products analyzed in this
502 study reflects the different national approaches for the management of seafood products. In
503 particular, the percentage of family coverage varies from more than 79% (Australia, Canada and
504 Italy) to 2% for UK (Table 3). This discrepancy is probably due to different culinary traditions and
505 to a different attention paid to the preservation of the local products (D'Amico, Armani,
506 Castigliero, Sheng & Gianfaldoni, 2014). In this light, trade names associated to single species,
507 which often include geographical adjectives, can clearly differentiate national products from the
508 imported ones.

509 Unfortunately, the different approaches adopted from different countries can enormously
510 complicate the fair commerce of seafood species.

511 **Conclusion**

512 In this study, the DNA barcoding was confirmed as a reliable approach for supporting the
513 traceability in the seafood chain and ensure the correct information of consumers, in agreement with
514 what reported by the EU Reg. No. 1379/2013.

515 The analysis of MS sequences and their comparison with our dataset of reference sequences,
516 supported by the comparison performed on BOLD and GenBank, allowed to highlight commercial
517 frauds in the trade of Porgies' species.

518 Moreover, considering that targeting a shorter region would increase the likelihood of successful
519 amplification from degraded DNA, for the first time a mini DNA barcoding approach was proposed
520 for the identification of seafood species. In fact, considering that it is not possible to establish *a*
521 *priori* the degradation level of a DNA sample, the utilization of a MDB represents a valid, and
522 sometimes the only, approach to recover molecular information from an unknown sample.

523 Finally, our work highlighted that both BOLD and Genbank still lack of reference sequences and
524 host different kind of problematic sequences. For these reasons, it would be beneficial to use both
525 the databases, supported by a NJ analysis, and to perform a careful and aware analysis and
526 elaboration of the raw data in order to solve ambiguous results that could create misidentification.

527 **Acknowledgments**

528 The Authors wish to sincerely thank all the people who kindly provided reference tissues of
529 Sparidae: Andy Bentley of Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas (Lawrence KS, USA); Dr.
530 Barbara A. Brown and Lowell Flanders of Department of Ichthyology, American Museum of
531 Natural History (New York NY, USA); Christopher Caine and Peter Caine of Fishweights.net
532 (Jeffreys Bay, South Africa); Dave Catania of California Academy of Sciences (San Francisco CA,
533 USA); Dr. Prosanta Chakrabarty and Caleb McMahan of Louisiana State University, Museum of
534 Natural Science (Baton Rouge LA, USA); Dr. Satoru Chiba of Center for Molecular Biodiversity
535 Research, National Museum of Nature and Science (Ibaraki, Japan); Dr. Achille De Sanctis of
536 Scoglitti Fish Market (Ragusa, Italy); Dr. Jonathan Deeds of US FDA Center for Food Safety and
537 Applied Nutrition (College Park MD, USA); Dr. Arfang Diamanka of Laboratoire de Parasitologie
538 Générale, Faculté des Sciences et Techniques, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (Dakar,
539 Sénégal); Dr. Paolo Galli of Biotechnology and Bioscience Department, University of Milan
540 Bicocca (Milano, Italy); Gabriela M. Hogue of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

541 (Raleigh NC, USA); Erling Holm and Margaret Zur of Department of Natural History, Royal
542 Ontario Museum (Toronto, Canada); Dr. Seishi Kimura of Fisheries Research Laboratory, Mie
543 University (Mie, Japan); Mark Lisher of South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity
544 (Grahamstown, South Africa); Terry A. Lott of Florida Museum of Natural History, University of
545 Florida (Gainesville FL, USA); Dr. Ione Madinabeitia of Department of Environmental Dynamics
546 and Management, Hiroshima University (Hiroshima, Japan); Dr. Stefano Mariani of the School of
547 Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford (Salford, UK); Mark McGrouther,
548 Ichthyology, Australian Museum (Sydney, Australia); Dr. Gui M. Menezes of Departamento de
549 Oceanografia e Pescas, Universidade dos Açores (Horta, Portugal); Dr. Natacha Mesquita of Museu
550 Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência (Lisbon, Portugal); Dr. Gavin Partridge of Australian
551 Centre for Applied Aquaculture Research Challenger Institute of Technology (Fremantle,
552 Australia); Dr. Mark Sabaj Pérez of Department of Ichthyology, The Academy of Natural Sciences
553 of Philadelphia (PA, USA); Dr. Matt E. Roberts of Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
554 (Jackson MS, USA); Dr. Hiroshi Senou of Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History
555 (Kanagawa, Japan); Dr. Shao Kwang-Tsao of Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica
556 (Taipei, Taiwan); Karen Shearer and Rod Asher of Cawthron Institute (Nelson, New Zealand); Dr.
557 Nir Stern of Steinhardt Museum of Natural History and National Research Center at Tel Aviv
558 University (Tel Aviv, Israel); Dr. Jose Tavera of University of California, Davis (CA, USA); Dr.
559 Alfred W. Thomson and Molly Phillips of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
560 Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (St. Petersburg FL, USA); Dr. Nicholas Tuckey of The New
561 Zealand Institute for Plant & Food Research (Nelson, New Zealand); Dr. H.J. Walker of Marine
562 Vertebrate Collection Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California (La Jolla CA,
563 USA) and Dr. Gregory J. Watkins-Colwell of Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History (New
564 Haven CT, USA)

565

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- Similarities among Sparidae species complicate morphological identification
- DNA barcoding has proven to be a useful tool for seafood products inspection
- Full and mini-DNA barcodes have been compared for the identification of Sparidae
- Full-barcode shows higher discriminatory ability but a lower amplification rate
- Analysis of marketed samples confirmed widespread mislabeling in the seafood chain

		Full-DNA barcodes (655bp)		Mini-DNA barcodes (139bp)	
		IDs BOLD	BLAST NCBI	IDs BOLD	BLAST NCBI
Raw data					
Correctly identified	Sequences	134 – 59.6%	127 – 56.4%	97 – 38.6%	97 – 38%
	Species	39 – 57.4%	37 – 54.4%	28 – 40%	26 – 37.1%
Problematic*	Sequences	73 – 32.4%	59 – 26.2%	132 – 52.6%	112 – 44%
	Species	20 – 29.4%	14 – 20.6%	32 – 45.7%	26 – 37.1%
No reference sequences	Sequences	18 – 8%	39 – 17.3%	22 – 8.8%	46 – 18%
	Species	9 – 13.2%	17 – 25%	10 – 14.3%	18 – 25.7%
After result elaboration					
Correctly identified	Sequences	187 – 83%	161 – 71.5%	110 – 43.8%	114 – 44.7%
	Species	53 – 78%	44 – 64.7%	32 – 45.7%	29 – 41.4%
No reference sequences	Sequences	18 – 8%	39 – 17.3%	22 – 8.8%	46 – 18%
	Species	9 – 13.2%	17 – 25%	10 – 14.3%	18 – 25.7%
Non identifiable	Sequences	20 – 9%	25 – 11.2%	119 – 47.4%	95 – 37.2%
	Species	6 – 8.8%	7 – 10.3%	28 – 40%	23 – 32.8%

Table 1. Summary of the results of the IDs analysis on BOLD and of the BLAST analysis on GenBank using the full and the mini DNA barcodes (655bp and 139bp, respectively), before and after the elaboration of the results. * Include the sequences that were not identified due to the presence of sequences belonging to misidentified specimens in the databases or to close relationship between species.

Table

Identification	Conflicting Taxon in BIN	Rank of Conflict	BIN	BIN Total Members	BIN Tax Variation	Possible explanation
<i>Boops boops</i>	<i>Boops</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAB7806	59	<i>Boops</i> [78], <i>Oblada</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Cheimerius nufar</i>	<i>Cheimerius</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAE2592	25	<i>Cheimerius</i> [24], <i>Pagrus</i> [1]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Evynnis cardinalis</i>	<i>Evynnis</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAC2906	22	<i>Evynnis</i> [19], <i>Parargyrops</i> [3]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Evynnis tumifrons</i>	<i>Evynnis</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAD0508	11	<i>Evynnis</i> [11], <i>Dentex</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Pagellus acarne</i>	<i>Pagellus</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAC3611	35	<i>Pagellus</i> [45], <i>Oblada</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Pagellus bellottii</i>	<i>Pagellus</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAF8829	8	<i>Pagellus</i> [5], <i>Pagrus</i> [3]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Pagellus erythrinus</i>	<i>Pagellus</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAC8525	39	<i>Pagellus</i> [52], <i>Oblada</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Pagrus pagrus</i>	<i>Pagrus</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAC8526	58	<i>Pagrus</i> [54], <i>Oblada</i> [4], <i>Pagellus</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Rhabdosargus haffara</i>	<i>Rhabdosargus</i>	Genus	BOLD:ACG7708	3	<i>Rhabdosargus</i> [2], <i>Sparus</i> [1]	Misidentification of specimen
<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	<i>Sarpa</i>	Genus	BOLD:AAE4266	41	<i>Sarpa</i> [41], <i>Boops</i> [1]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Virididentex acromegalus</i>	<i>Virididentex</i>	Genus	BOLD:ABX7583	8	<i>Pagellus</i> [5], <i>Virididentex</i> [3]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Acanthopagrus pacificus</i>	<i>Acanthopagrus pacificus</i>	Species	BOLD:ACF5415	7	<i>Acanthopagrus pacificus</i> [5], <i>A. berda</i> [2]	Misidentification of specimen
<i>Acanthopagrus schlegelii</i>	<i>Acanthopagrus schlegelii</i>	Species	BOLD:AAF8876	29	<i>Acanthopagrus schlegelii</i> [13], <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i> [11], <i>A. sivicolus</i> [3]	Sub-species relationship Close phylogenetic relationship
<i>Acanthopagrus sivicolus</i>	<i>Acanthopagrus sivicolus</i>					
<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i>	<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i>	Species	BOLD:AAB3719	13	<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i> [12], <i>A. spinifer</i> [1]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Calamus proridens</i>	<i>Calamus proridens</i>	Species	BOLD:AAU3000	3	<i>Calamus leucosteus</i> [2], <i>C. proridens</i> [1]	Close phylogenetic relationship
<i>Dentex angolensis</i>	<i>Dentex angolensis</i>	Species	BOLD:AAE3470	10	<i>Dentex macrophthalmus</i> [5], <i>D. angolensis</i> [3], <i>D. maroccanus</i> [2]	Sequence mislabeling
<i>Dentex maroccanus</i>	<i>Dentex maroccanus</i>					
<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>	<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>	Species	BOLD:AAD3631	34	<i>Diplodus cervinus</i> [26], <i>D. fasciatus</i> [5], <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> [3]	Subspecies
<i>Diplodus noct</i>	<i>Diplodus noct</i>	Species	BOLD:ACE3794	62	<i>Diplodus sargus</i> [42], <i>D. capensis</i> [11], <i>D. noct</i> [3], <i>D. sargus helenae</i> [2], <i>D. sargus ascensionensis</i> [2], <i>D. sargus sargus</i> [1], <i>D. kotschyi</i> [1]	Subspecies
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	<i>Diplodus sargus</i>					
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	Species	BOLD:AAC2260	47	<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i> [60], <i>D. prayensis</i> [6], <i>D. sargus</i> [2], <i>D. fasciatus</i> [1]	Subspecies
<i>Pagrus major</i>	<i>Pagrus major</i>	Species	BOLD:AAC0553	43	<i>Pagrus major</i> [21], <i>Pagrus auratus</i> [19]	Sub-species relationship (Tabata et al. 2000)
<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>					
<i>Stenotomus caprinus</i>	<i>Stenotomus caprinus</i>	Species	BOLD:AAC4538	29	<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i> [24], <i>S. caprinus</i> [4]	Misidentification of specimen
<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i>	<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i>					

Table 2: BIN discordance report.

Country	N° of commercial denominations	N° of species	Percentage of coverage
Italy	28	35	80%
Spain	27	41	65%
UK	3	113	2%
France	36	47	76%
Germany	21	49	43%
USA	6	57	10%
Canada	23	29	79%
Australia	10	10	100%

Table 3. Percentage of coverage of the commercial denominations for the Sparidae family in different Countries.

Scientific Name	<i>Sparidae</i> Official Trade Denominations								FAO English name
	Europe					Extra EU			
	Italy	Spain	France	Germany	United Kingdom ^a	USA	Canada	Australia	
<i>Acanthopagrus australis</i>								Yellowfin Bream	Surf bream
<i>Acanthopagrus berda</i>						Seabream, Porgie		Pikey Bream	Goldsilke seabream
<i>Acanthopagrus bifasciatus</i>	Pagro bifasciato								Two-bar seabream
<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>								Black Bream	N.R.
<i>Acanthopagrus latus</i>								Western Yellowfin Bream	Yellowfin seabream
<i>Acanthopagrus palmaris</i>								Northwest Black Bream	N.R.
<i>Archosargus probatocephalus</i>			Rondeau mouton			Sheepshead	Sheepshead Porgy, Seabream, Porgy		Sheepshead
<i>Archosargus rhomboidalis</i>						Sea Bream			Western Atlantic seabream
<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i>						Bream	Taiwan Thai, Bream	Frypan Bream	Taiwan tai
<i>Argyrops filamentosus</i>	Pagro indiano		Spare de l'Océan indien						Soldier bream
<i>Argyrops spinifer</i>	Pagro reale		Spare royal			Bream	Long-spined Red Bream		King soldier bream
<i>Boops boops</i>	Boga	Boga	Bogue	Gelbstriemen	Bogue	Bream or Bogue	Bream		Bogue
<i>Calamus arctifrons</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Grass porgy
<i>Calamus bajonado</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Jolt-head porgy
<i>Calamus brachysomus</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Pacific porgy
<i>Calamus calamus</i>		Pezpluma	Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Saucereye porgy

<i>Calamus campechanus</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Calamus cervigoni</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Calamus leucosteus</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Calamus mu</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Calamus nodosus</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy		N.R.
<i>Calamus penna</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Sheepshead porgy
<i>Calamus pennatula</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Calamus proridens</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		Littlehead porgy
<i>Calamus taurinus</i>			Daubenet (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)			Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)	Porgy (<i>Calamus</i> spp.)		N.R.
<i>Cheimereius nufar</i> (<i>Dentex nufar</i>)	Dentale indiano (Dentice rosa)	Dentón nufar							Santer seabream
<i>Chrysoblephus gibbiceps</i>				Stumpfnase, Rote					Red stumpnose seabream
<i>Pagrus auratus</i> (<i>Chrysophrys auratus</i>)	Pagro rosa indo pacifico					Porgy		Snapper	N.R.
<i>Dentex abei</i>		Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					N.R.
<i>Dentex angolensis</i>	Dentice atlantico	Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)	Denté angolais	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					Angolan dentex
<i>Dentex barnardi</i>	Dentice atlantico	Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					Barnard dentex
<i>Dentex</i>	Dentice	Denton Canario	Denté des	Brasse, Meer,					Canary

<i>canariensis</i>	atlantico		Canaries, Denté à tâche rouge	Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					dentex
<i>Dentex congoensis</i>		Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)	Denté congolais	Kongo-Zahn-Brasse					Congo dentex
<i>Dentex dentex</i>	Dentice	Denton, Denton europeo	Denté commun, denté	Zahn-Brasse		Porgy	Dentex , Common Dentex		Common dentex
<i>Dentex fourmanoiri</i>		Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					N.R.
<i>Dentex gibbosus</i>	Dentice gibboso	Sama de pluma	Denté rose	Brasse, Dickkopfzahn		Porgy			Pink dentex
<i>Dentex macrophthalmus</i>	Dentice occhione	Cachucho	Denté à gros yeux	Brasse, Großaugenzahn					Large-eye dentex
<i>Dentex maroccanus</i>	Dentice marocchino	Sama	Denté du Maroc	Brasse, Marokkanische Zahn					Morocco dentex
<i>Dentex spariformis</i>		Dentones (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Dentex</i> spp.)					N.R.
<i>Diplodus annularis</i>	Sarago sparaglione	Raspallon	Sparaillon commun, sparaillon	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Annular seabream
<i>Diplodus argenteus argenteus</i>	Sarago atlantico ^b	Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus argenteus</i>)			South American silver porgy
<i>Diplodus argenteus caudimacula</i>	Sarago atlantico ^b	Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus argenteus</i>)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus bellottii</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)	Sparaillon africain, sparaillon	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Senegal seabream
<i>Diplodus bermudensis</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus capensis</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus cervinus cervinus</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo breado	Sar à grosses lèvres, Sar	Bänder-Brasse		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Zebra seabream
<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargos		Brasse, Meer, Dorade		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.

		(<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		(<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)					
<i>Diplodus cervinus omanensis</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus fasciatus</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Banded seabream
<i>Diplodus holbrookii</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy	Salema		Spottail seabream
<i>Diplodus noct</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Red Sea seabream
<i>Diplodus prayensis</i>		Sargos (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)	Sar à tête noire du Cap Vert	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Two-banded seabream
<i>Diplodus puntazzo</i>	Sarago pizzuto	Sargo picudo	Sar à museau pointu, sar	Spitz-Brasse		Porgy			Sharpsnout seabream
<i>Diplodus sargus ascensionis</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b		Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus sargus cadenati</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b		Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus sargus helenae</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b		Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus sargus kotschy</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b		Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus sargus lineatus</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b		Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			N.R.
<i>Diplodus sargus sargus</i>	Sarago ^b	Sargo ^b	Sarcommun, sar	Weiß-Brasse, GroßeGeiß- Brasse ^b		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			White seabream
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	Sarago	Mojarra	Sar à tête noire, sar	Zweibinden- Brasse		Porgy (<i>Diplodus</i> spp.)			Common two-banded seabream
<i>Evynnis tumifrons</i>						Sea Bream			N.R.

						<i>(Dentex tumifrons)</i>			
<i>Lagodon rhomboides</i>						Porgy	Pinfish		Pinfish
<i>Lithognathus lithognathus</i>			Marbré d'Afrique, dorade-marbré						White steenbras
<i>Lithognathus mormyrus</i>	Mormora	Herrera	Marbré commun, dorade-marbré	Marmor-Brasse, Meer-Brasse, Dorade					Sand steenbras
<i>Oblada melanura</i>	Occhiata	Oblada	Oblade	Brand-Brasse					Saddled seabream
<i>Pagellus acarne</i>	Pagello	Aligote	Pageot acarné	Achselfleck-Brasse		Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Sea Bream, Axillary Seabream, Axillary bream		Axillary seabream
<i>Pagellus affinis</i>	Pagello indiano	Besugo arabe	Pageot d'Arabie, Pageot de la mer d'Oman	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)		Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)			Arabian pandora
<i>Pagellus bellottii</i>	Pagello atlantico	Brecachata	Pageot à tache rouge, Dorade rouge	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)		Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Red Pandora, Pandora		Red Pandora
<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>	Pagello	Besugo	Pageot rose, Dorade rose	Grau-Barsch, See-Karpfen		Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Seabream , Porgy		Blackspot (=red) seabream
<i>Pagellus erythrinus</i>	Pagello fragolino	Breca	Pageot mommun, Pageot	Rot-Brasse		Bream			Common pandora
<i>Pagellus natalensis</i>		Besugos (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)		Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)		Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus</i> spp.)			Natal pandora
<i>Pagrus africanus</i>	Pagro africano			Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagrus</i> spp.)					Southern common seabream
<i>Pagrus auratus</i>									Silver seabream
<i>Pagrus auriga</i>	Pagro	Urta	Pagre rayé	Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagrus</i> spp.)					Redbanded seabream
<i>Pagrus caeruleostictus</i>	Pagro	Zapata	Pagre à points bleu, Dorade	Brasse, Meer, Dorade			Seabream, Porgy, Bluespotted		Bluespotted seabream

				(<i>Pagrus</i> spp.)			Seabream		
<i>Pagrus major</i>	Pagro del Giappone			Brasse, Meer, Dorade (<i>Pagrus</i> spp.)		Porgy, Sea Bream	Silver Seabream, Japanese Seabream, Genuine Porgy		Japanese seabream
<i>Pagrus pagrus</i>	Pagro	Pargo		Sack-Brasse		Porgy	Seabream, Red Porgy, Porgy		Red porgy
<i>Polysteganus coeruleopunctatus</i>			Denté à points bleu						Blueskin seabream
<i>Pterogymnus laniarius</i>			Panga de l'Atlantique S-E Spare panga			Porgy			Panga seabream
<i>Rhabdosargus globiceps</i>			Sargue de l'Atlantique S.-E.	Stumpfnase, Weiße					White stumpnose
<i>Rhabdosargus sarba</i>	Sarago dorato		Sarguedorée					Tarwhine	Goldlined seabream
<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	Salpa	Salema	Saupe	Goldstriemen					Salema
<i>Sparidentex hasta</i>								SobaityBream	Sobaity seabream
<i>Sparus aurata</i>	Orata	Dorada		Gold-Brasse			Gilthead Bream	Bream	Gilthead seabream
<i>Spondylisoma cantharus</i>	Tanuta	Chopa	Griset, Doradegrise	Meer-Brasse Streifen-Brasse, Dorade					Black seabream
<i>Stenotomus caprinus</i>						Porgy	Shiner, Seabream, Porgy, Longspined Porgy		Longspine porgy
<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i>						Porgy, Scup	Scup, Porgy		Scup

Table 1 SM. Official Trade Names of the species of commercial interest belonging to the Sparidae family according to the lists of Italy (Ministerial Decree of the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (MIPAAF) of 27th March 2002 and subsequent integrations), Spain (Resolución de 22 Marzo 2011 de la Secretaría General del Mar), France (<http://www.economie.gouv.fr/dgccrf/Consommation/Etiquetage-des-produits/Produits-de-la->

[mer-et-d-eau-douce/Listes-des-denominations-commerciales](#)),

Germany

(http://www.fischinfo.de/pdf/HANDELSBEZEICHNUNGEN_%28DEUTSCH%29.pdf), United Kingdom (Food Standard Agency of United Kingdom), USA (US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA), Regulatory Fish Encyclopedia (RFE), 2012), Canada (Canadian Food Inspection Agency, CFIA Fish List, 2012), Australia (Australia Government, Seafood Services Australia Ltd Fishery Research Development Corporation). Moreover, the FAO English names are reported (^aAquatic Sciences and Fisheries Information System (ASFIS) <http://www.fao.org/fishery/collection/asfis/en>).

^aFor all species of the family Sparidae except *Boops boops* the legal name is Sea bream or Porgy;

^bTrade denomination assigned to the species;

NR = Not Reported.

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Species	Institution	Number of samples	Full-DNA barcoding region (655bp)	Mini DNA barcoding region (139bp)	Provenience (FAO Area)
<i>Acanthopagrus australis</i>	Australian Museum, Sydney, NSW, Australia	1	1	-	81
<i>Acanthopagrus berda</i>	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	4	4	-	61
	Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA, USA	1	1	-	71
<i>Acanthopagrus bifasciatus</i>	Department of Biotechnology and Biosciences University of Milan Bicocca Milan, Italy	3	0	0	51.1
<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	57.5.2
	Australian Center for Applied Acquaculture Research Challenger Institute of Technology Fremantle Freemantle, WA, Australia	7	7	-	57
	Australian Museum, Sydney, NSW, Australia	1	1	-	81
<i>Acanthopagrus latus</i>	Fisheries Research Laboratory, Mie University Mie, Japan	2	2	-	61
	Center for Molecular Biodiversity Research National Museum of Nature and Science Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan	3	3	-	
	This study	1	1	-	
<i>Acanthopagrus pacificus</i> ^a	Center for Molecular Biodiversity Research National Museum of Nature and Science Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan	3	2	1	61
<i>Acanthopagrus palmaris</i>	Australian Museum, Sydney, NSW, Australia	1	1	-	57
<i>Acanthopagrus schlegelii</i> ^a	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	4	3	1	61
	Fisheries Research Laboratory, Mie University Mie, Japan	2	2	-	
	Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History Odawara, Kanagawa, Japan	1	0	0	
<i>Acanthopagrus sivicolus</i> ^a	Center for Molecular Biodiversity Research	3	3	-	61

	National Museum of Nature and Science Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan				
<i>Archosargus probatocephalus</i>	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	2	1	0	31
	North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences Raleigh, NC, USA	1	1	-	
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	1	1	-	
	Florida Museum of Natural History, Genetic Resources Repository, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, USA	1	1	-	
	Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Jackson, MS, USA	1	0	1	
<i>Archosargus rhomboidalis</i>	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	2	1	0	31
<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i>	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	1	1	-	61
	Center for Molecular Biodiversity Research National Museum of Nature and Science Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan	2	2	-	
	Department of Ichthyology American Museum of Natural History New York, NY, USA	1	1	-	
<i>Argyrops filamentosus</i>	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity Grahamstown, South Africa	2	2	-	51.8
<i>Argyrops spinifer</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	61
	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity Grahamstown, South Africa	5	3	0	51.8
	This study	2	2	-	
<i>Argyrozona argyrozona^a</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	3	3	-	51.8
<i>Boops boops</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	3	-	37.2.2
	Wholesale fish market of Scoglitti Ragusa, Italy	2	1	0	
<i>Calamus arctifrons</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology	1	0	0	31

	Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA				
	Florida Museum of Natural History , Genetic Resources Repository, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, USA	5	2	1	
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	1	1	-	
<i>Calamus bajonado</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	31
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	4	3	0	
<i>Calamus brachysomus</i>	Institution of Oceanography, University of California La Jolla, CA, USA	1	1	-	77
	Centro de Investigaciones Biologicas del Noroeste La Paz, México	1	1	-	77
<i>Calamus calamus</i>	University of Kansas - Biodiversity Institute, Dyche Hall Lawrence, KS, USA	3	3	-	31
	Florida Museum of Natural History –Genetic Resources Repository, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, USA	1	0	0	
<i>Calamus leucosteus</i> ^a	US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition College Park, MD, USA ^b	1	NS		31
	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	3	1	0	
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	2	2	-	
<i>Calamus nodosus</i>	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	2	1	1	31
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	3	3	-	
<i>Calamus penna</i>	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	2	1	1	31
<i>Calamus pennatula</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	31

<i>Calamus proridens</i>	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	4	1	1	31
	Florida Museum of Natural History, Genetic Resources Repository, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, USA	1	0	0	
<i>Cheimerius nufar</i>	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity Grahamstown, South Africa	5	4	1	51.6 51.8
<i>Chrysoblephus cristiceps^a</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	3	3	-	51.8
<i>Chrysoblephus gibbiceps</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	1	1	-	51.8
<i>Chrysoblephus laticeps^a</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	3	3	-	51.8
<i>Chrysoblephus puniceus^a</i>	School of Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford Salford, United Kingdom	1	1	-	51
<i>Crenidens crenidens^a</i>	Australian Museum Sydney, NSW Australia	1	1	-	51
<i>Dentex angolensis</i>	California Academy of Sciences San Francisco, CA, USA	3	1	1	34.3.1 34.3.4
	This study	2	2	0	34
<i>Dentex canariensis</i>	Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University East Lansing, MI, USA	1	0	0	34.3.1
	This study	1	1	0	34
<i>Dentex congoensis</i>	California Academy of Sciences San Francisco, CA, USA	1	0	0	34.3.1
<i>Dentex dentex</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	37
	This study	4	3	1	37.1.3
		1	1	0	34
<i>Dentex gibbosus</i>	Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University East Lansing, MI, USA	1	1	-	34.3.1
<i>Dentex macrophthalmus</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	3	-	37.3.2
<i>Dentex maroccanus</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science	3	2	0	37.3.2

	Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel				
<i>Dentex spariformis</i>	Australian Museum Sydney, NSW Australia	1	1	-	81
<i>Diplodus annularis</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	3	-	37.3.2
	This study	2	2	-	
<i>Diplodus argenteus</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	31
<i>Diplodus bellottii</i>	Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University East Lansing, MI, USA	1	0	0	34.3.1
<i>Diplodus cervinus</i>	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity Grahamstown, South Africa	2	0	2	51.8
	Department of Ichthyology, American Museum of Natural History New York, NY, USA	1	0	0	Unknown
<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>	Institution of Oceanography, University of California La Jolla, CA, USA	1	1	-	47
	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	1	1	-	47.2.2
<i>Diplodus holbrookii</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	2	0	0	31
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	3	2	0	
<i>Diplodus noct</i>	Department of Biotechnology and Biosciences, University of Milan - Bicocca Milan, Italy	2	2	-	51.1
	Australian Museum Sydney NSW Australia	1	1	-	51
<i>Diplodus puntazzo</i>	This study	5	4	1	37.1.3
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science, Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	2	1	37.3.2
	Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência Lisboa, Portugal	1	0	0	27 IXa

	This study	3	2	1	37.1.3
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science, Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	3	-	37.3.2
	This study	3	3	0	37.1.3
<i>Evynnis cardinalis^a</i>	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	8	2	3	61
<i>Evynnis tumifrons</i>	Graduate School of Biosphere Science, Hiroshima University Hiroshima, Japan	2	2	-	61
	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	3	3	-	
<i>Lagodon rhomboides</i>	US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition College Park, MD, USA ^b	1	NS		31
	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	3	3	-	
	Florida Museum of Natural History, Genetic Resources Repository, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, USA	1	1	-	
	Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA, USA	1	1	-	
<i>Lithognathus mormyrus</i>	School of Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford Salford, United Kingdom	1	1	-	37.1.1
	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science, Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	2	0	37.3.2
	This study	3	3	-	
<i>Oblada melanura</i>	School of Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford Salford, United Kingdom	1	0	1	37.1.2
	This study	10	2	5	37.1.3
<i>Pachymetopon aeneum^a</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	3	3	-	51.8
<i>Pagellus acarne</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science, Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	3	-	37.2.2
	Wholesale fish market of Scoglitti Ragusa, Italy	3	2	0	

<i>Pagellus bellottii</i>	Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University East Lansing, MI, USA	1	1	-	34.3.1
<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>	Wholesale fish market of Scoglitti Ragusa, Italy	3	3	-	37.2.2
	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	37.1.3
	This study	4	4	-	37.1.1
<i>Pagellus erythrinus</i>	School of Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford Salford, United Kingdom	1	-	1	37.1.2
	This study	5	4	0	37.1.3
<i>Pagrus africanus</i>	Departamento de Oceanografia e Pescas – Universidade dos Açores, Açores, Portugal	1	0	1	34.3.2
<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	77
	Seafood and Marine Extracts, Plant & Food Research Nelson Nelson, New Zealand	6	6	-	81
	Cawthron Institute, Nelson, New Zealand	1	1	-	
<i>Pagrus auriga</i>	Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University East Lansing, MI, USA	1	1	-	34.3.1
	This study	1	1	-	
<i>Pagrus caeruleostictus</i>	Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science, Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel	3	2	1	37.3.2
	California Academy of Sciences San Francisco, CA, USA	2	2	-	34.3.1 34.1.3
	This study	2	1	0	37.1.3
<i>Pagrus major</i>	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	4	3	1	61
	Graduate School of Biosphere Science, Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan	2	2	-	
<i>Pagrus pagrus</i>	Wholesale fish market of Scoglitti Ragusa, Italy	3	2	1	37.2.2
	US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition College Park, MD, USA ^b	1	NS		31

	This study	5	3	2	37.1.3
<i>Pterogymnus laniarus</i>	FishWeights Cape Town, South Africa	3	3	-	51.8
<i>Rhabdosargus haffara</i>	Department of Biotechnology and Biosciences University of Milan - Bicocca Milan, Italy	1	1	-	51.1
<i>Rhabdosargus holubi</i> ^a	Australian Museum Sydney, NSW Australia	1	1	-	47
<i>Rhabdosargus sarba</i>	Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan	2	0	2	61
	Fisheries Research Laboratory, Mie University Mie, Japan	2	2	-	
	Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History Odawara, Kanagawa, Japan	1	0	0	
	Australian Museum Sydney, NSW Australia	1	1	-	81
<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	Mercato Ittico Scoglitti Ragusa, Italy	2	2	-	37.2.2
	This study	3	3	-	37
<i>Sparus aurata</i>	This study	5	5	-	37.1.3
<i>Spondyliosoma cantharus</i>	Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência Lisboa, Portugal	1	0	0	27 IXa
	This study	5	5	-	37.1.3
<i>Stenotomus caprinus</i>	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	31
	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	1	1	-	
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute St. Petersburg, FL, USA	2	2	-	
<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i>	Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, USA	4	4	-	21.6
	Academy of Natural Sciences, Ichthyology Drexel University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	1	0	0	21.6B
	North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences	1	1	-	31

	Raleigh, NC, USA				
	Herpetology and Ichthyology, Division of Vertebrate Zoology Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History New Haven, CT, USA	1	1	-	21.6A
	US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition College Park, MD, USA ^b	1	NS		21
<i>Virididentex acromegalus</i> ^a	Departamento de Oceanografia e Pescas – Universidade dos Açores Açores, Portugal	2	1	1	34.3.2

Table 2 SM. Reference samples collected in the study, with the indications of the Institutions, the geographical origin and the number of full and mini barcode obtained. ^aSpecies not considered in the International Official Trade lists; ^bDNA samples only used for testing the amplification performance of primers; NS: Not Sequenced.

Code	Place of collection	Label information			Product	bp	Species identification			
		Market name	International accepted name	Scientific name			BOLD Species Level Barcode Records	MI	GenBank	MI
MS1	Market	Dentale indiano	Santer seabream	<i>Cheimereius nufar</i>	Whole	655	<i>C. nufar</i>	99.54	<i>C. nufar</i>	99
						139	<i>C. nufar</i>	100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
MS2-MS3	Market	Dentice atlantico	Angolan dentex	<i>Dentex angolensis</i> ^a	Filletts	655	<i>D. angolensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i> <i>D. maroccanus</i>	100 99.84 99.84	<i>D. angolensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100 98
						139	<i>D. angolensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i> <i>D. maroccanus</i> <i>D. canariensis</i>	100 99.28 99.28 98.55	<i>D. angolensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100 99
MS4	Market	Dentice	Dentex	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. canariensis</i>	100	<i>D. canariensis</i>	100
						139	<i>D. canariensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i> <i>D. maroccanus</i> <i>D. angolensis</i>	100 99.28 99.28 98.55	<i>D. canariensis</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100 99
MS5	Market	Dentice	Dentex	NR	Whole	655	No match		<i>Cheimereius nufar</i>	95
						139	<i>C. nufar</i> <i>D. gibbosus</i>	98.55 98.55	<i>Cheimereius nufar</i>	98
MS6-MS7	Market	Dentice rosa	Santer seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>C. nufar</i>	99.08	<i>C. nufar</i>	99
						139	<i>C. nufar</i>	100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
MS8	Market	Dentice rosa	Santer seabream	NR	Whole	139	<i>C. nufar</i>	100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
MS9	Restaurant	Dentice	Dentex	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. dentex</i>	100	<i>D. dentex</i>	99
						139	<i>D. dentex</i>	100	<i>D. dentex</i>	99
MS10	Restaurant	Mormora	Sand steenbras	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	Whole	606	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100
						139	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100
MS11	Market	Occhiata	Saddled seabream	<i>O. melanura</i>	Whole	139	<i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. capensis</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. noct</i>	100 99.28 99.21 98.55 98.55 98.55 98.55 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i>	99 98 98
MS12	Market	Occhiata	Saddled seabream	<i>O. melanura</i>	Filletts	655	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. capensis</i> <i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i>	100 99.54 99.39 -98.46 98.16 98.15	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. sargus kotschyi</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	100 99 98 98

						139	<i>D. capensis</i> <i>D. sargus kotschyi</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. sargus subspecies</i> <i>D. noct</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 100 100 100 100 100 99.28 99.28 99.05 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 99 99 99
MS13	Market	Occhiata	Saddled seabream	<i>O. melanura</i>	Fillets	655	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 99.69 98.73 98.62	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99 99
						139	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 99.28 99.28 99.28 98.41	<i>D. sargus</i>	100
MS14	Restaurant	Occhiata	Saddled seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>O. melanura</i>	99.69	<i>O. melanura</i>	95
						139	<i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99.21 98.41	<i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	97 97
MS15	Market	Orata	Gilthead seabream	<i>S. aurata</i>	Fillets	655	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
						139	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
MS16-MS17	Restaurant	Orata	Gilthead seabream	<i>S. aurata</i>	Fillets	655	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
						139	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
MS18-MS19	Market	Orata	Gilthead seabream	<i>S. aurata</i>	Fillets	655	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
						139	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
MS20	Market	Orata	Gilthead seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>S. aurata</i>	99.85	<i>S. aurata</i>	99
						139	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
MS21	Market	Pagello	Sea Bream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	99 99
						139	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100	<i>P. acarne</i>	100
MS22	Market	Pagello atlantico	Red pandora	<i>P. bellottii</i>	Whole	655	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> (3 seq.) <i>P. natalensis</i>	100 99.53 99.21	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. natalensis</i>	99 99
						139	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> (3 seq.)	100 98.55	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. natalensis</i>	100 98
MS23	Market	Pagello	Common	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	Whole	655	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100

		fragolino	pandora				<i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99.19	<i>O. melanura</i>	99
						139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
MS24	Market	Pagello	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99.85 99.19	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99 99
						139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
MS25- MS26- MS27	Market	Pagello	Seabream	NR	Filletts	655	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99.85 99.19	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99 99
						139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
MS28- MS29	Restaurant	Pagello	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	100 99.19	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	100 99
						139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
MS30	Restaurant	Pagello	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. pagrus</i> <i>C. nufar</i>	100 99.23	<i>C. nufar</i>	99
						139	<i>C. nufar</i> <i>P. pagrus</i>	100 100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
MS31	Market	Pagro	Redbanded seabream	<i>P. auriga</i>	Whole	655	<i>P. auriga</i>	100	<i>P. auriga</i>	100
						139	<i>P. auriga</i>	100	<i>P. auriga</i>	100
MS32- MS33	Market	Pagro	Bluespotted seabream	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	Whole	655	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100
						139	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100
MS34- MS35 - MS36	Market	Pagro	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. pagrus</i> (1seq.) <i>C. nufar</i>	100 99.23	<i>C. nufar</i>	99
						139	<i>C. nufar</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> (1seq.)	100 100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
MS37- MS38	Market	Pagro rosa indo pacifico	NR	NR	Whole	655	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	96
						139	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>A. blekeeri</i>	100 98.55	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>Porcostoma dentata</i> <i>A. filamentosus</i>	99 98 98
MS39	Market	Pagro reale	King soldier bream	<i>A. spinifer</i>	Whole	592	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100
						139	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>A. blekeeri</i>	100 98.72	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>P. major</i> <i>E. japonica</i>	98 98
MS40	Market	Pagro reale	King soldier bream	<i>A. spinifer</i>	Whole	139	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>A. blekeeri</i> (1seq.) <i>E. tunifrons</i>	100 98.72 98.15	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100
MS41- MS42- MS43	Market	Pagro	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99
						139	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100
MS44	Restaurant	Salpa	Salema	NR	Whole	655	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100
						139	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100
MS45	Restaurant	Salpa	Salema	NR	Whole	655	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100

							<i>Spicara flexouosa</i> (1 seq.)	99.84		
						139	<i>Spicara maena</i> <i>Spicara flexouosa</i> (1 seq.)	100 100	<i>Spicara maena</i>	100
MS46	Market	Salpa	Salema	<i>S. salpa</i>	Whole	655	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
						139	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
MS47	Restaurant	Salpa	Salema	<i>S. salpa</i>	Whole	655	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
						139	<i>S. salpa</i>	100	<i>S. salpa</i>	100
MS48	Market	Sarago sparaglione	Annular seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. annularis</i>	100	<i>D. annularis</i>	99
						139	<i>D. annularis</i>	100	<i>D. annularis</i>	100
MS49	Market	Sarago sparaglione	Annular seabream	NR	Fillets	655	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	99.67 99.53 98.75 98.75	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99 99
						139	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.26 99.26 99.26 98.52	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 98
MS50	Market	Sarago pizzuto	Sharpsnout seabream	<i>Diplodus puntazzo</i>	Whole	655	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	100	<i>D. labrax</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i>	99 96
						139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	100 100 99.21 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. labrax</i>	99 98
MS51	Market	Sarago	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. capensis</i> <i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. noct</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	100 99.55 99.39-98.46 99.23 98.16 98.16	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	100 98 98
						139	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. capensis</i> <i>D. bellotii</i> <i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. noct</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 100 100 100 100 100 99.28 99.28 99.05 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 99 99 99

								98.55		
MS52	Market	Sarago	Seabream	<i>D. vulgaris</i>	Whole	655	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 100 98.92 98.92	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	100 99
						139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.28 98.41	<i>D. sargus</i>	100
MS53	Market	Sarago sparaglione	Annular seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. annularis</i>	100	<i>D. annularis</i>	99
						139	<i>D. annularis</i>	100	<i>D. annularis</i>	99
MS54	Restaurant	Sarago	Seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	100	<i>D. labrax</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i>	99 96
						139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. capensis</i>	100 100 98.89 98.89	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. labrax</i>	100 100 99
MS55	Restaurant	Sarago	Seabream	NR	Whole	654	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	99.85	<i>D. labrax</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i>	99 95
						139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	100 100 99.21 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. labrax</i>	99 98
MS56	Restaurant	Sarago pizzuto	Sharpsnout seabream	NR	Whole	655	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	100	<i>D. labrax</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i>	99 96
						139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	100 99.22 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. labrax</i>	99 98
MS57	Restaurant	Sarago	Seabream	NR	Filletts	655	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 100 98.92 98.92	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	100 99
						139	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.28 98.41	<i>D. sargus</i>	100

MS58	Market	Tanuta	Black seabream	<i>S. cantharus</i>	Whole	655	<i>S. cantharus</i>	99.84	<i>S. cantharus</i>	99
						139	<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 99.28	<i>S. cantharus</i>	99

Table 3SM. Results of the IDs analysis (BOLD) and of the BLAST analysis (GenBank) of market samples (MS), with the information reported on the label.

Mislabeled samples are highlighted with a grey background. ^a Sequences not available on both databases; ^b Sequences not available in Genbank; MI: Max Identity.

Primer name	Sequence code	Amp. Length (bp)	Ref.
LCO1490	GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTGG	708	Folmer, 1994
HC02198	TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAAATCA		
FishF1	TCAACCAACCACAAAGACATTGGCAC	703/706	Ward, 2005
FishF2	TCGACTAATCATAAAGATATCGGCAC		
FishR1	TAGACTTCTGGGTGGCCAAAGAATCA		
FishR2	ACTTCAGGGTGACCGAAGAATCAGAA		
COIF-ALT	ACAAATCAYAARGAYATYGG		
COIR-ALT	TTCAGGRTGNCCRAARAAYCA	698	Mikkelsen, 2006
FF2d	TTCTCCACCAACCACAARGAYATYGG	707	Ivanova, 2007
FR1d	CACCTCAGGGTGTCCGAARAAYCARAA		
FISH-BCL	TCAACYAATCAYAAAGATATYGGCAC	706	Baldwin, 2009
FISH-BCH	TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAAATCA		
COI-Fish-F	TTCTCAACTAACCAYAAAGAYATYGG	709	Kochzius, 2010
COI-Fish-R	TAGACTTCTGGGTGGCCRAARAAYCA		
FISHCOILBC_ts	CACGACGTTGTAAAACGACTCAACYAATCAYAAAGATATYGGCAC	705	Handy, 2011
FISHCOIHBC_ts	GGATAACAATTTACACAGGACTTCYGGGTGCCRAARAATCA		
SPACOIREV	GGATAACAATTTACACAGGACTTCYGGGTGNCCRAARAATCA	705*	This study
REVshort1	GGATAACAATTTACACAGGGYATNACTATRAAGAAAATTATTAC	192*	This study

Table 4SM. Universal primers for the amplification of the *COI* gene from fish (Armani et al, 2012c with modification). * The length refers to the amplicon generated using the forward FISHCOILBC_ts

Species name (morphological identification)	BOLD	NCBI	COI fragment (bp)	Species identification (BLAST)			
				BOLD Species Level Barcode Records	Max identity	GenBank	Max identity
<i>Acanthopagrus australis</i>	SPA239-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>A. australis</i>	100	<i>A. australis</i>	100
			139	<i>A. australis</i>	100	<i>A. australis</i>	100
<i>Acanthopagrus berda</i>	SPA202-13.COI-5P SPA003-13.COI-5P SPA002-13.COI-5P SPA004-13.COI-5P SPA203-13.COI-5P	Still waiting KJ012251 KJ012252 KJ012253 KJ012254	655	<i>A. berda</i>	100	<i>A. berda</i>	98
			139	<i>A. berda</i> <i>A. pacificus</i>	100 98.55	<i>A. berda</i>	99
<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>	SPA208-13.COI-5P SPA207-13.COI-5P SPA206-13.COI-5P SPA205-13.COI-5P SPA211-13.COI-5P SPA210-13.COI-5P SPA209-13.COI-5P SPA240-14.COI-5P	KJ012255 KJ012256 KJ012257 KJ012258 KJ012259 KJ012260 KJ012261 Still waiting	655; 653	<i>A. butcheri</i>	100	<i>A. butcheri</i>	100
			139	<i>A. butcheri</i>	100	<i>A. butcheri</i> <i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 99 98
<i>Acanthopagrus latus</i>	SPA006-13.COI-5P SPA005-13.COI-5P SPA008-13.COI-5P SPA007-13.COI-5P SPA009-13.COI-5P SPA010-13.COI-5P	KJ012262 KJ012263 KJ012264 KJ012265 KJ012266 KJ012267	655	<i>A. latus</i>	100	<i>A. latus</i>	99-100
			139	<i>A. latus</i>	100	<i>A. latus</i>	100
<i>Acanthopagrus pacificus</i> ^{b*}	--	HG937802	139	<i>A. pacificus</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 100	<i>A. berda</i>	99
	SPA189-13.COI-5P SPA022-13.COI-5P	KJ012269 KJ012268	583	<i>A. pacificus</i> <i>A. berda</i> (2 seq.)	99.83 99.83	<i>A. berda</i>	97
			655	<i>A. pacificus</i> <i>A. berda</i> (2 seq.)	100 100	<i>A. berda</i>	97
			139	<i>A. pacificus</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 100	<i>A. berda</i>	99
<i>Acanthopagrus palmaris</i> ^a	SPA242-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>A. berda</i>	98.05	<i>A. berda</i>	98
			139	<i>A. pacificus</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 99.28	<i>A. berda</i>	99
<i>Acanthopagrus schlegelii</i> [*]	SPA024-13.COI-5P	KJ012273	655	<i>A. schlegelii</i>	100	<i>A. schlegelii</i>	100
				<i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	99.85	<i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	99

			139	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i> <i>A. butcheri</i>	100 99.28 98.55	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i> <i>A. butcheri</i>	100 100 99
	SPA029-13.COI-5P SPA027-13.COI-5P SPA025-13.COI-5P SPA028-13.COI-5P	KJ012270 KJ012271 KJ012272 KJ012274	655	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100
			139	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i> <i>A. butcheri</i>	100 100 98
	--	HG937803	139	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i> <i>A. butcheri</i>	100 100 98
<i>Acanthopagrus sivicolus</i> ^{a*}	SPA032-13.COI-5P SPA031-13.COI-5P SPA030-13.COI-5P	KJ012275 KJ012276 KJ012277	655	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	99.85-100 99.85-100	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	99-100 99-100
			139	<i>A. schlegelii</i> <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100	<i>A. schlegelii</i> ; <i>A. schlegelii schlegelii</i>	100 100
<i>Archosargus probatocephalus</i>	SPA011-13.COI-5P SPA012-13.COI-5P SPA013-13.COI-5P SPA014-13.COI-5P	KJ012278 KJ012279 KJ012280 KJ012281	655	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	100	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	99-100
			132-139	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	100	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	100
	--	HG937804	138	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	100	<i>A. probatocephalus</i>	100
<i>Archosargus rhomboidalis</i>	SPA023-13.COI-5P	KJ012282	655	<i>A. rhomboidalis</i>	100	<i>A. rhomboidalis</i>	100
			139	<i>A. rhomboidalis</i>	100	<i>A. rhomboidalis</i>	100
<i>Argyrops bleekeri</i> ^b	SPA016-13.COI-5P SPA018-13.COI-5P SPA204-13.COI-5P SPA017-13.COI-5P	KJ012283 KJ012284 KJ012285 KJ012286	655	<i>A. bleekeri</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	100 99.38-99.69	<i>A. spinifer</i>	99; 100
			139	<i>A. bleekeri</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	100 99.85-100	<i>A. spinifer</i>	99; 100
<i>Argyrops filamentosus</i>	SPA019-13.COI-5P SPA020-13.COI-5P	KJ012287 KJ012288	655	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	100	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	100
			139	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	100	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	100
<i>Argyrops spinifer</i>			645-655	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100	<i>A. spinifer</i>	100
	SPA035-13.COI-5P SPA033-13.COI-5P SPA034-13.COI-5P	KJ012289 KJ012290 KJ012293	139	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>A. bleekeri</i>	100 98.72	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>P. major</i> <i>E. japonica</i> <i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>P. auratus</i>	100 98 98 98 98 98
			655	<i>A. spinifer</i>	99.69; 99.85	<i>A. filamentosus</i>	96
	SPA191-13.COI-5P SPA190-13.COI-5P	KJ012291 KJ012292	139	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>A. bleekeri</i>	99.28 98.55	<i>A. spinifer</i> <i>P. dentata</i> <i>A. filamentosus</i>	99 98 98

<i>Argyrozona argyrozona</i> *	SPA236-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>A. argyrozona</i>	99.84; 100	<i>A. argyrozona</i>	99; 100
	SPA237-14.COI-5P SPA238-14.COI-5P	Still waiting Still waiting	139	<i>A. argyrozona</i>	100	<i>A. argyrozona</i>	100
<i>Boops boops</i>	SPA036-13.COI-5P	KJ012294	654-655	<i>B. boops</i>	100	<i>B. boops</i>	100
	SPA119-13.COI-5P	KJ012295		<i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99.67-99.84	<i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99
	SPA037-13.COI-5P	KJ012296	139	<i>B. boops</i>	100	<i>B. boops</i>	100
	SPA038-13.COI-5P	KJ012297		<i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	100	<i>B. boops</i>	100
<i>Calamus arctifrons</i> ^a	SPA041-13.COI-5P SPA039-13.COI-5P SPA232-13.COI-5P	KJ012298 KJ012299 KJ012300	655	No match		<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. penna</i>	93 93
			139	No match		<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. penna</i> <i>C. calamus</i>	96 96 96
	--	HG937805	139	No match		<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. penna</i> <i>C. calamus</i>	96 96 96
<i>Calamus bajonado</i> ^b	SPA043-13.COI-5P	KJ012301	655	<i>C. bajonado</i>	99.54	<i>Calamus</i> sp.	99
	SPA042-13.COI-5P SPA044-13.COI-5P	KJ012302 KJ012303	139	<i>C. bajonado</i>	99.28	<i>Calamus</i> sp.	99
<i>Calamus brachysomus</i>	SPA045-13.COI-5P SPA243-13.COI-5P	KJ012304 Still waiting	655; 654	<i>C. brachysomus</i>	100	<i>C. brachysomus</i>	100
			139	<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. nodosus</i> <i>C. leucosteus</i> <i>C. calamus</i> <i>C. penna</i>	100 100 99.28 99.22 98.55	<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. calamus</i> <i>C. penna</i> <i>Calamus</i> sp.	100 99 99 99
<i>Calamus calamus</i>	SPA046-13.COI-5P	KJ012305	655	<i>C. calamus</i>	100	<i>C. calamus</i>	100
	SPA047-13.COI-5P SPA048-13.COI-5P	KJ012306 KJ012307	139	<i>C. calamus</i> <i>C. nodosus</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i> (1seq.)	100 99.28 100	<i>C. calamus</i> <i>Calamus</i> sp. <i>C. brachysomus</i>	100 100 99
<i>Calamus leucosteus</i> ^{b*}	SPA049-13.COI-5P SPA050-13.COI-5P SPA051-13.COI-5P	KJ012308 KJ012309 KJ012310	655	<i>C. leucosteus</i>	100	<i>C. brachysomus</i>	94
			139	<i>C. leucosteus</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. nodosus</i> <i>C. calamus</i>	100 100 99.15 98.45	<i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. penna</i> <i>C. calamus</i>	99 98 98
<i>Calamus nodosus</i> ^b	SPA235-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>C. nodosus</i>	100	<i>Actinopterygii</i> spp. <i>Calamus</i> spp. <i>C. calamus</i>	99 98 98
	SPA056-13.COI-5P SPA055-13.COI-5P SPA054-13.COI-5P	KJ012311 KJ012312 KJ012313	139	<i>C. nodosus</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. calamus</i>	100 100 99.28	<i>C. calamus</i> <i>Calamus</i> spp. <i>C. brachysomus</i>	99 99 99

				<i>C. leucosteus</i>	98.55	<i>C. penna</i>	98
	--	HG937806	139	<i>C. nodosus</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. calamus</i> <i>C. leucosteus</i>	100 100 99.28 98.55	<i>C. calamus</i> <i>Calamus spp.</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i> <i>C. penna</i>	99 99 99 98
<i>Calamus penna</i>	--	HG937807	139	<i>C. penna</i>	99.28	<i>C. penna</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i>	99 98
	SPA053-13.COI-5P	KJ012314	655	<i>C. penna</i>	99.54	<i>C. penna</i>	99
			139	<i>C. penna</i>	99.28	<i>C. penna</i> <i>C. brachysomus</i>	99 98
<i>Calamus proridens^a</i>	SPA058-13.COI-5P	KJ012315	655	<i>C. leucosteus</i>	99.23	<i>Actinopterygii spp.</i>	97
			139	<i>C. leucosteus</i> <i>C. pennatula</i>	100 100	<i>Actinopterygii spp.</i> <i>Calamus sp.</i>	100 98
	--	HG937808	139	<i>C. leucosteus</i> <i>C. pennatula</i>	100	<i>Actinopterygii spp.</i> <i>Calamus sp.</i>	100 98
<i>Cheimerius nufar</i>	SPA062-13.COI-5P	KJ012316	655	<i>C. nufar</i>	100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
	SPA060-13.COI-5P	KJ012317		<i>P. pagrus</i> (1 seq.)	98.92		
	SPA064-13.COI-5P SPA061-13.COI-5P	KJ012318 KJ012319	139	<i>C. nufar</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> (1 seq.)	100 100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
	--	HG937809	139	<i>C. nufar</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> (1 seq.)	100 100	<i>C. nufar</i>	100
<i>Chrysoblephus cristiceps*</i>	SPA259-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>C. cristiceps</i>	100	<i>C. cristiceps</i>	99
	SPA260-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	139	<i>C. cristiceps</i>	100	<i>C. cristiceps</i>	100
	SPA261-14.COI-5P	Still waiting		<i>P. dentata</i> <i>C. laticeps</i>	99.26 98.89	<i>P. dentata</i> <i>C. laticeps</i>	99 98
<i>Chrysoblephus gibbiceps</i>	SPA244-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>C. gibbiceps</i>	99.53	<i>C. gibbiceps</i>	99
			139	<i>C. gibbiceps</i>	98.55	<i>C. gibbiceps</i>	99
<i>Chrysoblephus laticeps*</i>	SPA255-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>C. laticeps</i>	100	<i>C. laticeps</i>	100
	SPA256-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	139	<i>C. laticeps</i>	100	<i>C. laticeps</i>	100
	SPA257-14.COI-5P	Still waiting		<i>C. cristiceps</i>	98.89	<i>C. cristiceps</i>	98
<i>Chrysoblephus puniceus*</i>	SPA065-13.COI-5P	KJ012320	655	<i>C. puniceus</i>	100	<i>C. puniceus</i>	99
			139	<i>C. puniceus</i>	100	<i>C. puniceus</i>	100
<i>Crenidens crenidens*</i>	SPA258-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>C. crenidens</i>	98.73	<i>C. crenidens</i>	98
			139	<i>C. crenidens</i>	100	<i>C. crenidens</i>	98
<i>Dentex angolensis^a</i>	SPA067-13.COI-5P	KJ012321	655	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99.84	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	98
	SPA192-13.COI-5P	KJ012323	139	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99.28	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99
	SPA193-13.COI-5P	KJ012324					
	--	HG937810	139	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i> <i>Spicara alta</i>	100 98.55	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99

<i>Dentex canariensis</i> ^a	SPA120-13.COI-5P	KJ012325	655	No match		<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	95
			139	No match		<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99
<i>Dentex dentex</i>	SPA123-13.COI-5P SPA194-13.COI-5P SPA124-13.COI-5P SPA126-13.COI-5P	KJ012326 KJ012327 KJ012328 KJ012329	655	<i>D. dentex</i>	98.85; 100	<i>D. dentex</i>	99
			139	<i>D. dentex</i>	99.28; 100	<i>D. dentex</i>	99
			--	HG937811	139	<i>D. dentex</i>	99.22
	<i>Dentex gibbosus</i> ^a	SPA222-13.COI-5P	KJ012330	655	No match		<i>P. caerulosticus</i>
139				<i>P. acarne</i> <i>V. acromegalus</i>	98.55 98.55	<i>C. nufar</i>	98
<i>Dentex macrophthalmus</i>	SPA069-13.COI-5P SPA071-13.COI-5P SPA070-13.COI-5P	KJ012331 KJ012332 KJ012333	655	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99.69; 99.84	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	98
			139	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	96
<i>Dentex maroccanus</i> ^a	SPA132-13.COI-5P SPA131-13.COI-5P	KJ012334 KJ012335	655	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	99.84; 100	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	98
			139	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i> <i>Spicara alta</i>	100 98.55	<i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100
<i>Dentex spariformis</i> ^b	SPA253-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	563	<i>D. spariformis</i>	100	<i>D. tumifrons</i>	94
			139	<i>D. spariformis</i>	100	<i>D. tumifrons</i>	95
<i>Diplodus annularis</i>	SPA076-13.COI-5P SPA078-13.COI-5P SPA196-13.COI-5P SPA195-13.COI-5P SPA077-13.COI-5P	KJ012336 KJ012337 KJ012338 KJ012339 KJ012340	562-655	<i>D. annularis</i>	99.53-100	<i>D. annularis</i>	99
			139	<i>D. annularis</i>	100	<i>D. annularis</i>	99; 100
<i>Diplodus cervinus</i>	--	HG937812 HG937813	139	<i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. sargus subspecies</i> <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	100 100 100 99.26 98.55-99.17 98.55 98.41	<i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i>	100 99 98 98
<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>	SPA130-13.COI-5P SPA129-13.COI-5P	KJ012341 KJ012342	655	<i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i>	100 99.54; 99.69 99.54	<i>D. cervinus</i>	99; 100
			139	<i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>D. sargus subspecies</i> <i>D. bellotti</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	100 100 100 98.55-99.26 98.5598.55 98.41	<i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i>	100 99 98 98

<i>Diplodus holbrookii</i>	SPA128-13.COI-5P SPA127-13.COI-5P	KJ012343 KJ012344	655	<i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>Haemulon aurolineatum</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	99.02; 98.86 98.46; 98.77 98.62; 98.46	<i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	99 98; 99 98
			139	<i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>Haemulon aurolineatum</i> <i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. bellottii</i>	99.28 99.28 98.55-99.28 99.28 98.55	<i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	99 99 99
<i>Diplodus noct^a</i>	SPA133-13.COI-5P SPA134-13.COI-5P SPA254-14.COI-5P	KJ012345 KJ012346 Still waiting	655	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	98.62-99.69 98.46 98.16	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	99 98 98
			139	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.05 98.55 98.55 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 99 99 99
<i>Diplodus puntazzo</i>	SPA108-13.COI-5P SPA111-13.COI-5P SPA110-13.COI-5P SPA009-13.COI-5P	KJ012347 KJ012348 KJ012349 KJ012350	655	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	98.52-98.92	<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i>	99 99
			139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	100 99.28 99.21 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	99 98
	--	HG937814	139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	100 99.28 99.21 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	99 98
<i>Diplodus sargus (sargus)</i>	SPA114-13.COI-5P SPA113-13.COI-5P SPA117-13.COI-5P SPA116-13.COI-5P	KJ012351 KJ012352 KJ012353 KJ012354	655	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies	98.46-100	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i>	99-100 98 98
			139	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.05 98.55 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 99 99 99

				<i>O. melanura</i>	98.41			
	--	HG937815 HG937816	139	<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies <i>D. bellottii</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. cervinus</i> <i>D. cervinus hottentotus</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.05 98.55 98.55 98.41	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. argenteus</i> <i>D. holbrookii</i> <i>D. cervinus</i>	100 99 99 99	
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	SPA138-13.COI-5P SPA140-13.COI-5P SPA135-13.COI-5P SPA136-13.COI-5P SPA139-13.COI-5P	KJ012355 KJ012356 KJ012357 KJ012358 KJ012360	655	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	99.84; 100 99.69; 100 98.73; 98.92 98.62; 98.92	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99; 100 99	
			139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i> <i>O. melanura</i>	100 100 99.28 99.28 99.28 98.41	<i>D. sargus</i>	100	
	SPA137-13.COI-5P	KJ012359	655	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99.37 99.23	<i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99 99	
			139	<i>D. vulgaris</i> <i>D. sargus</i> <i>D. prayensis</i> <i>D. puntazzo</i> <i>D. fasciatus</i>	100 99.28 98.55 98.55 98.55	<i>D. sargus</i>	99	
	<i>Evynnis cardinalis</i> *	--	HG937817 HG937818 HG937819	139	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>P. major</i> <i>P. auratus</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	100 100 100 98.55 98.55 98.55	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. japonica</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>P. major</i> <i>P. auratus</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	100 100 100 99 99 98
				655	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>P. edita</i>	100 100 99.69	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. japonica</i> (1 seq.) <i>P. edita</i>	100 99 99
SPA144-13.COI-5P SPA145-13.COI-5P		KJ012361 KJ012362	139	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>P. major</i>	100 100 100 98.55	<i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. japonica</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>P. major</i>	100 100 100 99	

				<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	98.55	<i>P. auratus</i>	99
				<i>A. spinifer</i>	98.55	<i>A. spinifer</i>	98
<i>Evynnis tumifrons</i>	SPA146-13.COI-5P	KJ012364	583	<i>E. tumifrons</i>	100	<i>E. tumifrons</i>	99
			67	<80		<i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>D. macrophthalmus</i>	100 98
	SPA150-13.COI-5P SPA147-13.COI-5P SPA148-13.COI-5P SPA149-13.COI-5P	KJ012363 KJ012365 KJ012366 KJ012367	655	<i>E. tumifrons</i>	99.69; 100	<i>Dentex tumifrons</i> (syn. <i>E. tumifrons</i>)	99
			139	<i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>D. spariformis</i>	100 98.55	<i>E. tumifrons</i>	100
<i>Lagodon rhomboides</i>	SPA155-13.COI-5P SPA152-13.COI-5P SPA153-13.COI-5P	KJ012368 KJ012370 KJ012371	655	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100
			139	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100
	SPA156-13.COI-5P SPA154-13.COI-5P	KJ012369 KJ012372	520; 540	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100	<i>L. rhomboides</i>	100
<i>Lithognathus mormyrus</i>	SPA221-13.COI-5P SPA220-13.COI-5P SPA079-13.COI-5P SPA151-13.COI-5P SPA197-13.COI-5P SPA219-13.COI-5P	KJ012373 KJ012374 KJ012375 KJ012376 KJ012377 KJ012378	655	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	99.65-100	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	99;100
			139	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100	<i>L. mormyrus</i>	100
	SPA157-13.COI-5P	KJ012379	655	<i>O. melanura</i>	99.52	<i>O. melanura</i>	95
			139	<i>O. melanura</i>	100	<i>D. sargus</i>	99 98 98
				<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies	98.55-99.28	<i>D. argenteus</i>	
<i>D. vulgaris</i>	99.21	<i>D. holbrookii</i>					
<i>D. bellottii</i>	98.55						
--	HG937820 HG937821 HG937822 HG937823 HG937824	139	<i>D. puntazzo</i>	98.55			
			<i>O. melanura</i>	100	<i>D. sargus</i>		
			<i>D. sargus</i> subspecies	98.55-99.28	<i>D. argenteus</i>		
			<i>D. vulgaris</i>	99.21	<i>D. holbrookii</i>		
--	HG816028	139	<i>D. bellottii</i>	98.55			
			<i>D. puntazzo</i>	98.55			
SPA198-13.COI-5P	KJ012380	655	<i>O. melanura</i>	99.28	<i>D. sargus</i>	98	
			<i>D. capensis</i>	98.55			
		<i>D. vulgaris</i>	98.41				
SPA198-13.COI-5P	KJ012380	655	<i>O. melanura</i>	99.69	<i>O. melanura</i>	95	
		139	<i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. vulgaris</i>	99.21 98.41	<i>O. melanura</i> <i>D. sargus</i>	97 97	
<i>Pachymetopon aeneum</i> *	SPA250-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>P. aeneum</i>	100	<i>Paracaesio sordida</i> (1 seq.)	100
	SPA251-14.COI-5P	Still waiting				<i>P. aeneum</i>	99

	SPA252-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	139	<i>P. aeneum</i>	100	<i>P. aeneum</i> <i>P. sordida</i> (1 seq.)	100 100
<i>Pagellus acarne</i>	SPA159-13.COI-5P	KJ012382	601; 655	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>Oblada melanura</i> (1 seq.)	100 98.84; 99.3	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>Oblada melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99 99
	SPA082-13.COI-5P	KJ012383		139	<i>P. acarne</i> <i>Oblada melanura</i> (1 seq.)	100 100	<i>P. acarne</i>
	SPA080-13.COI-5P	KJ012385	655		<i>P. acarne</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (1 seq.)	99.45; 100 99.31; 100	<i>P. acarne</i>
	SPA083-13.COI-5P SPA081-13.COI-5P	KJ012381 KJ012384		66; 69	<80 bp		<i>P. acarne</i>
<i>Pagellus bellottii</i>	SPA162-13.COI-5P	KJ012386	655	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. pagrus</i> <i>P. natalensis</i>	99.84 99.53 99.21	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. natalensis</i>	99 99
			139	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. pagrus</i>	100 98.55	<i>P. bellottii</i> <i>P. natalensis</i>	100 98
<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>	SPA225-13.COI-5P	KJ012387	655	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	99.85; 100	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	99; 100
	SPA166-13.COI-5P	KJ012388	139	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	100	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	100
	SPA223-13.COI-5P	KJ012390					
	SPA164-13.COI-5P	KJ012391					
SPA224-13.COI-5P	KJ012392	557	139	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	99.82	<i>P. bogaraveo</i>	99
SPA163-13.COI-5P	KJ012393						
<i>Pagellus erythrinus</i>	--	HG937825	139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
	SPA176-13.COI-5P	KJ012394	655	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99.85; 100 99.19; 99.35	<i>P. erythrinus</i> <i>O. melanura</i> (2 seq.)	99; 100 99
	SPA177-13.COI-5P	KJ012395					
	SPA174-13.COI-5P	KJ012396	139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100
SPA175-13.COI-5P	KJ012397						
<i>Pagrus africanus^a</i>	--	HG937826	139	<i>P. edita</i>	98.1	<i>P. major</i> <i>E. japonica</i> <i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>P. edita</i> <i>C. auratus</i>	98
<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	SPA212-13.COI-5P	KJ012398	655	<i>P. auratus</i> <i>P. major</i>	99.85; 100 99.54	<i>P. auratus</i> <i>P. major</i>	99; 100 99
	SPA218-13.COI-5P	KJ012399					
	SPA217-13.COI-5P	KJ012400	139	<i>P. auratus</i> <i>P. major</i> <i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. tumifrons</i> <i>P. edita</i>	100 100 98.89 98.55 98.55	<i>P. major</i> <i>P. auratus</i> <i>E. japonica</i> <i>E. cardinalis</i> <i>E. tumifrons</i>	100 100 99 99 99
	SPA216-13.COI-5P	KJ012401					
	SPA215-13.COI-5P	KJ012402					
	SPA213-13.COI-5P	KJ012403					
	SPA214-13.COI-5P	KJ012404					

				<i>A. spinifer</i>	98.55	<i>P. edita</i>	99
						<i>A. spinifer</i>	98
<i>Pagrus auriga</i>	SPA161-13.COI-5P	KJ012405	655	<i>P. auriga</i>	99.85	<i>P. auriga</i>	99
	SPA226-13.COI-5P	KJ012406	139	<i>P. auriga</i>	100	<i>P. auriga</i>	100
<i>Pagrus caeruleostictus</i>	SPA167-13.COI-5P	KJ012407	655	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99.82; 99.83; 99.84; 100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99; 100
	SPA171-13.COI-5P	KJ012408					
	SPA172-13.COI-5P	KJ012409	139	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99.07; 100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99; 100
SPA168-13.COI-5P	KJ012410						
	SPA170-13.COI-5P	KJ012411					
	--	HG937827	139	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	100	<i>P. caeruleostictus</i>	99
<i>Pagrus major</i>	SPA181-13.COI-5P SPA183-13.COI-5P SPA178-13.COI-5P SPA179-13.COI-5P SPA182-13.COI-5P	KJ012412 KJ012413 KJ012414 KJ012415 KJ012416	655	<i>P. major</i>	100	<i>P. major</i>	99; 100
			139	<i>P. auratus</i>	100	<i>P. auratus</i>	99
				<i>P. major</i>	100	<i>P. major</i>	100
				<i>P. auratus</i>	100	<i>P. auratus</i>	100
				<i>E. cardinalis</i>	98.89	<i>E. japonica</i>	99
	<i>E. tumifrons</i>	98.55		<i>E. cardinalis</i>	99		
			<i>P. edita</i>	98.55	<i>P. edita</i>	99	
			<i>A. spinifer</i>	98.55	<i>A. spinifer</i>	98	
	--	Still waiting	139	<i>P. major</i>	100	<i>P. major</i>	100
				<i>P. auratus</i>	100	<i>C. auratus</i>	100
				<i>E. cardinalis</i>	98.85	<i>E. japonica</i>	99
				<i>E. tumifrons</i>	98.52	<i>E. cardinalis</i>	99
				<i>P. edita</i>	98.52	<i>P. edita</i>	99
				<i>A. spinifer</i>	98.52	<i>A. spinifer</i>	98
<i>Pagrus pagrus</i>	--	HG937828	139	<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>P. pagrus</i> <i>P. auratus</i> (2 seq.)	99
		HG937829		<i>O. melanura</i>	100		99
		HG937830		<i>P. pagrus</i>	99.28		
	SPA101-13.COI-5P SPA102-13.COI-5P SPA103-13.COI-5P SPA104-13.COI-5P SPA106-13.COI-5P	KJ012417 KJ012418 KJ012419 KJ012420 KJ012421	655	<i>P. pagrus</i>	99.84; 100	<i>O. melanura</i>	100
				<i>O. melanura</i>	99.84; 100	<i>P. auratus</i>	99
				<i>P. pagrus</i>		<i>P. pagrus</i>	100
			139	<i>P. auratus</i>	100	<i>P. auratus</i>	100
				<i>P. pagrus</i>	100	<i>E. japonica</i>	99
				<i>P. erythrinus</i>	100	<i>E. cardinalis</i>	99
				<i>O. melanura</i>	100	<i>P. edita</i>	99
						<i>A. spinifer</i>	98
<i>Pterogymnus lanarius</i>	SPA247-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	643; 655	<i>P. lanarius</i>	99.69-100	<i>P. lanarius</i>	99
	SPA248-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	139	<i>P. lanarius</i>	100	<i>P. lanarius</i>	99
	SPA249-14.COI-5P	Still waiting					

<i>Rhabdosargus haffara</i>	SPA227-13.COI-5P	KJ012422	655	<i>R. haffara</i> <i>S. aurata</i> (1 seq.)	99.82 99.85	<i>R. haffara</i>	99		
			139	<i>R. haffara</i> <i>S. aurata</i> (1 seq.)	100 100	<i>R. sarba</i>	96		
<i>Rhabdosargus holubi</i> *	SPA246-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	652	<i>R. holubi</i>	100	<i>R. holubi</i>	99		
			139	<i>R. holubi</i>	99.28	<i>R. holubi</i>	99		
<i>Rhabdosargus sarba</i>	--	HG937831 HG937832	139	<i>R. sarba</i> <i>R. haffara</i> <i>R. globiceps</i>	100 100 98.85	<i>R. sarba</i> <i>R. globiceps</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 98 98		
			SPA186-13.COI-5P SPA233-13.COI-5P	KJ012423 KJ012424	655	<i>R. sarba</i>	99.85; 100	<i>R. sarba</i>	99; 100
					139	<i>R. sarba</i> <i>R. haffara</i> <i>R. globiceps</i>	100 100 98.85	<i>R. sarba</i> <i>R. globiceps</i> <i>A. berda</i>	100 98 98
	SPA245-14.COI-5P	Still waiting	655	<i>R. sarba</i>	100	<i>R. sarba</i>	100		
			139	<i>R. sarba</i>	100	<i>R. sarba</i>	100		
	<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	SPA085-13.COI-5P SPA084-13.COI-5P SPA199-13.COI-5P SPA087-13.COI-5P SPA086-13.COI-5P	KJ012425 KJ012426 KJ012427 KJ012428 KJ012429	655	<i>S. salpa</i>	99.85; 100	<i>S. salpa</i>	99	
139				<i>S. salpa</i>	99.85; 100	<i>S. salpa</i>	99; 100		
SPA074-13.COI-5P SPA200-13.COI-5P SPA072-13.COI-5P SPA075-13.COI-5P SPA073-13.COI-5P				KJ012430 KJ012431 KJ012432 KJ012433 KJ012434	655	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
					139	<i>S. aurata</i>	100	<i>S. aurata</i>	100
					SPA099-13.COI-5P SPA201-13.COI-5P SPA097-13.COI-5P	KJ012435 KJ012436 KJ012438	569; 643; 655	<i>S. cantharus</i>	100
	139	<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 99.28; 98.55				<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	99 98; 99	
<i>Spondyliosoma cantharus</i>	SPA096-13.COI-5P	KJ012439	655	<i>S. cantharus</i>	100	<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 98		
			139	<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 99.28	<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 99		
			SPA098-13.COI-5P	KJ012437	547	<i>S. cantharus</i>	100	<i>S. cantharus</i>	99
	69	<80 bp				<i>S. cantharus</i> <i>S. emarginatum</i>	100 99		
	<i>Stenotomus caprinus</i> ^b	SPA090-13.COI-5P SPA089-13.COI-5P SPA088-13.COI-5P	KJ012440 KJ012441 KJ012442	655	<i>S. caprinus</i> <i>S. chrysops</i>	99.69- 100 99.85; 100	<i>S. chrysops</i> <i>C. penna</i> (1 seq.)	99; 100 99	
139				<i>S. caprinus</i> <i>S. chrysops</i>	100 100	<i>S. chrysops</i> <i>C. penna</i> (1 seq.)	100 100		

<i>Stenotomus chrysops</i>	SPA095-13.COI-5P	KJ012443	655	<i>S. chrysops</i>	100	<i>C. penna</i> (1 seq.)	100
	SPA234-13.COI-5P	KJ012444		<i>S. caprinus</i>	99.69	<i>S. chrysops</i>	99
	SPA091-13.COI-5P	KJ012445	139	<i>S. chrysops</i> <i>S. caprinus</i>	100 100	<i>S. chrysops</i> <i>C. penna</i> (1 seq.)	100 100
	SPA092-13.COI-5P	KJ012446					
	SPA093-13.COI-5P	KJ012447					
	SPA094-13.COI-5P	KJ012448					
<i>Virididentex acromegalus</i> ^{b*}	SPA187-13.COI-5P	KJ012449	655	<i>V. acromegalus</i> <i>P. acarne</i>	100 100	<i>P. auriga</i>	92
			139	<i>V. acromegalus</i> <i>P. acarne</i>	100 100	<i>Porcostoma dentata</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	97 97
	--	HG937833	139	<i>V. acromegalus</i> <i>P. acarne</i>	100 100	<i>Porcostoma dentata</i> <i>A. spinifer</i>	97 97

Table 5SM: The results of the IDs analysis on BOLD and of the BLAST analysis on GenBank for the full and for the mini DNA barcode. The BOLD codes and the NCBI access number are reported when available (no code is assigned in BOLD to sequences <200bp). The species not reported in **bold type** have been considered originating from incorrectly identified or mislabeled specimens. When two or more values of MI are reported they are referred to a range (if separated by a -) or to different MI retrieved (if separated by a semicolon ;). ^a No sequences were available for this species in consulted databases; ^bNo sequences were available for this species in Genbank database;*Species not considered in the International Official Trade lists; *D. sargus* subspecies: *D. sargus ascensionis*, *D. sargus capensis*, *D. sargus helenae*; *D. sargus kotschyi*, *D. sargus lineatus*, *D. sargus sargus*.



