

Table 2 Morphometric and biometric (expressed as percentage of SL) characteristics of 10 specimens of *Gerres limbatus*, collected from Iraqi waters (min=minimum, max=maximum, sd=standard deviation., all measurements in mm), SL = standard length

Character	Min-Max (Mean \pm SD)	Proportional measurements as expressed as percentage of SL
Total Length (TL)	75-163 (132.8 \pm 24.60)	-
Standard length (SL)	60-134 (116.22 \pm 20.07)	-
Forked length	66-146 (129.38 \pm 22.94) 146	-
Body depth	29.3-52.5 (45.11 \pm 6.17)	36.07-48.83(40.46 \pm 3.72)
Body depth at first anal fin spine base	32.3-44.0(38.5 \pm 3.99)	30.76-37.43(33.62 \pm 2.11)
Body width at pectoral fin base	7.54-23.0(19.20 \pm 4.03)	12.57-18.57(16.34 \pm 1.78)
Head length	18.9-40.0(32.64 \pm 5.67)	25.89-31.50(28.25 \pm 1.68)
Head depth	21.1-44.0(37.30 \pm 6.68)	29.14-35.17(29.41 \pm 2.01)
Head width	7.8-22.1(18.76 \pm 4.17)	13.00-17.82(14.39 \pm 1.60)
Bony interorbital width	5.4-14.0(12.40 \pm 2.55)	9.00-11.86(9.61 \pm 0.92)
Eye diameter	5.7-14.0(12.44 \pm 2.23)	9.50-12.39(10.77 \pm 0.94)
Lower jaw length	2.7-14.0(9.53 \pm 4.32)	4.08-11.59(7.06 \pm 3.04)
Upper jaw length	4.2-12.5(9.17 \pm 3.43)	4.58-9.71(6.79 \pm 2.53)
Dorsal fin length	32.5-74.0(59.45 \pm 10.97)	46.17-55.22(51.07 \pm 2.68)
1st dorsal fin height	7.0-20.5(17.52 \pm 4.30)	10.26-18.29 (14.71 \pm 2.62)
Longest ray in pectoral fin	13.0-44.5(38.34 \pm 9.27)	21.67-37.70(31.60 \pm 4.25)
Pelvic fin spine	10.5-17.7(15.29 \pm 2.42)	11.54-15.66(13.01 \pm 1.18)
Longest ray in pelvic fin	19.2-31.4(25.17 \pm 3.70)	18.71-27.79(19.64 \pm 2.74)
Anal fin length	15.1-26.8(20.10 \pm 3.43)	15.81-44.68(18.74 \pm 9.36)
1st anal fin ray	9.6-17.0(14.79 \pm 2.74)	8.28-17.00(12.96 \pm 2.42)
Caudal fin length	24.0-39.2(31.37 \pm 5.19)	22.43-34.69(24.58 \pm 3.71)
Snout length	6.1-11.0(9.07 \pm 1.60)	6.41- 12.35(8.12 \pm 1.73)
Predorsal length	25.2-51.0(45.37 \pm 7.73)	36.45-43.14(39.87 \pm 1.79)
Prepectoral	19.1-40.0(33.51 \pm 5.50)	25.89-31.83(29.27 \pm 2.08)
Prepelvic length	21.1-50.2(43.18 \pm 7.81)	34.38-40.00(37.35 \pm 2.17)
Pre anus length	55.5-80.0(68.21 \pm 9.10)	53.27-70.80(59.06 \pm 4.87)
Preanal length	65.2-91.5(78.49 \pm 8.94)	63.10-76.11(68.24 \pm 4.24)
Pelvic-anal length	8.5-44.0(34.2 \pm 12.04)	8.54-34.73(27.79 \pm 8.92)
Post orbit distance	5.7-16.5(12.77 \pm 3.18)	8.54-12.83(9.72 \pm 1.38)
Peduncle length	5.2-31.5(25.10 \pm 7.24)	8.77-23.51(19.63 \pm 4.31)
Peduncle depth	3.5-22.5(19.57 \pm 5.25)	5.83-21.45(16.29 \pm 4.01)
1st dorsal fin spine	2.8-5.5(4.20 \pm 0.96)	2.42-4.63(3.56 \pm 0.74)
2nd dorsal fin spine	10.4-23.0(18.91 \pm 4.04)	9.20-19.83(16.22 \pm 3.08)
3rd dorsal fin spine	17.7-23.2(20.26 \pm 2.20)	16.54-19.83(17.55 \pm 1.10)
1st anal fin spine	2.1-5.0(4.04 \pm 1.08)	1.84- 4.31(3.21 \pm 0.76)
2nd anal fin spine	10.5-20.0(16.06 \pm 2.73)	9.05- 14.95(13.73 \pm 1.94)
3rd anal fin spine	10.8-18.5(15.28 \pm 2.42)	9.31- 14.38(13.12 \pm 1.63)
Dermal eye opening	10.5-12.5(11.46 \pm 0.62)	8.21- 11.06(9.85 \pm 0.93)
Mouth height	6.6-9.0(7.83 \pm 0.84)	5.86- 7.70(6.80 \pm 0.69)
Extended upper jaw	8.6-14.0(11.36 \pm 1.88)	8.19-12.39(9.72 \pm 1.37)