

root of the pectoral, the last behind the middle of the length of the tail. The anal spines commence immediately behind the vent, and very gradually and but slightly increase in length behind, passing finally into flexible rays of varying and indefinite number. The pectoral is inserted at some distance behind the gill-opening, and has a very narrow base. Ventrals close to, but not extending to the vent, entirely separate.

Colour uniform light brown, blackish about the gills and on the soft anal fin.

Total length, . . . . .	396 mm.
Length of head, . . . . .	52 „
Depth of the body, . . . . .	32 „
Length of the tail, . . . . .	236 „

*Habitat*.—South of Yedo, Station 237 ; depth, 1875 fathoms. One specimen, 16 inches long.

Mediterranean.

The teeth are minute, those of the upper jaw scarcely different in size or shape from those of the lower. There are thirty-one on each side of the upper and twenty-three on each side of the lower jaw ; each half of the palatine series contains twenty-one teeth. Each ramus of the mandible with a series of pores which is continued on the præoperculum. The union of the gill-membranes takes place opposite to the middle of the distance between orbit and occiput. Orbit without circular fold. Gill-cavity and peritoneal sac with a thin layer of black pigment.

The air-bladder is much smaller than in *Notacanthus sexspinis*, occupying a small portion of the middle of the abdominal cavity ; anteriorly on the left side it is prolonged into a narrow cylindrical horn about two-thirds of the length of its body ; there is no open communication between it and the intestinal duct. The ovaries are a pair of band-like bodies, transversely plaited and without oviduct. The intestine makes only one convolution ; pyloric appendages are represented by three short diverticula only. Kidneys confluent into one short body which is situated between the muscles of the tail behind the vent.

The description by Filippi and V é r a n y is so short as to leave the identification of the Japanese with the Mediterranean fish in some uncertainty ; on the other hand, it applies sufficiently well to our specimen. And as a number of Mediterranean fishes are identical with Japanese, and as at least one other species of *Notacanthus* (*Notacanthus bonapartii*) shows a wide geographical range, I should not feel justified in giving a distinct name to the fish described.