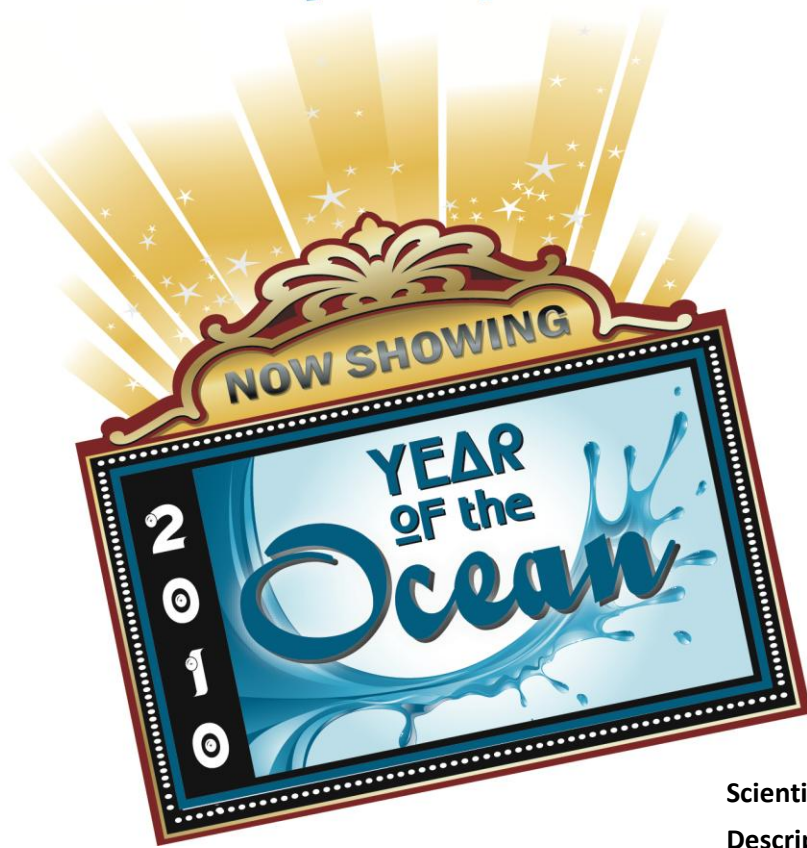


The Pier Aquarium presents the Celebrity Critter of the Week!



Lipstick Tang

Scientific Name: *Naso lituratus*

Description: Grey to cream body with orange lips and a strong yellow line running from the back of the mouth up to the eye. Also has bold stripes on the dorsal and/or anal fins.

Habitat: west and central Pacific Ocean, Hawaii to the Philippines and the Red Sea.

Top 10 Facts:

1. As with other tangs, this species has spines, multiples on each side of the body at the *caudal peduncle* that are surrounded by bright orange patches.
2. Lipstick Tang are primarily herbivores and feed off algae and small plant material growing on reefs and rock rubble.
3. The Lipstick Tang is also known as the “orangespine unicornfish.”
4. Adult males often grow long streaming filaments off their caudal fin (tail).
5. In the wild this species is commonly found living on steep coral and rocky reefs. However, individuals have been observed in deeper waters.
6. This species often rests at the bottom, under a ledge, or against a rock at night.
7. Although Lipstick Tangs often school with several individuals, they are highly territorial (particularly the “streaming” tail males) and can become aggressive.
8. Lipstick Tangs are fast swimmers and require high water flow in aquarium settings.
9. This species gets its name from the orange ring around its mouth, giving it the appearance that lipstick has been applied.
10. A “blonde” variety has been observed and identified in Hawaiian waters and is highly sought after in the aquarium trade.