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***PLECTORHINCHUS MACROSPILUS*, A NEW SPECIES OF THICKLIP (PERCIFORMES:
HAEMULIDAE) FROM THE ANDAMAN SEA OFF SOUTHWESTERN THAILAND**

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ABSTRACT

Plectorhinchus macrospilus is described as a new species of haemulid fish from the adult holotype and a subadult paratype collected at the Similan Islands in the Andaman Sea off the coast of southwestern Thailand. It is characterized as follows: dorsal-fin rays XII, 21; anal-fin rays III, 8; pored lateral-line scales 58; a low gill-raker count 4–6 + 14–15, total 18–21; scales above the lateral line 14, below 19–21; chin with 6 pores, no median pit; adults with many large black spots on body, nape, and soft portions of median fins, and smaller black spots on head; juveniles with 4 (or probably 5 when smaller) dark stripes more than half orbit diameter in width that gradually break up into spots with growth.