

You Don't Know Jacks!

A guide to Gulf of Mexico *Seriola* jacks

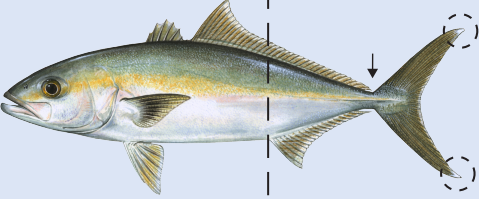
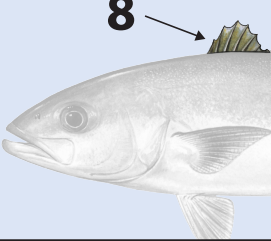
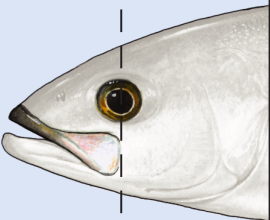
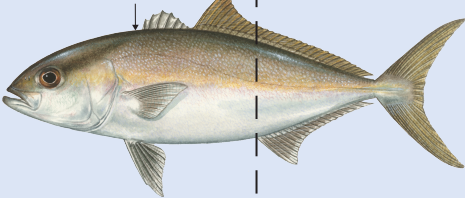
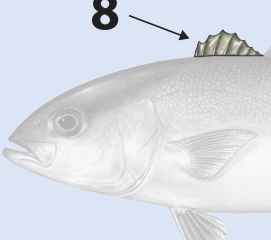
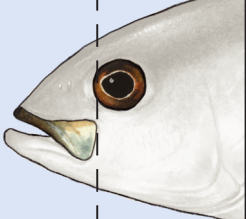
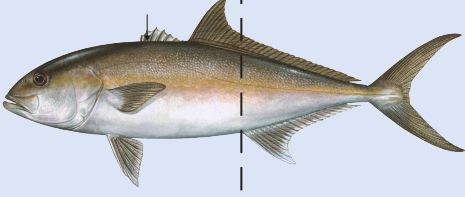
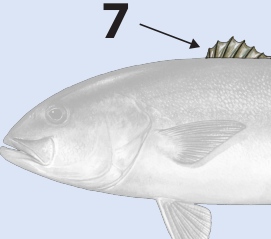
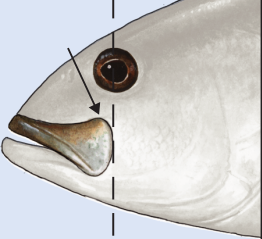
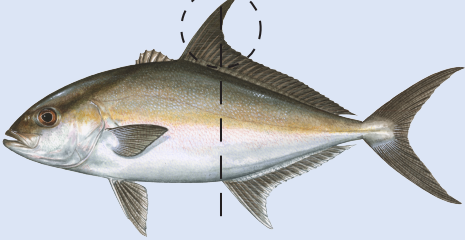
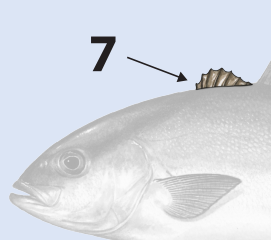
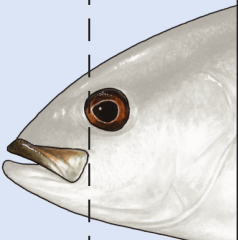
You don't know jacks—or do you? Below are some useful hints to help you correctly identify your fish.

- Is it larger than 3 feet? If so, it's a greater amberjack.
- Is it deep-bodied with a tall dorsal fin? If so, it's an almaco jack.

If not, the number of spines and position of the eyes will help you determine the species.

For a more comprehensive and interactive identification guide, scan the QR code in the bottom left.

For up-to-date fishing regulations, scan the QR code in the bottom right.

Full Body	First Dorsal Fin Spine #	Maxilla-Eye Alignment	Key Characteristics
 <p>Banded Rudderfish</p>	 <p>8</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bony keel by tail • white-tipped tail • flat-edged mouth • max. fork length: 2'3"
 <p>Lesser Amberjack</p>	 <p>8</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blunt mouth • stripe not to first dorsal fin • proportionally larger eye • max. fork length: 2'2"
 <p>Greater Amberjack</p>	 <p>7</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • slender body • stripe to first dorsal fin • corner of mouth upturned • max. fork length: 3'7"
 <p>Almaco Jack</p>	 <p>7</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deep body • tall dorsal and anal fins • max. fork length: 2'7"

Dashed lines in the first column indicate position of anal fin relative to second dorsal fin.



Scan for an interactive ID guide.



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