Orbiculate Batfish

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Platax orbicularis

Orbiculate Batfish

Quick Stats: Orbiculate Batfish
Family: Ephippididae **Range:** Indo-Pacific **Size:** Up to 22 inches **Diet:** Omnivore **Tank Set-up:** Marine: Coral or rock, plants **Reef Compatible:** No **Tank Conditions:** 72-78ºF; sg 1.020-1.025; pH 8.1-8.4 **Minimum Tank Capacity:** 180 gallon **Light:** High **Temperament:** Peaceful **Swimming Level:** No specific level **Care Level:** Moderate

The Orbiculate Batfish, is also called the Round Batfish, Orbic Platax, and the Orbic Batfish. A round body of reddish brown and large round fins contribute to this fish's commanding presence. It can potentially grow to an adult size of 22 inches.

It is peaceful and hardy when provided with a deep tank of at least 180 gallons and plenty of unobstructed room to swim. Not a good reef dweller, it will eat many types of sessile invertebrates including corals and anemones. As with all Batfish, the Orbiculate is susceptible to ich.

A varied diet of meaty foods such as shrimp, scallops, vitamin-enriched brine shrimp, and frozen herbivore preparations will help the Orbiculate to thrive, especially when fed three times per day.

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