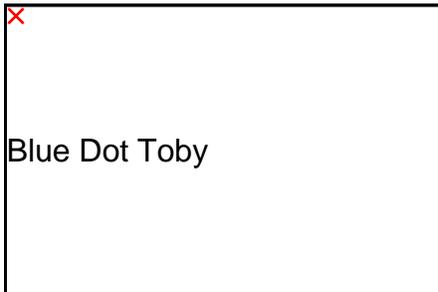


Blue Dot Toby

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Canthigaster epilamprus



Blue Dot Toby

Quick Stats: Blue Dot Toby

Family: Canthigaster
Range: Global
Size: Up to 5 inches
Diet: Omnivore
Tank Set-up: Marine: Coral or rock
Reef Compatible: No
Tank Conditions: 72-78°F; sg 1.020-1.025; pH 8.1-8.4
Minimum Tank Capacity: 50 gallon
Light: Medium
Temperament: Semi-aggressive
Swimming Level: No specific level
Care Level: Moderate
Reproduction: Egg Layer

The Blue Dot Toby may also be called the Blue Dot Puffer or Blue Spotted Sharp-nosed Puffer. Members of the *Canthigaster* genus are called Sharp-nosed Puffers or Tobies. It lacks pelvic fins, but has learned to use the pectoral fins to move about the aquarium.

A 50 gallon or larger, fish-only aquarium is suitable. It may be aggressive at times, nipping the fins of tank mates, leaving a circular hole as its mark. Its teeth are actually a fused beak-like structure. It will eat invertebrates found in a reef tank. It becomes alarmed when in a net, therefore, use a container to transfer it.

When threatened or alarmed, it has the ability to inflate its body to almost twice its normal size. While "puffed up," its spines are held straight out from the body to discourage others from trying to eat it. Parts of its flesh are poisonous.

The diet of the Blue Dot Toby needs a varied diet of meaty foods including squid, krill, clams, and hard shelled shrimp to help wear down their ever growing teeth.