



**DESCRIPTION:** Long, slender body marked with zebra-like stripes of white and deep blue or black. Mouth is elongated and narrow.

**SIZE:** Common at 10-50 pounds; often grows to 80 or 90 pounds, and the potential maximum is 150 or more. World record 158 pounds, 8 ounces.

**FOOD VALUE:** White meat is tasty but rather dry. A good smoking fish.

**GAME QUALITIES:** May strike a surface bait in spectacular, greyhounding fashion, but seldom jumps after being hooked. Wild fight is characterized by several sizzling runs, usually at or near the surface. One of the fastest of all gamefish.

**TACKLE AND BAITS:** Many Wahoo are hooked on heavy tackle, incidentally to Billfishing. Best choices, however, are light to medium ocean trolling outfits with lines up to 30-pound test; 50-pound isn't too heavy for good sport with big specimens. A few have been caught by deepjigging or ocean casting with spinning and baitcasting tackle—even fly tackle on rare occasion. Most productive bait is a weighted feather or similar trolling lure, rigged in combination with a whole small baitfish or large strip. Surface trolling is sometimes effective, but deep trolling is much more likely to produce a Wahoo.

**FISHING SYSTEMS:** Trolling; Drifting.

**OTHER NAMES:**

**Peto  
Ono**

**RANGE:** Offshore waters of the entire Gulf. Most plentiful around Yucatan and in the Straits of Florida.

**HABITAT:** Freely roams anywhere in deep blue water, but anglers can find them by working dropoffs, seamounts, weed-lines and other favorable feeding locations.