

Order ANGUILLIFORMES

Shorttail Eels

Family **COLOCONGRIDAE**¹

Smith 1976



Coloconger maculatus, holotype, 520 mm TL. From: Ho, H.-C., C.-N. Tang and T.-W. Chu. 2021. *Coloconger maculatus* sp. nov., a species of short-tail eel from eastern Taiwan (Anguilliformes: Colocongridae). Zootaxa 5016 (2): 271–282.

Coloconger

Alcock 1889

colo-, from *kólos* (κόλος), shortened or curtailed, referring to stubby body and short tail of *C. raniceps*; *conger*, Latin for a marine eel but in this case referring to its presumed close affinity with *Conger* (Congridae)

***Coloconger cadenati* Kanazawa 1961** in honor of French ichthyologist Jean Cadenat (1908–1992), Director, Marine Biological Section of the Institut Français d'Afrique Noire (Gorée, Senegal), who supplied holotype

***Coloconger caninus* (Castle & Raju 1975)** Latin for canine or like a dog, referring to the shape of its snout (described from a leptocephalus)

***Coloconger eximius* (Castle 1967)** Latin for exceptional, uncommon or extraordinary, described as a “complete novelty amongst known eel-larvae,” with a “remarkably large” size (700 mm TL) for a leptocephalus and a laterally compressed body, “giving the impression of a broad, flat tape”

***Coloconger japonicus* Machida 1984** *-icus* (L.), belonging to: Japan, referring to Okinawa Trough, type locality, between Japan and Taiwan in the South China Sea [possibly a synonym of *C. scholesi*]

***Coloconger maculatus* Ho & Tang 2021** Latin for spotted, referring to distinct black blotch on posterior portion of tail

***Coloconger meadi* Kanazawa 1957** in honor of American ichthyologist Giles W. Mead (1928–2003), who sent holotype to Kanazawa

***Coloconger paucitubus* Ho, Smith & Pogonoski 2025** *paucus* (L.), few or scanty; *tubus* (L.), tube, referring to the diagnostic low sensory tube (pore) count on the head compared with congeners

***Coloconger raniceps* Alcock 1889** *rana* (L.), frog; *-iceps* (New Latin), headed, referring to its “massive, frog-like” head

***Coloconger saldanhai* Quéro 2001** in honor of Portuguese ichthyologist Luiz Saldanha (1937–1997, in a memorial volume commemorating his contributions to marine biology); Saldanha collaborated with Quéro and co-discovered this eel

***Coloconger scholesi* Chan 1967** in honor of Patrick Scholes (ca. 1946–2011), Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, England, for his contributions to the fishery survey program in the South China Sea

¹ Placed in Derichthyidae by some workers.