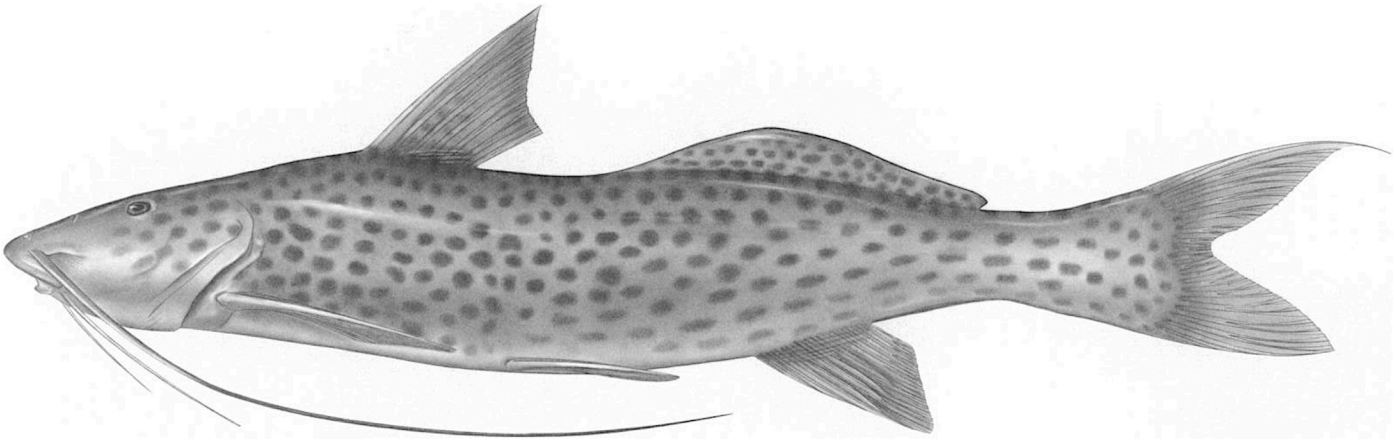
Order SILURIFORMES

Long-whiskered Catfishes

Family **PIMELODIDAE**[1]

Bonaparte 1835



Aguarunichthys torosus, holotype, male, 346 mm SL. Illustation by Marlene Werner. From: Stewart, D. J. 1986. Revision of *Pimelodina* and description of a new genus and species from the Peruvian Amazon (Pisces: Pimelodidae). Copeia 1986 (no. 3): 653-672.

Subfamily PIMELODINAE

Bonaparte 1835

Aguarunichthys

Stewart 1986

Aguaruna, name of Jivaroan-speaking society of Amerindians who inhabit the Alto Rio Marañón region of the Peruvian Amazon where *A. torosus* was collected; *ichthýs* (ἰχθύς), fish

Aguarunichthys inpai **Zuanon, Rapp Py-Daniel & Jégu 1993** of INPA, acronym for Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, which helped fund the authors' field work

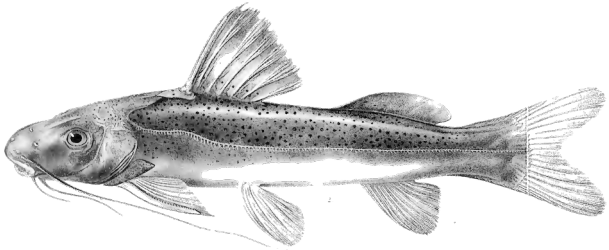
Aguarunichthys tocantinsensis **Zuanon, Rapp Py-Daniel & Jégu 1993** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Tocantins River basin, Pará, Brazil, type locality

Aguarunichthys torosus **Stewart 1986** Latin for muscular or brawny, referring to body form of this big-river fish

Bagropsis

Lütken 1874

etymology not explained, probably *ópsis* (ὄψις), appearance, referring to similarity to other *Bagrus* (Bagridae) catfishes (then a catch-all genus that included several South American species)



First-published image of *Bagropsis reinhardti* (vertical line at caudal peduncle is a crease in the page). From: Lütken, C. F. 1875. Velhas-Flodens fiske. Et bidrag til Brasiliens ichthyologi; efter Professor J. Reinhardts indsamlinger og optegnelser. Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Skrifter. Naturvidenskabelig og Mathematisk Afdeling (Ser. 5) 12 (2): 121–253 + 2 unnum. + i–xxi, Pls. 1–5.

Bagropsis atrobrunneus **(Vidal & Lucena 1999)** *atro-*, from *ater* (L.), black; *brunneus*, Medieval Latin for brown, referring to grey-brown to dark-brown uniform body coloration

Bagropsis paranaensis **(Britski & Langeani 1988)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: upper rio Paraná basin, Brazil, where it is endemic

Bagropsis reinhardti **Lütken 1874** in honor of Danish zoologist Johannes Theodor Reinhardt (1816–1882), with whom Lütken collaborated on many studies and who apparently collected holotype

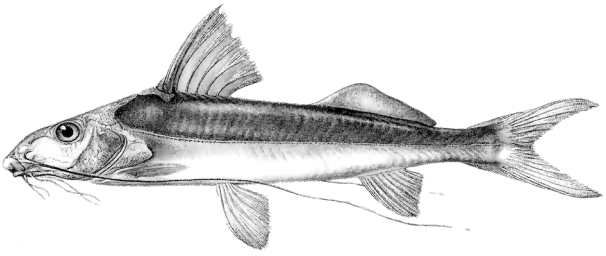
Bergiaria

Eigenmann & Norris 1901

-aria (L. suffix), pertaining to: Latvian zoologist Friedrich Wilhelm Karl ("Carlos") Berg (1843–1902), Museo Nacional de Buenos Aires [replacement name for *Bergiella* Eigenmann & Norris 1900, preoccupied by *Bergiella* Baker 1897 in Hymenoptera]

Bergiaria platana **(Steindachner 1908)** *-ana* (L.), belonging to: referring to Río de la Plata, Argentina, type locality

Bergiaria westermanni **(Lütken 1874)** patronym not identified, probably in honor of Lütken's fellow Dutchman Gerardus Frederick Westermann (1807–1890), who helped found the Amsterdam Zoo in 1838



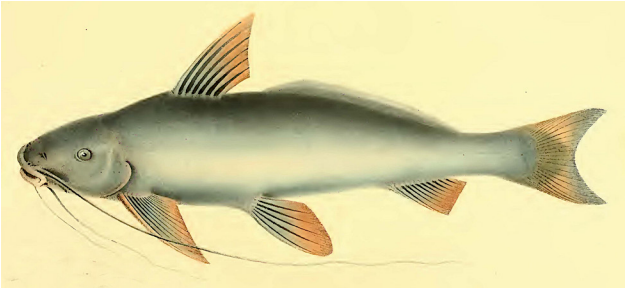
First-published image of *Bergiaria westermanni*. See *Bagropsis reinhardti* caption for source.

Calophysus

Müller & Troschel 1843

etymology not explained, possibly *calo-*, from *kállos* (κάλλος), beauty, and *physus*, from *phýsa* (φύσα), bladder, referring to "delicate wreath" (translation) of caeca surrounding lateral and posterior margins of swim bladder

[1] Subfamilal and clade classification (except for *Zungaropsis* and *Conorhynchos*) follows Silva, G. S. C., M. S. Rocha, B. F. Melo, L. Reia, F. F. Roxo, F. F., M. H. Sabaj and C. Oliveira. 2024. Phylogenomics of the catfish family Pimelodidae with focus on the genus *Pimelodus* support the recognition of Sorubiminae and Pimelodinae (Teleostei, Siluriformes). Zoologica Scripta 53 (5): 541–554.



Probably first-published image of *Calophysus macropterus* (as *Pimelodus ctenodus*, a junior synonym). From: Spix, J. B. von and L. Agassiz 1829. Selecta genera et species piscium quos in itinere per Brasiliam annis MDCCCXVII-MDCCCXX jussu et auspiciis Maximiliani Josephi I. Monachii (Munich). Part 1: i–xvi + i-ii + 1-6 + 1-82, Pls. 1–48, Part 2: 83–138, Pls. 49–101. [Part 1 published June 1829, part 2 Jan. 1831.]

***Calophysus macropterus* (Lichtenstein 1819)** large-finned, from *makrós* (μακρός), long or large, and *pterus*, from *pterón* (πτερόν) or *ptéryx* (πτέρυξ), fin, referring to its exceptionally long adipose fin

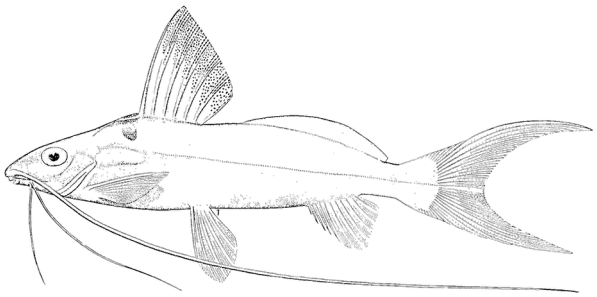
Cheirocerus

Eigenmann 1917

cheirós (χειρός), genitive of *cheír* (χείρ), hand (homologous to the pectoral fin); *ceros*, from *kerás* (κεράς), horn, presumably referring to "very short, soft prolongation" of first pectoral-fin ray of *C. eques*

***Cheirocerus abuelo* (Schultz 1944)** common name of this species among people living in the Maracaibo Basin, Venezuela, meaning grandfather, referring its extremely long "beard" or maxillary barbels (nearly as long as, or longer than, its total length)

***Cheirocerus eques* Eigenmann 1917** Latin for horseman or rider, referring to black saddle marking in front of dorsal spine, extending ⅓ down the sides



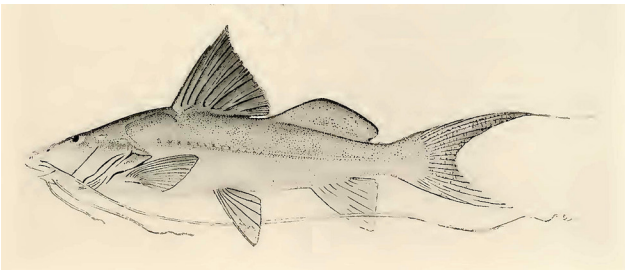
Cheirocerus eques, holotype. From: Eigenmann, C. H. 1917. New and rare species of South American Siluridae in the Carnegie Museum. Annals of the Carnegie Museum 11 (3–4): 398–404, Pls. 39–41.

***Cheirocerus goeldii* (Steindachner 1908)** patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of Swiss-Brazilian zoologist Émil (or Emílio) Goeldi (1859–1917), Director of the Museo Paraense and author of numerous works on the natural history of Brazil (from where this catfish was described)

Duopalatinus

Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1888

duo (L.), two; *palatinus* (scientific Neo-Latin), referring to the palate, presumably referring to two well-separated patches of teeth (vomerine and palatine) on roof of mouth



Duopalatinus peruanus. From: Eigenmann, C. H. and W. R. Allen. 1942. Fishes of Western South America. I. The intercordilleran and Amazonian lowlands of Peru. II.- The high pampas of Peru, Bolivia, and northern Chile. With a revision of the Peruvian Gymnotidae, and of the genus *Orestias*. University of Kentucky. i–xv + 1–494, Pls. 1–22.

***Duopalatinus emarginatus* (Valenciennes 1840)** Latin for deprived of its edge, presumably referring to emarginate caudal fin of dried and mounted holotype (in which the lobes of an otherwise deeply forked caudal fin may have broken off)

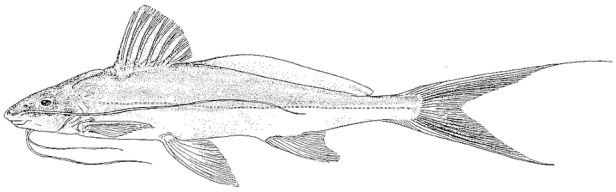
***Duopalatinus peruanus* Eigenmann & Allen 1942** *-anus* (L.), belonging to: Peru, where type locality (Río Puinagua, mouth of Río Pacaya, Río Ucayali system) is situated

Exallodontus

Lundberg, Mago-Leccia & Nass 1991

éxallos (έξαλλος), quite different; *odontus*, Neo-Latin combining form of *odoús* (ὀδούς), tooth, referring to unique dentition (2–3 rows of heavy, firmly attached conical teeth on premaxillae and dentaries)

***Exallodontus aguanai* Lundberg, Mago-Leccia & Nass 1991** in honor of Leonidas Aguana, Universidad Central de Venezuela, whose friendship and "intrepid collaboration in the field" have contributed greatly to the authors' research and to Venezuelan ichthyology



Exallodontus aguanai, paratype, 175 mm SL. From: Lundberg, J. G., F. Mago-Leccia and P. Nass 1991. *Exallodontus aguanai*, a new genus and species of Pimelodidae (Pisces: Siluriformes) from deep river channels of South America, and delimitation of the subfamily Pimelodinae. Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington 104 (4): 840–869.

Iheringichthys

Eigenmann & Norris 1900

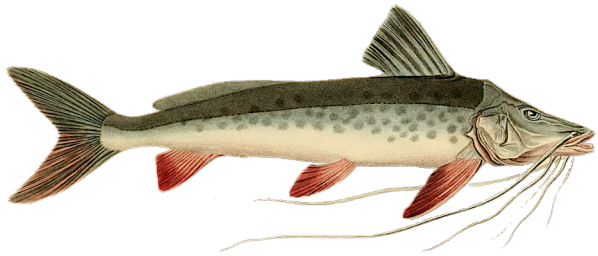
in honor of German-Brazilian zoologist Hermann von Ihering (1850–1930), Director, Museu de São Paulo, Brazil; *ichthýs* (ἰχθύς), fish

***Iheringichthys labrosus* (Lütken 1874)** Latin for large-lipped, referring to down-turned mouth surrounded by thick lips

***Iheringichthys megalops* Eigenmann & Ward 1907** *mégas* (μέγας), big; *ṓps* (ὦψ), eye, referring to its very large eyes, larger than those of *I. labrosus*

***Iheringichthys syi* Azpelicueta & Britski 2012** Guaraní word for straight, referring to fine serration on anterior margin of pectoral-fin spine

Iheringichthys syi, holotype, 149.1 mm SL. Photo by Leandro M. Souza. From: Azpelicueta, M. de las M. and H. A. Britski. 2012. *Iheringichthys syi* (Siluriformes: Pimelodidae), a new pimelodid species from upper Paraná basin, Brazil. Neotropical Ichthyology 10 (1): 45–52.



Luciopimelodus pati. From: Valenciennes, A. 1834–39. Poissons [plates]. *In*: A. d'Orbigny. Voyage dans l'Amérique méridionale. Bertrand et Levrault, Paris. Pls. 1–16. [This plate published 1835; text published in 1847.]

Luciopimelodus

Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1888

lucius (L.), pike (Esocidae), presumably referring to elongate and spatulate head, similar to that of a pike; *Pimelodus*, referring to previous placement of *L. pati* in that genus

***Luciopimelodus pati* (Valenciennes 1835)** local Guaraní name for this catfish in Argentina

Megalonema

Eigenmann 1912

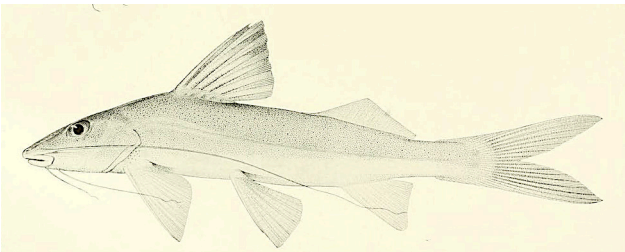
mégas (μέγας), big; *nḗma* (νῆμα), thread or yarn, presumably referring to long maxillary barbels of *M. platycephalum*, which reach anal fin

Subgenus ***Megalonema***

***Megalonema pauciradiatum* Eigenmann 1919** *paucus* (L.), few or scarce; *radiatum* (L.), rayed, referring to fewer anal-fin rays (9) compared with *M. platanum* (12)

***Megalonema platanum* (Günther 1880)** *-anum* (L.), belonging to: Río de la Plata system, Argentina, type locality

***Megalonema platycephalum* Eigenmann 1912** flat-headed, from *platýs* (πλατύς), flat, and *kephalḗ* (κεφαλή), head, referring to flattened head between the eyes



Megalonema platycephalum. From: Eigenmann, C. H. 1912. The freshwater fishes of British Guiana, including a study of the ecological grouping of species, and the relation of the fauna of the plateau to that of the lowlands. Memoirs of the Carnegie Museum 5 (1): i–xxii + 1–578, Pls. 1-103.

***Megalonema psammium* Schultz 1944** Latin neuter adjective of *psámmos* (ψάμμος), sand, referring to its occurrence over the sandy areas of rivers

Subgenus ***Eretmomegalonema***

Lundberg & Dahdul 2008

eretmón (ἐρετμόν), oar or paddle, referring to paddle-like pelvic fins, i.e., an oared *Megalonema*

***Megalonema amaxanthum* Lundberg & Dahdul 2008** *ama-*, referring to Amazon River basin (Brazil, Guyana, Peru, Bolivia, and probably Colombia and Ecuador), where it occurs, i.e., an Amazonian *M. xanthum*

***Megalonema orixanthum* Lundberg & Dahdul 2008** *ori-*, referring to Orinoco River basin (Colombia, Venezuela), where it occurs, i.e., an Orinocian *M. xanthum*

***Megalonema xanthum* Eigenmann 1912** Latin neuter adjective of *xanthós* (ξανθός), yellow, referring to its coloration in life

Parapimelodus

La Monte 1933

pará (παρά), near, "doubtless related to *Pimelodus*, its peculiar characters seem to warrant making it the type of a new genus"

Parapimelodus nigrobarbis, lectotype, BMNH 1889.8.24.6. © The Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London.

***Parapimelodus nigribarbis* (Boulenger 1889)** *nigri-*, from *niger* (L.), dark or black; *barbis* (scientific Neo-Latin), barbel, referring to its "almost black" barbels

***Parapimelodus valenciennis* (Lütken 1874)** *-is*, Latin genitive singular of: patronym not identified but clearly in honor of Achille Valenciennes (1794–1865), co-author of the 22-volume *Histoire Naturelle des Poissons* (1828–1850), a basic reference for ichthyologists of the time

Pimelabditus

Parisi & Lundberg 2009

Pimelodus, type genus of family; *abditus* (L.), hidden or concealed, referring to the "hidden nature of a small fish species living in the difficult-to-collect rocky bottoms of swift, large rivers" whose recent discovery was something of a surprise

***Pimelabditus moli* Parisi & Lundberg 2009** in honor of Dutch aquatic ecologist Jan Mol, Anton de Kom University, for contributions to the knowledge of Suriname's fishes

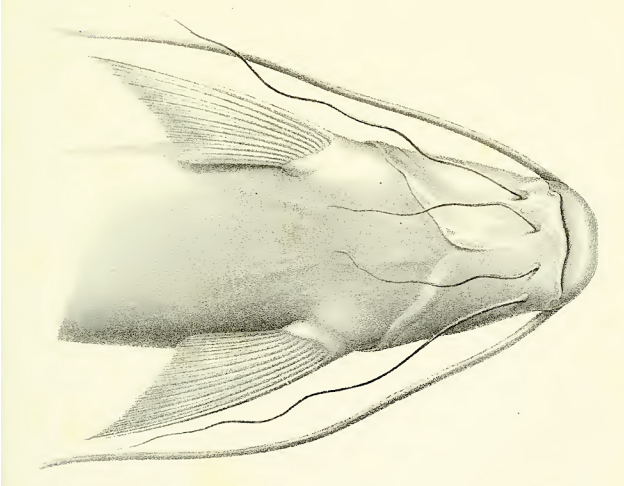
Pimelabditus moli, holotype, 140.9 mm SL. Photo by Kyle Luckenbill. From: Parisi, B. M. and J. G. Lundberg. 2009. *Pimelabditus moli*, a new genus and new species of pimelodid catfish (Teleostei: Siluriformes) from the Maroni River basin of northeastern South America. Notulae Naturae (Philadelphia) 480: 1–11.

Pimelodina

Steindachner 1876

-ina (L. suffix), having the nature of: referring to close resemblance to and/or close relationship with *Pimelodus*

***Pimelodina flavipinnis* Steindachner 1876** *flavus* (L.), yellow; *pinnis*, Neo-Latin adjective of *pinna* (L.), fin, i.e., finned, referring to reddish-yellow fins



Pimelodina flavipinnis, underside of head. From: Steindachner, F. 1876. Ichthyologische Beiträge (V). Sitzungsberichte der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Classe 74 (1): 49–240, Pls. 1–15.

Pimelodus

Lacepède 1803

-odus, from *eídos* (εἶδος), form or shape: *pīmelḗ* (πῖμελή), fat, i.e., fatty, referring to their adipose fin (at the time, this was a catch-all genus for many New World catfishes, most of which possess a "fatty" or adipose fin) [many online references report that *-odus* is derived from *odous*, meaning teeth, but this is incorrect]

***Pimelodus absconditus* Azpelicueta 1995** Latin for hidden or concealed, referring to its misidentification as *P. maculatus* (due to presence of dots) and with species of *Iheringichthys* (due to its thick lips)

***Pimelodus albicans* (Valenciennes 1840)** Latin for becoming white (i.e., whitish), referring to its local Spanish name in Buenos Aires, *bagre blanc* (white catfish)

***Pimelodus albofasciatus* Mees 1974** *albus* (L.), white; *fasciatus* (L.), banded, referring to broad white longitudinal band from head to tail

***Pimelodus altissimus* Eigenmann & Pearson 1942** superlative of *altus* (L.), high (i.e., highest), referring to its very long and high adipose fin

***Pimelodus argenteus* Perugia 1891** Latin for silvery, referring to its "immaculate" (translation) silvery coloration

***Pimelodus blochii* Valenciennes 1840** in honor of German physician-ichthyologist Marcus Elisier Bloch (1723–1799), who reported and illustrated this catfish as *Silurus clarias* in 1782

***Pimelodus britskii* Garavello & Shibatta 2007** in honor of Brazilian ichthyologist Heraldo A. Britski (b. 1934), Universidade de São Paulo, for his "significant" contributions to Neotropical ichthyology

***Pimelodus coprophagus* Schultz 1944** *copro-*, from *kópros* (κόπρος), excrement; *phagus*, from *phagein* (φαγεῖν), to eat, a "scavenger, eating any refuse that it can get"

***Pimelodus crypticus* Villa-Navarro & Cala 2017** Latin for hidden or secret, referring to its identity being "hidden" due to prior confusion with *P. yuma*

***Pimelodus fur* (Lütken 1874)** Latin for thief, based on local Brazilian name *Papa-isca*, or bait-eater, because it eats the bait put out for other fishes

***Pimelodus garciabarrigai* Dahl 1961** in honor of botanist Hernando García-Barriga (1913–2005), Instituto de Ciencias Naturales (Colombia), a member of the expedition during which holotype was collected

***Pimelodus grosskopfii* Steindachner 1879** in honor of Th. Grosskopf (no other information available), who collected specimens in Colombia for the Berlin Museum, including holotype of this catfish

***Pimelodus halisodous* Ribeiro, Lucena & Lucinda 2008** *hális* (ἅλις), in abundance; *odoús* (ὀδούς), tooth, referring to several (~15) irregular rows of conical, slender teeth on each premaxilla

***Pimelodus jivaro* Eigenmann & Pearson 1942** named for the dominant indigenous tribe of the region, the "head-hunters," or Jivaros, of the upper Amazon of Peru

***Pimelodus joannis* Ribeiro, Lucena & Lucinda 2008** *-is*, Latin genitive singular of: John G. Lundberg (b. 1942), Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for his many contributions to catfish systematics

***Pimelodus luciae* Rocha & Ribeiro 2010** in honor of Lúcia Rapp Py-Daniel, Curator of Fishes, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, for her many contributions to catfish systematics

***Pimelodus maculatus* Lacepède 1803** Latin for spotted, referring to its color pattern

***Pimelodus microstoma* Steindachner 1877** *micro-*, from *mikrós* (μικρός), small; *stóma* (στόμα), mouth, referring to it small mouth compared with most Amazonian congeners

***Pimelodus multicratifer* Ribeiro, Lucena & Oyakawa 2011** *multi-* (L.), many; *cratis* (L.), harrow (i.e., rake); *-ifer*, from *fero* (L.), to have or bear, referring to 26–30 gill rakers on first branchial arch

***Pimelodus mysteriosus* Azpelicueta 1998** Latin for secret or mysterious, referring to its cryptic similarity to *P. maculatus*

***Pimelodus navarroi* Schultz 1944** in honor of Rafael Navarro, who acted as Schultz' assistant in collecting many of the fishes he reported upon from the Maracaibo Basin of Venezuela

***Pimelodus ornatus* Kner 1858** Latin for adorned or decorated, a "beautifully colored" (translation) catfish featuring two black stripes along lateral line and a vertical stripe extending from front of dorsal fin to underside of belly

***Pimelodus ortmanni* Haseman 1911** in honor of Arnold E. Ortmann (1863–1927), Prussian-born American malacologist and curator of invertebrate zoology at the Carnegie Museum, for whom Haseman collected specimens

***Pimelodus pantaneiro* Souza-Filho & Shibatta 2007** inhabitant of the Pantanal region, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

***Pimelodus pictus* Steindachner 1876** Latin for painted, referring to black spots on silver-gray body

***Pimelodus pintado* Azpelicueta, Lundberg & Loureiro 2008** local name for this fish along the Cebollatí River, Uruguay (type locality), from the Spanish *pintado*, spotted or with points, referring to densely spotted pigmentation pattern with many small dots irregularly placed over sides, head and fins

***Pimelodus platicirris* Borodin 1927** *platýs* (πλατύς), flat; *cirris* (L.), tuft of hair or fringe, referring to flattened (not round) maxillary barbels [possibly a synonym of *P. maculatus*]

***Pimelodus pohli* Ribeiro & Lucena 2006** in honor of Czech botanist-geologist-physician Johan B. Emanuel Pohl (1782–1834), participant in the Austrian Mission to Brazil (1817–1836) with Johann Natterer, who collected in several localities in the rio São Francisco drainage, where this catfish occurs

***Pimelodus punctatus* (Meek & Hildebrand 1913)** Latin for spotted, referring to many small black spots on sides and top of head

***Pimelodus quadratus* Lucinda, Ribeiro & Lucena 2016** Latin for squared, referring to square patches of pigmentation along flanks of juveniles, which help to distinguish this species

Pimelodus quadratus, paratype, 55.5 mm SL. From: Lucinda, P. H. F., F. R. V. Ribeiro and C. A. S. de Lucena. 2016. *Pimelodus quadratus*, a new long-whiskered catfish from the rio Tocantins drainage, Brazil (Siluriformes: Pimelodidae). Ichthyological Exploration of Freshwaters 27 (4) for 337–345.

***Pimelodus speciosus* Costa e Silva, Ribeiro, Lucena & Lucinda 2018** Latin for beautiful, referring to a unique color pattern consisting of variably shaped dark blotches irregularly distributed along flanks and coalescing horizontally and vertically, and background coloration light pink to light gray

***Pimelodus stewarti* Ribeiro, Lucena & Lucinda 2008** in honor of American ichthyologist Donald J. Stewart (b. 1946), then with the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, for his many contributions to catfish systematics

***Pimelodus tetramerus* Ribeiro & Lucena 2006** *tetrá* (τετρά), four; *méros* (μέρος), part or portion, referring to four dark bands on sides

***Pimelodus yuma* Villa-Navarro & Acero P. 2017** name given by indigenous people for the Magdalena River, Colombia, where this catfish occurs

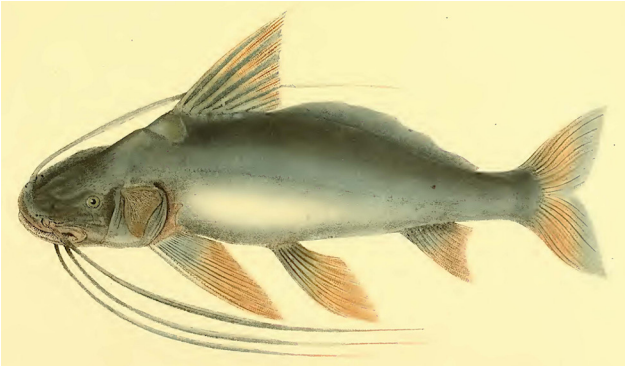
Pinirampus

Bleeker 1858

tautonymous with *Pimelodus pirinampu* (but Bleeker misspelled or Latinized the name, adding an "s")

***Pinirampus argentina* (MacDonagh 1938)** named for Argentina, where type locality (Río Paraná, Posadas, Terriotrio de Misiones) is situated [sometimes incorrectly spelled *argentinus* and *argentinum*]

***Pinirampus pirinampu* (Spix & Agassiz 1829)** *pirinampú*, local name for this catfish in Brazil at time of description



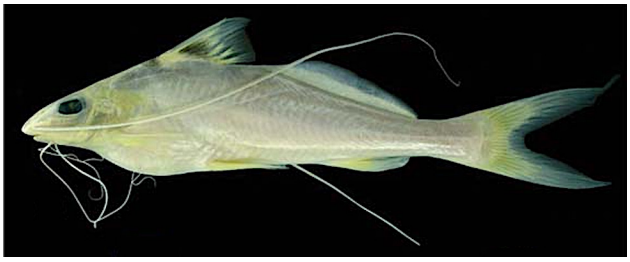
Pinirampus pirinampu. See *Calophysus macropterus* caption for source.

Propimelodus

Lundberg & Parisi 2002

pro- (L.), before, suggesting the primitive condition of its trigeminofacial foramen relative to *Pimelodus*

Propimelodus araguayae **Rocha, de Oliveira & Rapp Py-Daniel 2007** of the rio Araguaia (old spelling Araguaya), Mato Grosso, Brazil, only known area of occurrence



Propimelodus araguayae, holotype, 127.1 mm SL. Photo by Fernando P. Mendonça. From: Rocha, M. S., R. R. de Oliveira and L. H. Rapp Py-Daniel. 2007. A new species of *Propimelodus* Lundberg & Parisi, 2002 (Siluriformes: Pimelodidae) from rio Araguaia, Mato Grosso, Brazil. Neotropical Ichthyology 5 (3): 279–284.

Propimelodus caesius **Parisi, Lundberg & DoNascimiento 2006** Latin for blue gray, referring to its "attractive bluish life color"

Propimelodus eigenmanni **(Van der Stigchel 1946)** in honor of German-born American ichthyologist Carl H. Eigenmann (1863–1927), who, along with his wife Rosa, reported this species as a distinct form of *Pimelodus* (now *Pimelodella*) *altipinnis* (Heptapteridae) in 1888

Propimelodus lobatus **Torrico-Destre, Careaga & Carvajal-Vallejos 2025** Latin for lobed, referring to its characteristic lobe-like anal fin

Subfamily SORUBIMINAE

Swainson 1838

Brachyplatystoma

Bleeker 1862

brachýs (βραχύς), short, i.e., a short *Platystoma*, presumably referring to shorter, less-depressed mouth of *B. vaillantii* compared with other species then placed in *Platystoma* (=*Sorubim*)

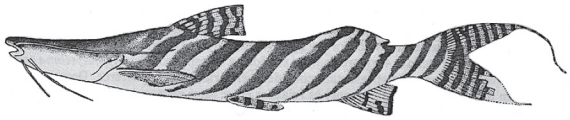
Subgenus *Brachyplatystoma*

Brachyplatystoma juruense **(Boulenger 1898)** *-ense*, Latin suffix denoting place: Rio Juruá, Brazil, type locality

Brachyplatystoma platynemum **Boulenger 1898** flat-threaded, from *platýs* (πλατύς), flat; *nḗma* (νῆμα), thread or yarn, referring to flattened, band-like maxillary and mental barbels

Brachyplatystoma tigrinum **(Britski 1981)** Latin for tiger-like, referring to diagonal stripes or bars on body

Brachyplatystoma vaillantii **(Valenciennes 1840)** in honor of François Levaillant (1753–1824), French explorer, naturalist and zoological collector, who brought the types to Europe



Brachyplatystoma tigrinum, holotype, 555 mm SL (with damaged lower caudal-fin lobe reconstructed). From: Britski, H. A. 1981. Sobre um novo gênero e espécie de Sorubiminae da Amazônia (Pisces, Siluriformes). Papéis Avulsos do Departamento de Zoologia, Secretaria da Agricultura, São Paulo 34 (7): 109–114.

Subgenus *Malacobagrus*

Bleeker 1862

malakós (μαλακός), soft, allusion not explained, possibly referring to flexible spines of *B. filamentosum*; *Bagrus*, Latinization of *bagre*, per Marcgrave (or Markgraf, *Historia Naturalis Brasiliae*, 1648), a Portuguese word for catfish in Brazil, presumably first applied to the marine ariid *Bagre bagre* (another explanation is from the Dutch *bagger*, mud, referring to benthic habits of many catfishes), possibly used here to reflect Bleeker's classification of this taxon in a phalanx he called *Ariobagri*

Brachyplatystoma capapretum **Lundberg & Akama 2005** from *filhote de capa preta*, Portuguese name for this catfish, i.e., "tiger catfish with black cloak or cape," referring to the extremely dark dorsal coloration of adults

Brachyplatystoma filamentosum **(Lichtenstein 1819)** Latin for filamentous, referring to very long filamentous ray on upper lobe of caudal fin (in juveniles and sub-adults)

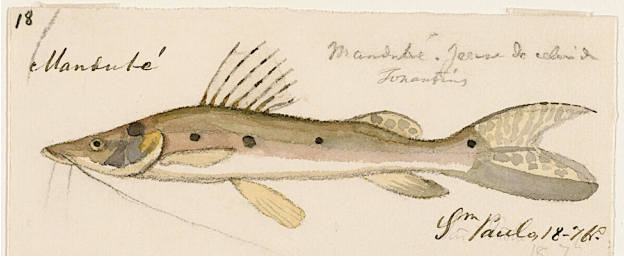
Brachyplatystoma rousseauxii **(Castelnau 1855)** in honor of French malacologist Louis Rousseau (note spelling, 1811–1874), Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris), a "zealous traveler and skilled photographer" (translation); Rousseau was also a pioneer in zoological and anthropological photography

Hemisorubim

Bleeker 1862

hemi-, from *hḗmisys* (ἥμισυς), half, i.e., similar to *Sorubim* (Bleeker placed both genera in his phalanx *Sorubimes*)

Hemisorubim platyrhynchos **(Valenciennes 1840)** *platýs* (πλατύς), flat; *rhýnchos* (ῥύγχος), snout, referring to its strongly depressed head, said to resemble a duckbill



Hemisorubim platyrhynchos. Unpublished 1865 watercolor by Jacques Burkhardt (ca. 1808-1867), Louis Agassiz' principal artist. See https://curiosity.lib.harvard.edu/jacques-burkhardt-scientificdrawings

Hypophthalmus

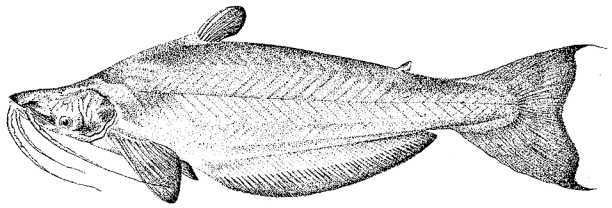
Cuvier 1829

hypó (ὑπό), under or beneath; *ophthalmós* (ὀφθαλμός), eye, referring to low placement of eyes on head

Hypophthalmus celiae **Littmann, Lundberg & Rocha 2021** in honor of Celia Bueno, Muséum d'histoire naturelle de Neuchâtel (Switzerland), for providing "good humor" as well as photographic and radiographic images of the syntypes of *H. edentatus*, which revealed "key characteristics needed to correct the long-confused taxonomy of the genus"

Hypophthalmus donascimientoi **Littmann, Lundberg & Rocha 2021** in honor of "good friend" and collaborator Carlos Luis DoNascimiento Montoya (b. 1973), Universidad de Carabobo (Colombia), for his many and continuing contributions to the discovery and knowledge of Neotropical siluriform fishes

Hypophthalmus edentatus **Spix & Agassiz 1829** *e-* (L. prefix), without; *dentatus* (L.), toothed, i.e., toothless, referring to absence of teeth on jaws (but has many long gill rakers used to filter planktonic crustaceans)



Hypophthalmus oremaculatus. From: Nani, A. and M. L. Fuster. 1947. *Hypophthalmus oremaculatus* una nueva especie del orden "Nematognathi" (Pisces, Hypophthal.). Comunicaciones del Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia" Buenos Aires, Ciencias Zoológicas 2: 1–9.

Hypophthalmus fimbriatus **Kner 1858** Latin for fringed, allusion not explained, possibly referring to prominent but easily torn membrane along enlarged and paired inner mental barbels

Hypophthalmus marginatus **Valenciennes 1840** Latin for edged or bordered, referring to black tips or edges on caudal fin

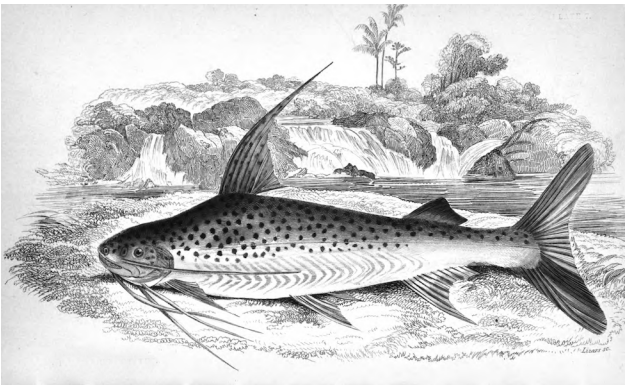
Hypophthalmus oremaculatus **Nani & Fuster 1947** *oris* (L.), mouth; *maculatus* (L.), spotted, referring to two large black spots on palate that look like little teeth

Platynematichthys

Bleeker 1858

platýs (πλατύς), flat, and *nḗma* (νῆμα), thread or yarn, referring to "tape-like, flat" barbels (translation); *ichthýs* (ἰχθύς), fish

Platynematichthys notatus **(Jardine 1841)** Latin for marked, referring to black stripe on lower lobe of tail and/or black spots "thickly set" on upper half of body



Platynematichthys notatus. From: Schomburgk, R. H. 1841. The Natural history of fishes of Guiana. Part I. *In*: W. Jardine (ed.) The Naturalists' Library. Vol. 3. W. H. Lizars, Edinburgh. 17–263, Pls. 1–30. [Schomburgk wrote the Introduction; Jardine wrote the descriptions from Schomburgk's notes and drawings.]

Platysilurus

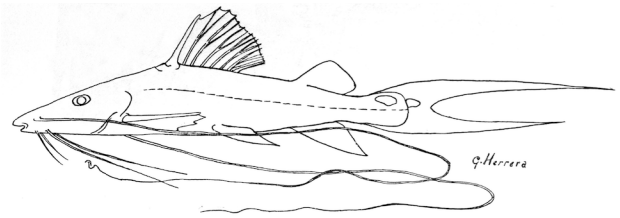
Haseman 1911

platýs (πλατύς), flat or broad, presumably referring to shape of head; *silurus*, from *sílouros* (σίλουρος), a word of uncertain origin historically applied to catfishes

Platysilurus malarmo **Schultz 1944** local name of this species "in the territory of the hostile Motilone Indians" of Venezuela, meaning bony-cheek, referring to ossified part of maxillary barbels

Platysilurus mucosus **(Vaillant 1880)** Latin for slimy, referring to large mucous pores on lower jaw

Platysilurus olallae **(Orcés V. 1977)** in honor of R. Olalla (either Ramón or his brother Rosalino, part of an animal-collecting family business led by their father Carlos), who collected type [although named after a man, "ae" is an acceptable way to form a genitive from a masculine noun that ends in "a"]



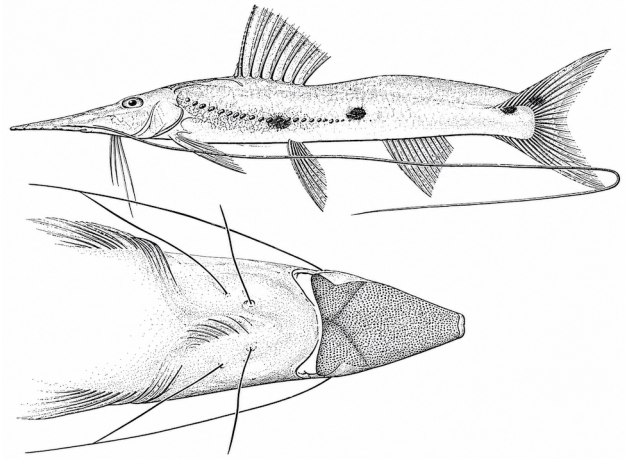
Platysilurus olallae. From: Orcés V., G. 1977. Contribuiciones al conocimiento de los peces del Ecuador. 1. Especes de la subfamilia Sorubiminae. Politécnica [N.S.] 3: 76–91.

Platystomatichthys

Bleeker 1862

Platystoma, referring to previous placement of *P. sturio* in that genus (now a synonym of *Sorubim*); *ichthýs* (ἰχθύς), fish

Platystomatichthys sturio **(Kner 1858)** Latin for sturgeon, referring to sturgeon-like head and body shape



Platystomatichthys sturio. From: Kner, R. 1858. Ichthyologische Beiträge. II. Abtheilung. Sitzungsberichte der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Classe 26 (373): 373–448, Pls. 1–9.

Pseudoplatystoma

Bleeker 1862

pseudo-, from *pseúdēs* (ψεύδης), false; *platystoma*, presumably referring to similarity to and/or close relationships with *Brachyplatystoma* and *Hemiplatystoma* (=*Pseudoplatystoma*), all proposed and classified together by Bleeker in the same publication

Pseudoplatystoma corruscans **(Spix & Agassiz 1829)** apparent misspelling of *coruscans* (L.), flaming or flashing or glittering, probably referring to bright coloration, yellow-orange above and silver below

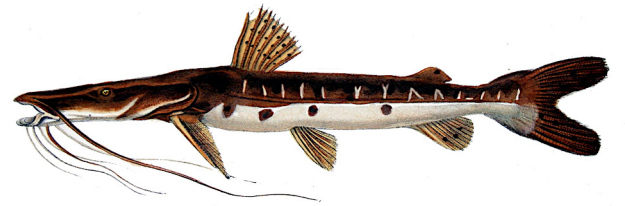
Pseudoplatystoma fasciatum **(Linnaeus 1766)** Latin for banded, referring to vertical black-and-white stripes on sides

Pseudoplatystoma magdaleniatum **Buitrago-Suárez & Burr 2007** *-atum* (L.), belonging to: Magdalena River drainage, Colombia, where it is endemic

Pseudoplatystoma metaense **Buitrago-Suárez & Burr 2007** *-ense*, Latin suffix denoting place: Meta River, a tributary of the Orinoco River in Colombia and Venezuela, type locality

Pseudoplatystoma orinocoense **Buitrago-Suárez & Burr 2007** *-ense*, Latin suffix denoting place: Orinoco River, Venezuela and Colombia, where it is endemic

Pseudoplatystoma punctifer **(Castelnau 1855)** *punctum* (L.), spot; *-ifer*, from *fero* (L.), to have or bear, described as having four large, round and dark spots just below lateral line and others on the back



Pseudoplatystoma punctifer. Painting by Paul Louis Oudart. From: Castelnau, F. L. 1855. Poissons. *In*: Animaux nouveaux or rares recueillis pendant l'expédition dans les parties centrales de l'Amérique du Sud, de Rio de Janeiro a Lima, et de Lima au Para; exécutée par ordre du gouvernement Français pendant les années 1843 a 1847. Part 7, Zoologie. Paris (P. Bertrand). v. 2: i–xii + 1–112, Pls. 1–50.

Pseudoplatystoma reticulatum **Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1889** Latin for net-like or netted, referring to "coarse" reticulations on back and sides formed by narrow dark lines

Pseudoplatystoma tigrinum **(Valenciennes 1840)** Latin for tiger-like, referring to its "arrangement of colors, comparable with those of the royal tiger" (translation)

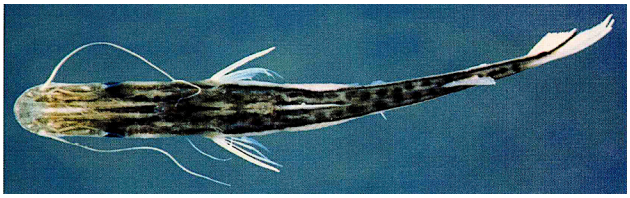
Sorubim

Cuvier 1829

Latinization of *Sorubi*, local Brazilian name for shovelnose catfishes

Sorubim cuspicaudus **Littmann, Burr & Nass 2000** *cuspis* (L.), a point or pointed end; *caudus* (L.), tail, referring to its pointed caudal-fin lobes

Sorubim elongatus **Littmann, Burr, Schmidt & Isern 2001** Latin for prolonged, referring to the extremely elongated shape of its head and body



Sorubim elongatus, dorsal view, 196 mm SL. Photo by Kevin S. Cummings. From: Littmann, M. W., B. M. Burr, R. E. Schmidt and E. R. Isern. 2001. *Sorubim elongatus*, a new species of catfish (Siluriformes: Pimelodidae) from tropical South America syntopic with *S. lima*. Ichthyological Exploration of Freshwaters 12 (1): 1–16.

Sorubim lima **(Bloch & Schneider 1801)** Latin for file or rasp, referring to its ventrally exposed premaxillary tooth patch

Sorubim maniradii **Littmann, Burr & Buitrago-Suarez 2001** *mani-*, from *multus* (L.), much or many; *radii* (L.), rays (authors say rakers), referring to high number of gill rakers (on first branchial arch) relative to congeners

Sorubim trigonocephalus **Miranda Ribeiro 1920** tri-headed, from *trígōnos* (τρίγωνος), triangular, and *kephalḗ* (κεφαλή), head, referring to its "subtriangular" head, "with lateral margins not parallel and not continuous to the lateral margins of the body, … somewhat similar to the head of a spear and resembling the head of a snake" (translation)

Sorubimichthys

Bleeker 1862

Sorubim, referring to previous placement of *S. jandia* (=*planiceps*) in that genus; *ichthýs* (ἰχθύς), fish

Sorubimichthys planiceps **(Spix & Agassiz 1829)** *planus* (L.), flat or level; *-ceps* (Neo-Latin), headed, referring to its very flattened head

Sorubimichthys planiceps (labeled on plate as *Sorubim pirauaca*). See *Calophysus macropterus* caption for source.

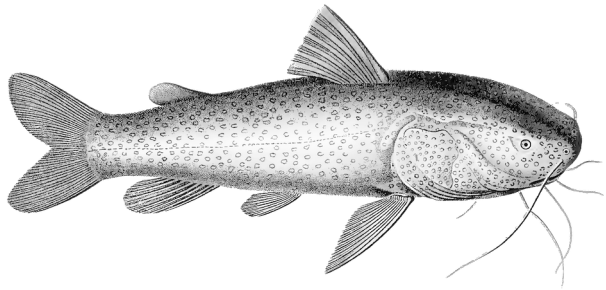
Zungaro

Bleeker 1858

tautonymous with *Pimelodus zungaro*, from a local name applied to large pimelodids in the Amazon region of Peru

Zungaro jahu **(Ihering 1898)** presumably local name for this catfish along the Rio Paraná in São Paulo, Brazil

Zungaro zungaro **(Humboldt 1821)** local name applied to large pimelodids in the Amazon region of Peru, including this one



Zungaro zungaro. From: Humboldt, F. H. A. von and A. Valenciennes. 1821. Recherches sur les poissons fluviatiles de l'Amérique Équinoxiale. *In*: Voyage de Humboldt et Bonpland, Deuxième partie. Observations de Zoologie et d'Anatomie comparée. Paris. v. 2: 145–216, Pls. 45–52.

Zungaropsis

Steindachner 1908

ópsis (ὄψις), appearance, presumably referring to its similarity to *Zungaro*

Zungaropsis multimaculatus **Steindachner 1908** *multi-* (L.), many; *maculatus* (L.), spotted, referring to numerous dark, round spots on head, sides and fins [almost certainly a synonym of *Zungaro zungaro*; included here until a formal synonymization is published]

Zungaropsis multimaculatus, NMW 43537, holotype, 232 mm SL. Photo by Kyle Luckenbill and Mark Sabaj Pérez. © Naturhistorisches Museum (NMW) and the photographers.

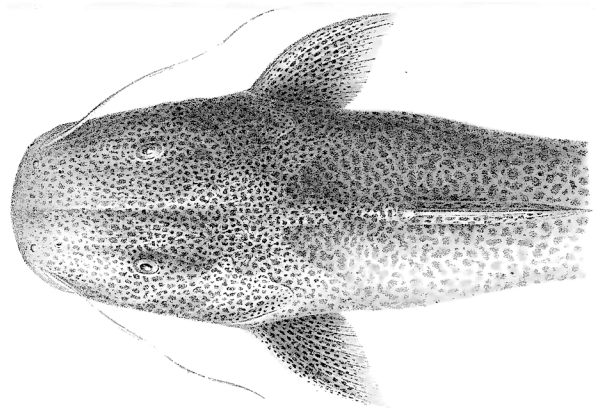
Unnamed clade A[2]

Steindachneridion

Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1919

-idion (-ΐδιον), diminutive suffix connoting endearment: in honor of Austrian ichthyologist Franz Steindachner (1834–1919), who recognized type species *S. amblyurum* as *Platystoma parahybae* in 1877 [replacement name for *Steindachneria* Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1888, preoccupied by *Steindachneria* Goode & Bean 1888 in Merlucciidae, which appeared three months earlier]

Steindachneridion amblyurum **(Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1888)** blunt-tailed, from *amblýs* (ἀμβλύς), blunt, and *urus*, from *ourá* (οὐρά), tail,



Steindachneridion parahybae, dorsal view of head. From: Steindachner, F. 1877. Die Süsswasserfische des südöstlichen Brasilien (III). Sitzungsberichte der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Classe 74 (Abth.): 559–694, Pls. 1–13.

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[2] *Steindachneridion* is clearly not related to any other pimelodid genus; it sits at the base of the tree as the sister to all other pimelodids. In this case, a new subfamily could have been proposed for *Steindachneridion*, but Silva et al. (2024, see footnote 1) refrained from creating a monogeneric subfamily in part because *Steindachneridion* has long been recognized as a "unique" lineage (Mark Henry Sabaj, Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, pers. comm.).

referring to its “broadly rounded” caudal fin

Steindachneridion doceanum **(Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1889)** *-anum* (L.), belonging to: Rio Doce, Brazil, type locality

Steindachneridion melanodermatum **Garavello 2005** *mélanos* (μέλανος), genitive of *mélas* (μέλας), black; *dermatum* (L.) skinned, referring to dark-brown ground color of body, unique in the genus

Steindachneridion parahybae **(Steindachner 1877)** of the rio Paraíba do Sul basin, eastern Brazil, where it is endemic

Steindachneridion punctatum **(Miranda Ribeiro 1918)** Latin for spotted, referring to small black spots on body and fins

Steindachneridion scriptum **(Miranda Ribeiro 1918)** Latin for written, referring to black “scribbles” (translation, i.e., elongated or striated blotches) irregularly scattered on upper body

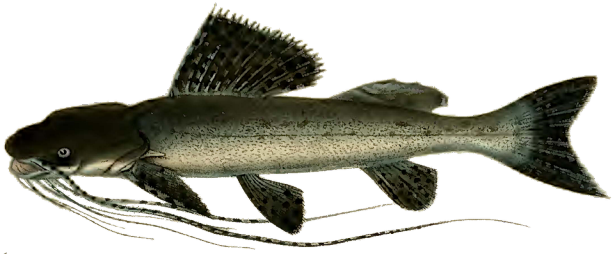
Unnamed clade B

Leiarius

Bleeker 1862

leĭos (λεῖος), smooth, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to smooth (vs. granulated) head surface of *L. longibarbis*; *arius*, possibly used here to reflect Bleeker’s classification of this taxon in a phalanx he called *Ariobagri*

Leiarius longibarbis **(Castelnau 1855)** *longus* (L.), long; *barbis* (scientific Neo-Latin), barbel, referring to maxillary barbels that almost reach the tail, and mental barbels that extend beyond the pectoral fins

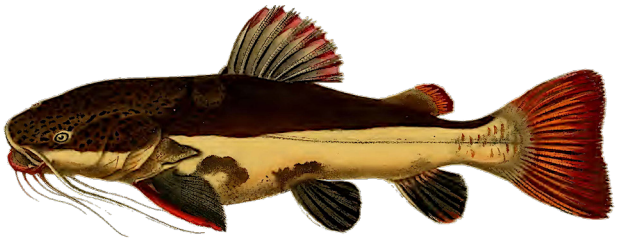


Leiarius longibarbis. Painting by Paul Louis Oudart. See *Pseudoplatystoma punctifer* caption for source.

Leiarius marmoratus **(Gill 1870)** Latin for marbled or mottled, referring to its grayish ground color, which “forms meandering lines between the large blackish spots by which it is covered”

Leiarius perruno **(Schultz 1944)** local name for this catfish in the Lake Maracaibo region of Venezuela

Leiarius pictus **(Müller & Troschel 1849)** Latin for painted, probably referring to spots on adults



Possibly first-published (1855) image of *Phractocephalus hemioliopterus.* Painting by Paul Louis Oudart. See *Pseudoplatystoma punctifer* caption for source.

Phractocephalus

Agassiz 1829

phraktós (φρακτός); *cephalus*, from *kephalḗ* (κεφαλή), head, referring to well-developed dermal bones of skull and nape

Phractocephalus hemioliopterus **(Bloch & Schneider 1801)** *hēmiólios* (ἡμιόλιος), one and a half; *pterus*, from *pterón* (πτερόν) or *ptéryx* (πτέρυξ), fin, referring to half-rayed adipose fin (“pinnae secundae parte superiore radiata”), thus, when including the rayed dorsal fin, giving the fish “one and a half” rayed fins on its back

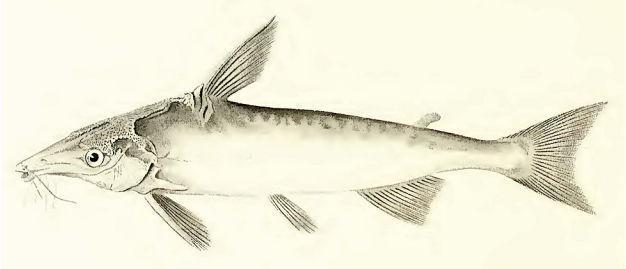
Incertae sedis

Conorhynchos

Bleeker 1858

conus, from *kṓnos* (κῶνος), cone; *rhýnchos* (ῥύγχος), snout, like the specific name, referring to its elongate, conical snout [an evolutionarily divergent and relict catfish, *Incertae sedis* in Superfamily Pimelodoidea, provisionally placed in Pimelodidae pending further study]

Conorhynchos conirostris **(Cuvier 1829)** *conus*, from *kṓnos* (κῶνος), cone; *rostris*, Neo-Latin scientific adjective of *rostrum* (L.), snout, like the generic name, referring to its elongate, conical snout [often incorrectly dated to Valenciennes 1840]



Conorhynchos conirostris. Illustration by Jacques Reyne Isidore Acarie-Baron. From: Cuvier, G. and A. Valenciennes. 1840. Histoire naturelle des poissons. Tome quinzième. Suite du livre dix-septième. Siluroïdes. v. 15: i–xxxi + 1–540, Pls. 421–455. [Valenciennes authored volume.]