Order PETROMYZONTIFORMES

Synonyms: Marsipobranchii; Hyperoartia Müller 1841; Petromyzontes

FAO Names: En — Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie
Local names: Neunaue (German); Minoga (Russian); Yatsume (Japanese)

The order Petromyzontiformes (Petromyzoniformes is an unjustified emendation) comprises 40 species grouped into three families; one in the Northern Hemisphere, Petromyzontidae, and two in the Southern Hemisphere, Geotriidae and Mordaciidae. The relationships among the three families have not yet been resolved using a cladistic approach. However, it is proposed here that Geotriidae and Mordaciidae are sister groups on the basis of two synapomorphies related to what has been termed a second metamorphosis during the transition phase from immature to mature adult; firstly, the breakdown of radial plates in the posterior field into individual cusps, and secondly, the reduction in number and hypertrophy of transverse lingual laminae cusps. The absence of both these ontogenetic changes in the Petromyzontidae is interpreted as being the plesiomorphic condition. Alternatively, Gill (1883a) had placed the Northern Hemisphere genera Petromyzon, Ichthyomyzon, Ammocoetes (= Lampetra), and Entosphenus with the Southern Hemisphere genera Geotria and Exomesus under the subfamily Petromyzontinae, both groups having a single supraoral lamina, while placing Caragola (= Mordacia) with two supraoral laminae in a separate subfamily Caragolinae. Silver et al. (2004) using the DNA sequence of a form of gonadotropin—releasing hormone have suggested that Geotriidae and Petromyzontidae have a sister–group relationship and that they are in turn sister to Mordaciidae. This had earlier been proposed by Baldwin et al. (1988) who looked at amino acid composition of lactate dehydrogenase. However, the above three studies inferred these relationships based on overall similarity, and therefore, they may not reflect the true phylogeny. The family Petromyzontidae comprises 36 species, the Geotriidae a single species and the Mordaciidae, three.

Phylogenetic Relationships at the Generic Level: Gill et al. (2003) produced a cladogram of all 18 extant parasitic species (Caspimyzon wagneri, the inferred scavenger was included in with the parasitic species) of the order using morphological characters (Fig. 13). Docker et al. (1999) examined the relationships within the Northern Hemisphere genus Lampetra sensu lato, that included 11 species here considered in the genera Lampetra sensu stricto (2 parasitic and 2 nonparasitic species), Entosphenus (3 parasitic and 2 nonparasitic species), and Lethenteron (1 parasitic and 1 nonparasitic species) using molecular characters. However, whereas the former is a cladistic treatment, the latter study is phenetic and it may not reflect the true phylogeny. It is nevertheless interesting to note that the relationships amongst the seven species in common in those two studies were remarkably similar, in that Petromyzon was sister to Entosphenus—Lethenteron—Lampetra, with Entosphenus in turn sister to Lethenteron—Lampetra. The only difference was in the placement of Lampetra ayresii, where it was sister to Lampetra fluviatilis in Gill et al. (2003), whereas it was sister to a group comprising Lethenteron camschaticum (as Lampetra japonica) and Lampetra fluviatilis, thereby rendering the genus polyphyletic, in Docker et al. (1999). In addition to the single apomorphy to support the monophyly of the Entosphenus—Lethenteron—Eudontomyzon—Lampetra clade, as revealed by Gill et al. (2003), Monette and Renaud (2005) added another apomorphy, a two–lumen gular pouch. A comprehensive phylogenetic study that includes both the parasitic and the nonparasitic species has yet to be made. However, the majority of workers (Hubbs, 1924, Zanandrea, 1961) believe that the nonparasitic mode of life represents the derived condition as the buccal glands of those that have been investigated still secrete an anticoagulant and cytolytic agents (lamphredin) despite not needing them. Zanandrea (1961) hypothesized a step–wise evolutionary process in which an anadromous parasitic ancestor became landlocked, feeding exclusively in a freshwater environment as an adult, and later, this adult feeding phase was completely abandoned, resulting in a nonparasitic lamprey. The evolution of a nonparasitic mode of life is thought to have occurred repeatedly throughout the order. Piavis et al. (1970) are alone in suggesting that parasitic species evolved from nonparasitic species.

Fig. 13. Cladogram of the parasitic lamprey species, with representatives from all of the recognized lamprey genera, resulting from an analysis of morphological characters. After Gill et al. (2003) and Monette and Renaud (2005).
Family GEOTRIIDAE


This is a monogeneric family restricted to the Southern Hemisphere. Two dorsal fins. Second dorsal fin confluent with caudal fin in ammocoetes. Cloaca anterior to or under the origin of the second dorsal fin (except in ammocoetes and adults from Argentina where it is located under the anterior half of the second dorsal fin). Midgut of ammocoete possesses two diverticula. Oral papillae present along the anterior and lateral edges of the oral disc, but absent from the posterior edge. One oral papilla on either side of the oral disc is enlarged. Oral fimbriae present around the entire perimeter of the oral disc. One wide supraoral lamina with 4 unicuspid teeth (two pointed central ones flanked by broad lateral flanges). Labial teeth spatulate and radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion completely covering all fields of the oral disc. The single row of ridge–like radial plates found in the posterior field of the oral disc in prespawning (immature) adults break down into multiple rows of individual unicuspid teeth in spawning (mature) adults. The transverse lingual lamina also undergoes a dramatic transformation from recently metamorphosed individuals (three unicuspid teeth, the median one enlarged) to feeding adults (three unicuspid teeth, the lateral ones greatly enlarged) to mature adults (two unicuspid teeth). Eyes dorsolateral in immature and mature adults. Two dorsal fins separate in immature and mature adults. Second dorsal fin separate from the caudal fin in immature and mature adults. Spawning males have a large pendulous gular pouch that extends from immediately posterior to the oral disc to the first or second branchial opening. In spawning females, the gular pouch is much less developed. Additionally, the oral disc in spawning specimens is greatly expanded laterally and appears broadly triangular when opened. Two buccal glands.

Genus Geotria Gray 1851

Synonyms: Geotria Gray 1851: 142; Velasia Gray 1851: 143; Thysanochilus Philippi 1857: 268; Chilopterus Philippi 1858: 308; Yarra de Castelnau 1872: 231 (based on an ammocoete; type species: Yarra Singularis de Castelnau 1872 by monotypy); Neomordacia de Castelnau 1872: 232 (based on a recently metamorphosed adult; type species: Neomordacia howittii de Castelnau 1872 by monotypy); Exomegas Gill 1883: 522, 524 (based on a feeding–phase Geotria; type species: Petromyzon macrostomus Burmeister 1868); Macrophthalmia Plate 1897: 137

This is a monotypic genus (one parasitic species but see Taxonomic Remarks under the Geotria australis species account) restricted to the Southern Hemisphere. The generic characters are those of the family (see above). The taxonomy has been reviewed by Potter and Strahan (1968). The type species is Geotria australis Gray 1851.

Geotria australis Gray 1851

Synonyms: Geotria australis Gray 1851: 142; Velasia chilensis Gray 1851: 143; Thysanochilus valdivianus Philippi 1857: 268 (Chile); Petromyzon Fonki Philippi 1865: 109 (Chile); Petromyzon macrostomus Burmeister 1868: XXXVI (holotype: 400 mm TL; type locality: near Buenos Aires, Argentina); Geotria allporti Günther 1872: 675, pl. LXX (holotype: 330 mm TL according to original description, but 350 mm TL according to Regan (1911); Australia: Tasmania, in fresh water); Yarra Singularis de Castelnau 1872: 231 (holotype: ammocoete, 111 mm TL (originally) re-measured in 2003 as 107 mm TL, MNHN A–7542; type locality: near Buenos Aires, Argentina); Neomordacia howittii de Castelnau 1872 (holotype: recently metamorphosed adult of undetermined sex, 80 mm TL, MNHN A–7543; type locality: Cape Schanck, Victoria, Australia); Velasia stenostomus Ogilby 1896: 409–418 (468 mm TL; type locality: Cape Schanck, Victoria, Australia); Macrophthalmia chilensis Plate 1897: 137–141 (Chile); Geotria saccifera Regan 1911: 196–197 (holotype: 420 mm TL; type locality: Otago Peninsula, New Zealand)
Taxonomic Remarks: Neira et al. (1988) showed that ammocoetes of an Argentinian population were morphologically distinct from ammocoetes of both Chilean and Australasian (mainland Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand) populations of the species. Additionally, they stated that adults from Argentina and from South Georgia Island had the cloaca positioned well posterior to the origin of the second dorsal fin rather than aligned immediately under its origin as in Chilean and Australasian populations. Perhaps, therefore, the Argentinian and South Georgian Island population represents a distinct species and this question merits closer scrutiny.

FAO Name: En — Pouched Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie saccifère
Local Names: Piharau, Kanakana (Māori)

Diagnostic Features:
Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 111 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL [based on 1,516 specimens measuring 11–108 mm TL; values are approximate because they are derived from graphs since they were not stated explicitly in the text in Neira et al. (1988)]: prebranchial length, 6.2–12.9; branchial length, [as low as 9.7 according to Neira (1984)] 10.8–17.4; trunk length, 55.9–60.8 [52.5–77.1 according to Neira (1984)]; tail length, 12.0–25.6. Trunk myomeres, 66–83. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. A number of distinctive characters have been found (Neira et al. 1988) between ammocoetes from Argentina, Chile, and Australasia, and therefore, these three groups will be treated separately. Argentina: cloaca under the anterior half of the second dorsal fin; distinct notch between the confluent second dorsal and caudal fins; caudal fin spade–like; pigmentation: upper lip, —; subocular, —; upper prebranchial, —; lower prebranchial, —; upper branchial, + or ++; lower branchial, —; caudal fin, ++ or ++++. Chile: cloaca under the origin of the second dorsal fin; second dorsal and caudal fins smoothly confluent; caudal fin rounded; pigmentation: upper lip, +++; subocular, +++; upper prebranchial, +++; lower prebranchial, +++; upper branchial, ++ or +++; lower branchial, —; caudal fin, —. Australasia: cloaca under the origin of the second dorsal fin; second dorsal and caudal fins smoothly confluent; caudal fin rounded; pigmentation: upper lip, +++; subocular, —; upper prebranchial, +++; lower prebranchial, ++; upper branchial, ++ or +++; lower branchial, +; caudal fin, —. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 76–112 mm TL.

Adults: 76–570 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 17 specimens measuring 90–570 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.3–20.2; branchial length, 7.9–11.8; trunk length, 47.6–61.5; tail length, 16.1–31.1; eye length unrecorded; disc length unrecorded. The urogenital papilla is not prominent in mature adults. Trunk myomeres, 70–78.

Dentition: supraoral lamina, 4 unicuspids teeth (two pointed central ones flanked by broad lateral flanges); infraoral lamina, 9–15 unicuspids teeth; 8–9 unicuspids endolaterals on each side; 5–7 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 1–4 unicuspids teeth; 6–8 rows of exolaterals on each side; 1 row of posteriorals in feeding phase adults consisting of 12 radial plates that may also be flanked on each side by two unicuspids teeth and in spawning adults about 3 rows, the first one consisting of 9 unicuspids teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 3 unicuspids teeth, the median one enlarged in recently metamorphosed individuals, 3 unicuspids teeth the lateral ones greatly enlarged in feeding individuals and 2 unicuspids teeth in mature individuals; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 4 unicuspids teeth. Velar tentacles, 23–40. Body coloration (live), in prespawning adults, dorsal surface dark with a pair of longitudinal blue–green stripes running along the dorso–lateral

Habitat and Biology: Anadromous. Ammocoetes and adults are found in rivers and lakes. Metamorphosing ammocoetes are found at the mouths of rivers. In the sea, adults may be found in surface waters. In Australia, larval life is reported to last 3.25–4.25 yrs. In Chile, metamorphosis occurs between August and March, while in Australia, it starts at the end of January, beginning of February. Young adults migrate out of Argentinian and Chilean rivers into marine waters during austral winter (June–September). Adults parasitic, feeding at sea. The duration of the marine feeding phase is not known but is thought to be quite long. Adults are preyed upon extensively by two species of albatrosses (black-browed and grey-headed) in surface waters around South Georgia Island. It has been estimated that these two bird species yearly consume 100,000 and 1,800,000 adult lampreys, respectively. The marine migration between Argentina and South Georgia Island is at least 1,750 km one way. The spawning migration is believed to last 15–16 months during which the lampreys do not feed. In Chile, the mature adults reach continental waters during the austral summer months (January–March). On mainland Australia the spawning run may be several hundred kilometres up the Murray River. The spawning behavior has not been described. Stones with a volume of 144 mL, equivalent in size to a tennis ball, can be transported by adults using their oral disc. Fecundity, 48,004 to 68,212 eggs/female. In two Tasmanian rivers (North Esk and Derwent), where they co-occur with ammocoetes of Mordacia mordax, those of Geotria australis are 3–8 times less abundant.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 17): Australia: Donnelly, Brunswick, Denmark, Swan, Warren, Bow, and Kalgan rivers, Western Australia; Gulf St. Vincent, Port, Torrens, Onkaparinga, and Murray rivers, and The Coorong, South Australia; Glenelg, Moyné, Merri, Curdies, Yarra, Tarwin, and Albert rivers, Gippsland lakes Victoria and King, Victoria; Dundas, Hellyer, Plenty, Russell, Ringarooma, Swan, Forth, Great Forester, Triabunna, North Esk, Derwent, Browns, and Huon rivers, and Bruny Island, Tasmania; New Zealand: Okuti River; Chile: Andalién, Biobío, Carampangue, Malleco, Picoiquén, Huequén, Purén, Claro, Mehuín, Calle–Calle, Valdivia, Tomá Galeones, Santo Domingo, Maullín, Curleiflu, and Donguil rivers, and Lake Risopatron; Argentina: Limay River; and the Falkland and South Georgia islands.

Interest to Fisheries: In New Zealand, the Maori use the Pouched Lamprey at the beginning of their upstream migration for human consumption and ceremonial purposes (McDowall, 1990). These are caught using weirs built along river edges or collected by hand as they are making their way up the rocky face of falls. They are then dried for human consumption.


Family MORDACIIDAE

Synonyms: Caragolinae Gill 1883; Mordaciidae Gill 1893
This family comprises one genus that is restricted to the Southern Hemisphere. Two dorsal fins. Second dorsal fin confluent with caudal fin in ammocoetes. Cloaca under the posterior half of the second dorsal fin in ammocoetes and adults. Midgut of ammocoetes (in *Mordacia lapicida* and *M. mordax*) possesses one diverticulum. Oral papillae absent from the anterior as well as the posterior edges of the oral disc, but present along the lateral edges. All oral papillae of uniform size. Oral fimbriae absent. Two triangular and tricuspid supraoral laminae. The multicuspid radial plates found in the anterior, lateral and posterior fields of the oral disc in prespawning (immature) adults break down and leave only individual unicuspid teeth in spawning (mature) adults. Labial teeth pointed. Transverse lingual lamina w-shaped in prespawning individuals and, at least in *M. lapicida*, undergoes a dramatic change to only two greatly enlarged unicuspid teeth in spawning individuals. Eyes dorsolateral in immature adults and dorsal in mature adults. Two dorsal fins separate in immature and mature adults (in *M. lapicida* and *M. praecox*). Second dorsal fin either connected to or separate (at least in some individuals of *M. mordax*) from the caudal fin in adults. Three buccal glands. According to Potter (1968), *M. mordax* – *M. praecox* constitute a species pair.

### Genus *Mordacia* Gray 1851

**Synonyms:** *Mordacia* Gray 1851: 143 [original description; type species: *Petromyzon mordax* Richardson 1846 by subsequent designation of the first revisor (Günther 1870)]; *Caragola* Gray 1851: 143 (type species: *Caragola lapicida* Gray 1851 by monotypy)

This genus comprises three species (two parasitic and one nonparasitic) that are restricted to the Southern Hemisphere. The generic characters are those of the family (see above). The taxonomy has been reviewed by Potter and Strahan (1968). The type species is *Petromyzon mordax* Richardson 1846.

### *Mordacia lapicida* (Gray 1851)  
Figs. 19–21

**Synonyms:** *Caragola lapicida* Gray 1851: 143 (type locality: Bay of Valparaiso, Chile); *Petromyzon Anwandteri* Philippi 1863: 207 (Chile); *Petromyzon acutidens* Philippi 1865: 107 (Chile)

**FAO Names:** En — Chilean Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie du Chili

Fig. 19. Side views of *Mordacia lapicida* prespawning adult (above) and spawning male with gular pouch (below). After Neira (1984).

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 154 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL [based on about 100 specimens measuring 36.0–138.0 mm TL; values are approximate because they are derived from graphs since they were not stated explicitly in the text in Neira *et al.* (1988)]: prebranchial length, [as low as 7.3 according to Neira (1984)] 7.7–11.1; branchial length, 11.6–14.4 [10.3–15.5 according to Neira (1984)]; trunk length, 58.2–63.2 [as high as 63.6 according to Neira (1984)]; tail length, [as low as 14.5 according to Neira (1984)] 15.6–20.8. Trunk myomeres,

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 110–150 mm TL. Adults: 111–540 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 39 specimens measuring 111–313 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.0–17.0; branchial length, 8.3–12.1; trunk length, 57.8–77.1; tail length, 13.8–19.0; eye length unrecorded; disc length unrecorded. Mature males have a large gular pouch that extends from immediately posterior of the oral disc to the end of the branchial region. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in spawning males unrecorded. Trunk myomeres, 78–84. Dentition: supraoral lamina, two triangular supraoral laminae each with three unicusp teeth, one per apex; infraoral lamina, 9–13 unicusp teeth of various size in immature individuals and divided into three tricuspid plates with, in each case, the median cusp largest in spawning individuals; 7 endolateral plates on either side each bearing 3–5 unicusp teeth in prespawning individuals, usually 4–5; endolateral formula, typically 3–4–3–4–4–3–4 or 4–4–5–5–5–5–3 or 5 endolaterals as individual unicusp teeth on either side in spawning individuals; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials consisting of 4 tricuspid radial plates in recently transformed individuals, of 2 tricuspid flanked on either side by 1 quadricuspid radial plate in feeding phase individuals and of 6 unicusp teeth in spawning individuals; 1 row of exolaterals on each side; 1 row of posterials; first row of posterials, 10–12 tricuspid (sometimes quadracuspid) plates in prespawning individuals and 12 unicusp teeth in spawning individuals; transverse lingual lamina, w-shaped, with numerous unicusp teeth in prespawning individuals and with only 2 greatly enlarged lateral unicusp teeth in spawning individuals; longitudinal lingual laminae, each with 9–15 unicusp teeth. Velar tentacles number unrecorded. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation, pigmented but extent of coverage not determined. Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

Habitat and Biology: Anadromous. Ammocoetes and adults are found in rivers. Ammocoetes occur in substrates of fine sand with abundant organic detritus along the river banks. Metamorphosis occurs between August and March and recently metamorphosed adults enter marine waters during austral winter (June–August) at about 143 mm TL. Adults parasitic in marine waters. Mature adults occur in continental marine waters between September and December. The spawning behavior has not been described.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 21): Chile: Aconcagua, Ñuble, Andalién, Biobío, Renaico, Toltén, Claro, Mehuín, Donguil, Calle–Calle, Llanquihue, Tucapel, and San Juan rivers.

Interest to Fisheries: None

References: de Buen (1961), Eigenmann (1927), Fowler (1940), Gray (1851), Günther (1870), Neira (1984), Neira et al. (1988), Philippi (1863, 1865), Plate (1902), Potter et al. (1968), Potter and Strahan (1968), Strahan (1960)

Fig. 20. Oral disc of *Mordacia lapicida*. After Neira (1984).

Fig. 21. Geographic distribution of *Mordacia lapicida*. 
Mordacia mordax (Richardson 1846) Figs. 22–24

Synonyms: Petromyzon mordax Richardson 1846: 62, pl. 38, figs. 3–6 [holotype: adult, 267 mm TL; type locality: seas of Van Diemen’s Land (= Tasmania), Australia]. Mordacia mordax Gray 1851: 144 (new combination)

FAO Name: En — Australian Lamprey, Short–headed Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie australienne

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 151 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL [based on about 230 specimens measuring 22.0–138.0 mm TL; values are approximate because they are derived from graphs since they were not stated explicitly in the text in Neira et al. (1988)]: prebranchial length, 6.1–11.3; branchial length, 10.0–16.4; trunk length, 61.0–67.5; tail length, 11.4–18.6. Trunk myomeres, 82–93. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, +; subocular, +++; upper prebranchial, ++; lower prebranchial, +; upper branchial, ++ or +++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, –. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Distinct notch between the confluent second dorsal and caudal fins.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 120–150 mm TL.

Adults: 113–432 mm TL. Body wet weight of 50 individuals 339–421 mm TL, 35.1–72.0 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 125 prespawning specimens measuring 113–421 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.5–11.3; branchial length, 7.1–9.8; trunk length, 60.4–68.3; tail length, 14.4–20.1; eye length, 1.1–1.7; disc length, 4.9–6.6. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on eight spawning males measuring 277–376 mm TL): prebranchial length, 11.4–16.6; branchial length, 8.8–10.1; trunk length, 60.1–65.3; tail length, 13.3–15.7; disc length, 8.1–11.2. Mature males have some loose skin in the gular region. The urogenital papilla is not prominent in mature adults. Trunk myomeres, 84–96. Dentition: two triangular supralabial laminae each with three unicuspid teeth, one per apex; infraoral lamina, 7–9 unicuspid teeth of various size (these teeth become greatly enlarged with sexual maturation); 5–7 endolateral plates on either side each bearing 2–3 unicuspid teeth, usually 3; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–3–3–3 in immature individuals and 5–7 individual cusps on either side in mature individuals; 1 row of anterials; first row of anterials, 2 unicuspid teeth plus 1–2 bicuspid teeth or 3 unicuspid teeth flanked on either side by 1 bicuspid tooth; 1 row of exolaterals on each side; 1 row of posterials; first row of posterials, 12–14 posterial plates, the 2–4 lateralmost tricuspid and the internal ones bicuspid in immature individuals and 12–14 unicuspid teeth in mature individuals; transverse lingual lamina w–shaped, with 29 unicuspid teeth, the median one and the two subterminal ones slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae interrupted j–shaped, each with an undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 3–4, smooth. Body coloration (live) of immature adults brownish gray on dorsal surface and silvery on ventral surface. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral papillae, 25–45.

**Habitat and Biology:** Anadromous. Both ammocoetes and adults, when the latter are not feeding or migrating, burrow in the sandy substrate of lakes, creeks, and rivers.

The larval life is 3.5 yrs. Metamorphosis starts at the end of February beginning of March. In the Gippsland Lakes region of Victoria, adults spend about five months (austral summer and autumn) feeding in the lakes, and then go to sea (austral...
winter) where they spend about 18 months feeding before returning to fresh water. There is perhaps a permanent freshwater resident population in Lake Wellington, the freshest of the three lakes. Adults parasitic on fishes (Acanthopagrus butcheri, Aldrichetta forsteri, and introduced Salmo trutta in lakes of varying salinity and Thyrsites atun at sea). The ascent of rivers occurs from July to January on mainland Australia, with the peak of the spawning migration occurring between September and November. During the spawning migration, adults burrow in the substrate of rivers during the day and migrate upstream during the night. On mainland Australia the spawning run is known to reach Torrumbarry fishway, over 1,600 km up the Murray River. The spawning behavior has not been described. Fecundity, 3,789–13,372 eggs/female. Egg diameter in spawning–run adults from Dandenong Creek in September, 0.38 mm, while that in spawning–run adults from Derwent River in January, 0.55 mm. In two Tasmanian rivers (North Esk and Derwent), where they co–occur with ammocoetes of Geotria australis, those of Mordacia mordax are 3–8 times more abundant.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 24):**
Australia: Gulf St. Vincent, Gawler, South Para, Port, Torrens, Onkaparinga, and Murray rivers, and The Coorong, South Australia; Dandenong, Graceburn, and Maribyrnong creeks, Bunyip, Glenelg, Merri, Aire, Werribee, Yarra, Lang Lang, Bass, and Tarwin rivers, Gippsland lakes Wellington, Victoria, and King, Victoria; Walla, Towamba, Tuross, Moruya, and Hawkesbury rivers, New South Wales; North Esk, George, Triabunna, Saltwater, Derwent, Browns, Huon, Ouse, Ringarooma, Russell, and Swan rivers, and Maria Island, Tasmania.

**Interest to Fisheries:** This species parasitizes fishes of commercial importance in lakes of varying salinity (Acanthopagrus butcheri and Aldrichetta forsteri) and marine waters (Thyrsites atun) in southeastern Australia. De Castelnau (1872) states that the adults from the lower Yarra River, Victoria, are considered good food.


---

**Mordacia praecox** Potter 1968

**Synonyms:** Mordacia praecox Potter 1968: 260 (holotype: male, 147 mm TL, AMS IB.7936; type locality: Moruya River, southern New South Wales, Australia)

**FAO Name:** No common name has been coined for this species other than the general term nonparasitic lamprey. Australian Brook Lamprey is therefore proposed as the English common name and lamproie de ruisseau australienne for the French common name.

**Fig. 24. Geographic distribution of Mordacia mordax.**

**Fig. 25. Side view of Mordacia praecox adult, about 140 mm TL, July 1967. After Potter (1968).**

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: No study has specifically described ammocoetes of this species. Based on the general statement in Potter (1968) and Potter et al. (1968) that ammocoetes of M. mordax are indistinguishable from those of M. praecox, the reader is advised to refer to the description of ammocoetes of M. mordax above. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.
Lampreys of the World 23

Adults: 102–172 mm TL. Body wet weight of a 147 mm TL individual was 3.2 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 20 specimens measuring 119–160 mm TL): prebranchial length, 9.4–12.6; branchial length, 8.2–9.9; trunk length, 59.6–64.2; tail length, 16.5–20.4; eye length, 1.3–1.5; disc length, 5.4–8.4. No gular pouch develops. The urogenital papilla is not prominent in mature adults. Trunk myomeres, 85–93. Dentition: two triangular supraoral laminae each with three unicuspid teeth, one per apex (exceptionally, four unicuspid teeth per supraoral lamina). Infraoral lamina, 9–10 unicuspid teeth of various size (these teeth become greatly enlarged with sexual maturation); 5–6 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–3–3–4–3 or 2–2–3–3–4–4 in immature individuals and 1–1–1–1–1 or 1–1–1–1–1–1 in mature individuals; 1 row of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 2 unicuspid teeth flanked on either side by one bicuspid tooth in immature individuals and 4 unicuspid teeth in mature individuals; 1–2 rows of exolaterals on each side; 1 row of posteriors; first row of posteriors, 16 posterior plates, the three lateralmost tricuspid and the internal ones bicuspid in immature individuals and 13 unicuspid teeth in mature individuals; transverse lingual lamina w–shaped with numerous unicuspid teeth of various size, the middle apex one being intermediate in size and the two bottom apex ones being largest, while the rest are small; longitudinal lingual laminae hook–shaped each with an undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacle number unrecorded. Body coloration (live) of mature adults with dark blue dorsal surface, occasionally with a green tinge, ventral surface of males mottled gray and ventral surface of females yellowish. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral papillae, 33–48.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Adults nonparasitic. Metamorphosis occurs in October and November. Sexual maturity becomes apparent in April, about 5–6 months after metamorphosis. The spawning behavior has not been described, but spawning is believed to occur between August and October. Fecundity, 326–675 eggs/female. Egg diameter in sexually mature adults in July, 0.7 mm.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 27): Australia: Moruya and Tuross rivers, New South Wales.

Interest to Fisheries: None

lampreys. Two other species, *Lethenteron ninae* Naseka *et al.* (2009) and *Eudontomyzon graecus* Renaud and Economidis (2010) have since been added, bringing the total to 36. The number of genera within this family has been the subject of debate. Whereas Vladykov and Kott (1979b), which is followed here, suggested eight (*Caspiomyzon, Ichthyomyzon, Petromyzon, Lampetra, Entosphenus, Eudontomyzon, Lethenteron*, and *Tetrapleurodon*), Bailey (1980) suggested that four were sufficient, accepting the first three and lumping the rest into *Lampetra*. His basis for lumping the five genera into one was their possession of a wide supraoral lamina. Before carrying out such an action, it seems advisable to wait until a full cladistic treatment of the family is completed, especially in light of the statement by Bailey (1980) that the relationships among the lumped taxa within *Lampetra* was not well understood. Vladykov (1972) and Vladykov and Kott (1979c) proposed three subfamilies: Petromyzoninae (comprising *Petromyzon, Caspiomyzon, Ichthyomyzon*), Entospheninae (*Entosphenus* and *Tetrapleurodon*), and Lampetrinae (*Lampetra, Lethenteron, Eudontomyzon*). The first two are paraphyletic while the last is monophyletic according to the cladistic analysis of Gill *et al.* (2003). One (genus *Ichthyomyzon*) or two (all other genera) dorsal fins. Cloaca under the anterior half of the second dorsal fin. Midgut of ammocoetes (at least in *Entosphenus tridentatus, Lampera fluviatilis*, and *Petromyzon marinus*) does not possess a diverticulum. Oral papillae present along the anterior and lateral edges of the oral disc, but absent from the posterior edge. All oral papillae of uniform size. Oral fimbriae present around the entire perimeter of the oral disc. One supraoral lamina. Labial teeth either pointed or rounded. Eyes dorsolateral in immature and mature adults. In the genera with two dorsal fins, these are separate in immature and contiguous in mature adults. Second dorsal fin/posterior lobe of the single dorsal fin confluent (= continuous with) the caudal fin in ammocoetes as well as in immature and mature adults. One pair of kidney–shaped buccal glands. Gular pouch, when present, small, never extending past the posterior edge of the eye. *Petromyzon* Linnaeus 1758 is the type genus.

**Genus Caspiomyzon** Berg 1906

**Synonyms:** *Caspiomyzon* Berg 1906: 173; *Agnathomyzon* Gratziainow 1907: 18; *Haploglossa* Gratziainow 1907: 18 (as new subgenus)

This is a monotypic genus (one scavenger species) endemic to the Caspian Sea Basin. Two dorsal fins. Teeth are rounded. Supraoral lamina narrow. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion and completely covering all fields of the oral disc. Transverse lingual lamina straight, the median tooth not enlarged. Velar tentacles possess papillae and a median tentacle is present. The type species is *Petromyzon Wagneri* Kessler 1870. Creaser and Hubbs (1922) treated *Caspiomyzon* as a subgenus of *Petromyzon* but this is not supported by the cladogram produced by Gill *et al.* (2003), which shows *Ichthyomyzon–Petromyzon* as a monophyletic group distinct from *Caspiomyzon* and the rest of the Northern Hemisphere species.

**Caspiomyzon wagneri** (Kessler 1870)  

**Figs. 29–31**

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon Wagneri* Kessler 1870: 207–214, Pl. 3, figs. 4–5 (3 syntypes: 290–330 mm TL, ZISP 31; type locality: Volga River near Saratov and Kazan, Russian Federation); *Agnathomyzon wagneri* Gratziainow 1907: 18 (new combination); *Agnathomyzon (Haploglossa) caspicus* Gratziainow 1907: 18; *Petromyzon (Caspiomyzon) wagneri* Creaser and Hubbs (1922): 2, 5 (new combination)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Berg (1931) suggested that this species consists of two races; a normal form (forma typica) and a smaller praecox form.
Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 130 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 300 specimens measuring 25–125 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.4–6.6; branchial length, 11.1–12.3; trunk length, 54.9–55.9; tail length, 24.8–27.1. Trunk myomeres, 53–68. Body coloration light gray. Pigmentation of various body regions has not been studied. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 80–110 mm TL. Adults: 190–553 mm TL. Maximum body wet weight, 206 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 129 specimens measuring 305–530 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.7–12.1; branchial length, 7.7–11.0; trunk length, 43.6–57.6 (derived by deduction; represents a maximum possible range); tail length, 26.0–33.0; eye length, 0.8–2.2; disc length, 2.4–4.5. The intestinal diameter in prespawning individuals has a mean of 2.7 mm and in spawning individuals a mean of 1.4 mm. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in five spawning males measuring 301–344 mm TL, 14.3–21.2. Trunk myomeres, 63–66. Dentition: supraoral lamina, one unicuspid (sometimes bicuspid) tooth; infraoral lamina, 4–6, usually 5, unicuspid teeth, but sometimes the lateralmost ones are bicuspid; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 1–1–1–1; 3–5 rows of anteriairs; first row of anteriairs, 3 unicuspid teeth; 8 rows of exolaterals on each side; 3 rows of posteriairs; first row of posteriairs, 11 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina straight, 5–8 unicuspid teeth, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae with undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 3, long and bearing papillae. Body coloration in prespawning adults, dark gray on dorsal and lateral aspects and silvery white ventrally. Spawning adults are black on dorsal and lateral aspects and gray with dark oval spots ventrally. The color of eggs in prespawning females is light gray or yellow, while in spawning females it is bluish-green. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral fimbriae, 93–115. Oral papillae, 24–31.

Habitat and Biology: Anadromous. Ammocoetes burrow 1–2 cm deep in substrates containing sand, clay, and detritus, in areas with slow current, and at water depths between 0.3 and 22 m. They may also be found on the surface of the substrate among macrophytes and submerged wood. Metamorphosing individuals occur in areas with faster current, devoid of macrophytes, and at greater water depths. Adults are found in rivers and marine waters. In the Volga River delta, adults may be found in shallow lakes in the flood plain (il’men in Russian). Larval life is 3 years in the Volga River Basin and 2–4 years in the Kura River Basin. Ammocoetes feed on diatoms and detritus. Their feeding activity is highest in the summer and lowest in the winter. Metamorphosis begins in mid–July in the Volga River (Russian Federation), at the end of August and beginning of September in the Kura River (Azerbaijan), and it occurs in October in Iran (Islamic Republic of). Metamorphosing ammocoetes do not feed. The adult life is at least 17 months. The feeding habits of adults have been the subject of much speculation. Their teeth are blunt, yet their intestine remains functional and they grow considerably post–metamorphosis (Berg, 1931). Vladykov and Kott (1979c) suggested that they might feed on demersal fish eggs or on some invertebrates. Renaud (1982b) found juvenile acanthocephalans (Corynosoma sp.) in their intestine and suggested that they feed on amphipods since the latter serve as an intermediate host. Holčík (1986) proposed that these acanthocephalans could have been acquired through feeding on decaying fishes that had been infected.

Fig. 29. Side view of Caspiomyzon wagneri adult. After Askerov et al. (2001).

Fig. 30. Oral disc of Caspiomyzon wagneri. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [418 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1980–926, Volga River, near Nikol’skoye, Russian Federation, Jan. 1957, V.S. Tanassiytchuk].
On the basis of this indirect evidence, Renaud (1997) classified the adult feeding habits as those of a scavenger. Adult lamprey on their spawning run will attach, particularly in the opercular region, to likewise upstream–migrating winter form of brown sea trout (*Salmo trutta caspius*). Prespawning adults in the Kama River, Russian Federation, serve as a host for unionid glochidia, which attach to its gills. According to Berg (1931), two adult forms or races exist; a normal form (370–553 mm TL) and a praecox form (190–310 mm TL). The spawning run up the Kura and Volga rivers is nocturnal and it occurs between November and February in the former and mid–September and March in the latter. Upstream migrants swim near the surface on dark nights and close to the bottom of the river on moonlit nights. During the day, they stay among stones on the bottom. The distance traveled can be as much as 1,500 km for the larger individuals. Swimming speed varies from 2–16 km per day. At the beginning of the migration, the fat content of an adult individual can be as high as 34% by body weight and at the end, on the spawning grounds, as low as 1–2% by body weight. Spawning occurs between mid–March and mid–July over sandy and rocky substrate, at water temperatures between 15–23 °C. The spawning grounds are distributed along the entire courses of the Volga and Kura rivers from their estuaries to their upper reaches historically, and to their man–made reservoirs presently. Upon arrival at the spawning grounds, adults at first either conceal themselves amongst stones or burrow into the substrate, and later, swim and periodically break the water’s surface with their heads. Redds are constructed by both sexes in sand and gravel substrates, usually in shallow waters. Fecundity, 14,000–60,000 eggs/female. Ammocoetes hatch 8–10 days after fertilization at lengths of 3.3–4.2 mm. Three to four days after hatching, the yolk sac is almost completely absorbed.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 31):** Caspian Sea Basin in the Russian Federation (Volga River Basin: Volga, Kama, Vyatka, Sura, Penza, and Oka rivers; Ural River Basin: Ural River; Terek River Basin: Terek River), Kazakhstan (Ural River), Azerbaijan (Kura River Basin: Kura and Araks rivers), and Iran (Islamic Republic of) (Sefid River Basin: Sefid River).

**Interest to Fisheries:** Berg (1948) reported on two fisheries for this species; one in the lower Volga River, Russian Federation, and the other in the Kura River, Azerbaijan. The Volga River fishery was carried out in both the spring and autumn, with over 75% of the catch occurring in autumn. Between 1910 and 1913 inclusively, from 16,900,000 to 33,400,000 Caspian Lamprey were harvested annually. For the Kura River fishery, catches compiled in five–year increments between 1881 and 1935, varied from a low of 11,000 lamprey for the period 1891–1895 to a high of 612,000 lamprey for the period 1911–1915. Annual catches for the years 1936 and 1937 were respectively, 213,000 and 304,000 lamprey. The lipid content is 30.3% of the body weight. Prior to 1868, the catch was dried and used as a substitute for candles, and after 1868, it was harvested as food for humans. The caloric value for Caspian Lamprey is 3.4 kcal/g wet weight. According to Holčík (1986), water regulation projects on the Volga and Kura rivers have had such deleterious effects on the abundance of Caspian Lamprey, preventing access to areas above the Volgograd and Mingechaur reservoirs, respectively, that it is no longer considered a commercially important species. There are reports of intoxication through eating this species (Halstead 1967).


[Genus Entosphenus Gill 1862]

**Synonyms:** *Entosphenus* Gill 1862: 331 (waters of western North America).

This genus comprises seven species (4 parasitic and 3 nonparasitic); six of them occur in western North America and one species, *Entosphenus tridentatus*, also occurs on the Asian side. Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina with two unicuspid teeth separated by a wide bridge, which usually bears a smaller median unicuspid tooth. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilineal fashion only in the anterior field. Exolaterals absent but one or two on each side of the oral disc may be present in *E. similis*. A single row of posterials. Transverse lingual lamina weakly w–shaped with median cusp only slightly enlarged. Velar tentacles possess tubercles and a median tentacle is present. The type species is *Petromyzon tridentatus* Gairdner in Richardson 1836. Hubbs and Potter (1971) treated *Entosphenus* as a subgenus of *Lampetra*. 
Synonyms: Entosphenus folletti Vladykov and Kott 1976: 975, figs. 1–3 [holotype: male, 228 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1975–1549; type locality: Willow and Boles creeks, near Clear Lake Reservoir, Klamath River Basin, Modoc County, California, USA]

FAO Names: En — Northern California Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau de Californie septentrionale

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained should be at least 228 mm TL judging by the size of the adults, but the largest recorded 153 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 25 specimens measuring 78–153 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.1–9.0; branchial length, 10.1–13.7; trunk length, 47.0–52.4; tail length, 30.5–35.2. Trunk myomeres, 56–65. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (20% of specimens) or +++ (80%); subocular, ++ (8%) or +++ (92%); lower prebranchial, ++ (12%) or +++ (88%); upper branchial, ++ (88%) or +++ (12%); lower branchial, —; caudal fin, ++ (32%) or +++ (68%); tongue precursor bulb, + or ++; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, ++++. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, spade–like.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 176–228 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on six specimens measuring 186–228 mm TL): prebranchial length, 12.3–14.5; branchial length, 9.2–10.6; trunk length, 42.7–48.6; tail length, 28.4–32.7; eye length, 1.7–2.3; disc length, 6.6–7.8. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in one spawning male measuring 210 mm TL, 5.7. Trunk myomeres, 61–65. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 3 unicuspid teeth, the median one smaller than the lateral ones; infroral lamina, 5 unicuspid teeth; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–2, the fourth endolateral can also be unicuspid; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 2 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; 1 row of posterials with 13–18 teeth, of which 0–4 are bicuspid and the rest unicuspid (some of these teeth may be embedded in the oral mucosa); transverse lingual lamina, 14–20 unicuspid teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae teeth are too poorly developed to be counted. Velar tentacles, 8–9, with tubercles. The median tentacle is about the same size as the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration (preserved), dark brown on dorsal, lateral, and ventral aspects. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented. Second dorsal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae, 13.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater; in creeks and rivers. Adults nonparasitic.
Geographic Distribution (Fig. 34): USA: Klamath River Basin (Willow and Boles creeks, Fall Creek, and Lost River, California).

Interest to Fisheries: None


Entosphenus hubbsi Vladykov and Kott 1976

Synonyms: Entosphenus hubbsi Vladykov and Kott 1976: 60–61, figs. 1–2 (holotype: male, 131 mm TL, CAS 35987; type locality: Friant–Kern Canal, east of Delano, Kern County, California, USA)

FAO Names: En — Kern Brook Lamprey, Central California Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau de Californie centrale

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 160 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on two specimens measuring 100–160 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.9–9.0; branchial length, 10.6–12.0; trunk length, 49.0–54.4; tail length, 29.0–30.6. Trunk myomeres, 53–57. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper prebranchial, –; lower prebranchial, +; upper branchial, ++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, ++; tongue precursor bulb, strongly pigmented (more so than in E. folletti); along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, strongly pigmented. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 81–142 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 127 specimens measuring 81–142 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.8–14.4; branchial length, 8.5–12.8; trunk length, 44.6–56.9; tail length, 24.3–30.8; eye length, 0.8–2.8; disc length, 3.7–8.7. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in nine spawning males
measuring 106–124 mm TL, 8.3–16.7. Trunk myomeres, 50–57. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth, rarely 3; infraoral lamina, 4–7 unicuspid teeth, usually 5; 4 endolaterals on each side, rarely 3 (Note: The photograph of the oral disc of the holotype in the original description, fig. 1, shows only 3 endolaterals on each side); endolateral formula, typically 1–1–1–1, the first endolateral may also be bicuspid, the second and third endolaterals bi– or tricuspid, and the fourth bicuspid, however, no endolateral formula of 2–3–3–2 was encountered in 40 individuals examined; 2 row of anterials, 3–9 unicuspid teeth in total, three of these in the first row; exolaterals absent; 1 row of posterials, 8–12 unicuspid teeth in a continuous (complete) row or discontinuous (incomplete) row of only six unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, cusps too poorly developed to count, however, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae, cusps too poorly developed to count. Velar tentacles, 3–5, with tubercles. The median velar tentacle is shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. There are no velar wings. Body coloration (preserved), gray–brown on dorsal and lateral aspects, whitish on ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation, +. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Both the larval and adult stages were originally collected from the Friant–Kern Canal, which is 85% concrete lined and has a discharge greater than 57 m³/sec; an artificial habitat. Occurs in the Merced River, which should be considered typical habitat. Adults nonparasitic.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 37): USA: California (San Joaquin River Basin: Merced River and Friant–Kern Canal, the latter connects Kern River to the San Joaquin River).

Interest to Fisheries: None

**Entosphenus lethophagus** (Hubbs 1971) Figs. 38–40

**Synonyms:** *Lampetra lethophaga* Hubbs 1971: 126–127, 130, fig. 1A–B, tables 3–6, 8 (holotype: male, 128 mm TL, UMMZ 130648; type locality: headwaters of Fall River, a tributary to Pit River, Shasta County, California, USA)

**FAO Names:** En — Pit–Klamath Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau du bassin Pit–Klamath

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 187 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 12 specimens measuring 92–187 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.1–8.0; branchial length, 9.4–11.5; trunk length, 48.0–52.7; tail length, 27.7–34.6. Trunk myomeres, 61–66. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ or +++; subocular, +++ (100% of specimens); lower prebranchial, +++ (100%); upper branchial, ++ (17%) or +++ (83%); caudal fin, + (8%) or ++ (42%) or +++ (50%); tongue precursor bulb, −; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, ++. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 124–184 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on ten specimens measuring 126–184 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.2–13.3; branchial length, 8.4–10.8; trunk length, 43.4–51.6; tail length, 28.8–35.3; eye length, 1.6–3.2; disc length, 4.1–6.1. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in a spawning male measuring 129 mm TL, 16.0. Trunk myomeres, 58–73. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2–3 unicuspid teeth, usually 3; infraoral lamina, 5–7 unicuspid teeth; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2–2 or 2–3–3–2, the first and fourth endolaterals may also rarely be unicuspid; 2–3 rows of anterials (not all shown on Fig. 39 because hidden from view by folding of anterior part of oral disc); first row of anterials, 1 or 5 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; 1 row of posterials with 10–17 teeth, of which 0–12 are bicuspids and the rest unicuspids; transverse lingual lamina, 15–20 unicuspid teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 5–12, with tubercles. Median tentacle shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration (preserved), ventral aspect whitish. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae, 5–26.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater; in creeks and rivers. Adults nonparasitic. Adults from Crooked Creek, Oregon are sexually mature in mid-March.

---

Fig. 38. Side view of *Entosphenus lethophagus*, spawning male, 154 mm TL, OS 2856, Crooked Creek, Klamath County, Oregon, USA, 13 March 1970, Oregon Game Commission. After Hubbs (1971).

Fig. 39. Oral disc of *Entosphenus lethophagus*. After a drawing by Susan Laurie–Bourque [124 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–733, Crooked Creek, Klamath County, Oregon, USA, 8 Feb. 1957].
**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 40):** USA: Klamath River Basin in Oregon (Sprague River and Crooked Creek at the Klamath Fish Hatchery) and Pit River Basin in California (Fall and Pit rivers and Crystal Lake Hatchery).

**Interest to Fisheries:** None


---

**Entosphenus macrostomus** (Beamish 1982)  
**Figs. 41–43**

**Synonyms:** Lampetra macrostoma Beamish 1982: 737–740, figs. 1A, B, D, F, 2A, C, E [holotype: immature male, 228 mm TL before preservation and 221 mm TL after preservation, NMC (= CMNFI) 1981–1219; type locality: Lake Cowichan, 48°52'36"N 124°17'0"W, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada]

**FAO Names:** En — Vancouver Lamprey (Although this is the official common name following Nelson et al. (2004), it should really be Vancouver Island Lamprey to prevent confusion with the city of Vancouver, which occurs on the mainland); Fr — Lamproie de l'île de Vancouver

---

**Fig. 41.** Side view of *Entosphenus macrostomus*. After a photograph by Brian W. Coad [immature male, 221 mm TL, holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1981–1219, Lake Cowichan, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, 14 Nov. 1980, M. Smith].

**Fig. 40.** Geographic distribution of *Entosphenus lethophagus*.

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 170 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 16 specimens for which the size range was not stated, but presumably was 100–170 mm TL, because this was the range given for the larger ammocoetes in the original description of the species): prebranchial length, 7.6–10.7; branchial length, 12.8–15.7; trunk length, 45.5–51.4; tail length, 28.3–33.1. Trunk myomeres, mean of 66.1, but range not given. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: lower prebranchial, +++; upper branchial, ++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, ++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, – or +. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like or rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 118–273 mm TL. Body wet weight of a 221 mm TL individual, 19.8 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 112 specimens measuring 118–273 mm TL): prebranchial length, 14.3–17.6; branchial length, 9.4–12.6;
trunk length, 37.5–48.2; tail length, 20.9–31.7; eye length, 2.2–3.5; disc length, 6.5–11.7. Trunk myomeres, 59–70. Dentition: marginals, 54–67; supraoral lamina, 3, rarely 4 unicuspid teeth, the median one smaller than the lateral ones; infraoral lamina, 5–6 unicuspid teeth; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–2; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; 1 row of posterials, 14–21 teeth, 2–3 lateralmost on each side bicuspid and the internal ones unicuspid; transverse lingual lamina, 13–20 unicuspid teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae parentheses–shaped and each with 17–27 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 11–15 with wings. Body coloration (preserved), uniformly dark, almost black. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, +++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 117. Oral papillae, 17.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in lakes and in the inlets to them. Ammocoetes and recently metamorphosed individuals are mostly found along the edges of lakes. Ammocoetes are found in the silt substrate of two lakes and of inlet streams within 100 m of the lakes. Adult life span believed to be at least two years. Adults parasitic on fishes (*Oncorhynchus clarkii* and *O. kisutch*) in freshwater lakes throughout the year. Wounds produced known to penetrate deeply into the musculature or even reach the body cavity of hosts. Up to three adults have been recorded attached to a host. Adults are known experimentally to be able to survive in salt water, but apparently remain in fresh water despite the absence of barriers preventing access to the sea. Adults in spawning readiness collected from shallow gravel bars between 1 June and 23 August.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 43): Canada: Lake Cowichan and Mesachie Lake, Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

Interest to Fisheries: Between 50 and 80% of fishes, mostly salmonids, in Lake Cowichan and Mesachie Lake show evidence of attacks from this lamprey, and based on the severity of the wounds inflicted, an estimated 15% of these attacks would probably result in the death of the host.

**Entosphenus minimus** (Bond and Kan 1973)  

**Figs. 44–46**

**Synonyms:** *Lampețra (Entosphenus) minima* Bond and Kan 1973: 569–570, fig. 1 (holotype: male, 93 mm TL, USNM 353919, formerly OS 3180; type locality: Miller Lake, Oregon, USA)

**FAO Names:** En — Miller Lake Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie du lac Miller

---

**Diagnostic Features:**

**Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, 141 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 102 specimens measuring 37–111 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.8–11.1; branchial length, 11.7–17.5; trunk length, 47.5–53.3; tail length, 23.7–31.4. Trunk myomeres, 59–66. Body coloration (preserved) uniformly yellowish brown. Pigmentation: upper lip, +; subocular, +++; lower prebranchial, +++ (100% of specimens); upper branchial, +++ (100%); caudal fin, +++ (100%); tongue precursor bulb, −; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, ++. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded.

**Metamorphosing Ammocoetes:** lengths unrecorded.

**Adults:** 72–145 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 58 specimens measuring 80–145 mm TL): prebranchial length, 11.0–17.0; branchial length, 8.9–12.2; trunk length, 40.3–49.1; tail length, 27.0–34.6; eye length, 2.1–3.3; disc length, 5.0–8.6. The height of the second dorsal fin, as a percentage of TL, is significantly greater in mature (4.4–6.1) versus immature adults (2.2–4.2). The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 12 spawning males measuring 78–100 mm TL, 10.0–18.8. Trunk myomeres, 59–66. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2–3 unicuspid teeth, usually 3, the median one smaller than the lateral ones; infraoral lamina, 5 unicuspid teeth; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–2; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; single row of posterials, 11–19, usually with the outermost 1–3 posterials on either side bicuspids and the internal ones unicuspids, however, 0–16 can be bicuspids; transverse lingual lamina, 17–29 unicuspid teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 18–25 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 5–9, without tubercles. Wings consisting of a single short tentacle on either side. Median tentacle shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration (preserved) in adults is darker on the upper surface and paler on the lower surface with immature adults being yellowish brown, and with mature and spent adults being brownish purple. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like or rounded. Oral fimbriae, 86–101. Oral papillae, 7–17.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater; in the upper reaches of rivers at an elevation of 1,402–2,134 m. Ammocoetes are associated with substrates of organic detritus at water depths up to 1 m. Spawning has been observed both in lake and in stream habitats. Life span approximately 36 months; about 30 months as an ammocoete and 6 months as an adult. Metamorphosis occurs in the fall. Adults parasitic on fishes (native *Gila bicolor*, *Rhinichthys osculus klanathensis*, and introduced *Salvelinus fontinalis*, *Salmo trutta*) usually measuring much less than 150 mm TL. Because of the small size of the hosts and the deep nature of the wounds inflicted, most attacks likely result in the death of the fish being attacked. Also reported to be scavengers and cannibals. Adults apparently do not feed more than a few months. Spawning migration is very limited.
Adults build redds about 10 cm wide by 3 cm deep, at a water depth of about 30 cm. The redds consist of gravel and sand. Spawning period between 17 July and 20 August in Miller Lake and 10 June in Sycan River; in the latter case, spawning occurred during mid–morning at a water temperature of 12 °C. Fecundity, 503–727 eggs/female. Adults die after spawning.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 46): USA: Endemic to the upper Klamath River Basin (Miller, Evening, Jack, and Long creeks, and upper reaches of the Williamson and Sycan rivers), Oregon. Formerly in Miller Lake (see under Interest to Fisheries).

Interest to Fisheries: The species was extirpated from Miller Lake through poisoning in 1958 because of its parasitism of planted trout fingerlings.


**Entosphenus similis** Vladykov and Kott 1979

Figs. 47–49

**Synonyms:** *Entosphenus similis* Vladykov and Kott 1979: 809–810, figs. 1–2 [holotype: female, 212 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1975–1550; type locality: Klamath River, California, USA]

**FAO Names:** En — Klamath Lamprey, Klamath River Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de la rivière Klamath

![Fig. 47. Side view of *Entosphenus similis* adult.](image)

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: The ammocoetes have not been studied.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: The metamorphosing ammocoetes have not been studied.

Adults: 136–269 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 29 specimens measuring 136–269 mm TL): prebranchial length, 13.0–16.4; branchial length, 8.2–11.8; trunk length, 42.5–52.0; tail length, 27.0–34.9; eye length, 1.4–2.7; disc length, 7.8–10.5. The intestinal diameter in feeding individuals is 4.5 mm. Trunk myomeres, 58–65. Dentition: the marginals in the anterior and lateral fields are of two different sizes, small and with an elongated base, while those in the posterior field are small; exceptionally, one or two of these elongate marginals on each side lie in the middle of the lateral fields and therefore qualify as exolaterals (see fig. 4a in Vladykov and Kott 1979a); supraoral lamina, 3 unicuspuid teeth, the median one smaller than the lateral ones; infraoral lamina, 5–6 unicuspuid teeth, predominantly 5; 4 endolaterals on each side, rarely 3 on one side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–2, the second endolateral may also be uni–, bi– or quadricuspid, the third endolateral may also be quadricuspid, and the fourth endolateral may be absent, but if present, also be uni–, bi– or quadricuspid; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–5 unicuspuid teeth; exolaterals not present as rows
but 1 or 2 on each side may be present; 1 row of posterials with 16–20 teeth, of which 0–15 are bicuspid and the rest unicuspids; transverse lingual lamina, 20–29 unicuspids teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 24–33 unicuspids teeth. Velar tentacles, 7–9, with tubercles and wings consisting of a very short tentacle on either side. Median tentacle shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration (preserved), dark brown on dorsal, lateral, and ventral aspects. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++. Second dorsal fin pigmentation, ++. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 98–111. Oral papillae, 12–20.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater, in rivers and lakes. Adults parasitic on fishes.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 49):** USA: Klamath River Basin in Oregon (Upper Klamath Lake) and California (Klamath River).

**Interest to Fisheries:** Known to feed on fishes perhaps of commercial importance, but these were not identified.

**References:** Khidir and Renaud (2003), Vladykov and Kott (1979a, 1979c)

**Fig. 48. Oral disc of *Entosphenus similis*.** After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [male, 260 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1027, Klamath River, California, USA, Spring 1953].

**Fig. 49. Geographic distribution of *Entosphenus similis*.**

---

**Entosphenus tridentatus** Gairdner in Richardson 1836

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon tridentatus* Gairdner in Richardson 1836: 293 (559 mm TL; type locality: falls of the Walamet River, known today as the Willamette River, Columbia River Basin, Washington (almost certainly Oregon, USA); *Petromyzon ciliatus* Ayres 1855: (610 mm TL; type locality: San Francisco Bay, California, USA); ?*Ammocoetes cibarius* Girard 1858: 383–384 (holotype: metamorphosing ammocoete of 102 mm TL originally, but with tail now missing, USNM 981, recatalogued as USNM 6176; type locality: Fort Steilacoom, Puget Sound, Washington); ?*Petromyzon lividus* Girard 1858: (381 mm TL; type locality: Wahlahmath River, known today as the Willamette River, Columbia River Basin, Oregon, USA); ?*Petromyzon astori* Girard 1858: (178 mm TL; type locality: Astoria, Oregon, USA)
**Taxonomic Remarks:** The landlocked population in the Sprague River, Klamath River Basin, Oregon, appears distinctive from other conspecifics in a number of characters and would benefit from a closer examination. For example, four of the five specimens from the Sprague River examined by Vladykov and Kott (1979a) did not possess wings on their velar apparatus and had counts between 7–10 tentacles, while typically, *E. tridentatus* possesses wings and 11–18 tentacles. Hubbs (1924) suggested that the population in Goose Lake, Oregon (the lake also straddles California) represented a separate but unnamed race. This requires further investigation.

**FAO Names:** En — Pacific Lamprey, Three–toothed Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie du Pacifique; Sp — Lamprea del Pacífico

**Local names:** Ksuys, Asum (Sahaptin, North American First Nation’s language)

**Fig. 50. Side view of Entosphenus tridentatus.** After a photograph by Brian W. Coad [prespawning male, 261.5 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–761, Stamp River, British Columbia, Canada].

**Diag nostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 144 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 50 specimens measuring 81–144 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.3–9.3; branchial length, 9.0–14.1; trunk length, 48.1–53.5; tail length, 27.1–32.4. Trunk myomeres, 67–70. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, + (4% of specimens) or ++ (60%) or +++ (36%); subocular, – (4%) or + (48%) or ++ (40%) or +++ (8%); lower prebranchial, – (28%) or + (40%) or ++ (28%) or +++ (4%); upper branchial, + (84%) or ++ (16%); caudal fin, ++ (28%) or +++ (72%); tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, – or +. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 96–800 mm TL. Specimens 380–620 mm TL weigh 120–510 g wet weight. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 274 specimens measuring 96–716 mm TL): prebranchial length, 9.8–18.0; branchial length, 7.8–12.6; trunk length, 40.3–54.0; tail length, 23.6–34.9; eye length, 1.3–4.5; disc length, 4.6–9.1. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in two spawning males measuring 211–217 mm TL, 12.0–12.5. Trunk myomeres, 60–71 [57–74, according to Creaser and Hubbs (1922) and as high as 78 according to Renaud (2008)]. Dentition: marginals, 48–62; supraoral lamina, 3 unicuspid teeth, the median one being smaller; infraoral lamina, 5–6 unicuspid teeth, predominantly 5; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–3–2, the first endolateral rarely unicuspid and the second and third endolaterals rarely bicuspid; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, either 1 or 5 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; 1 row of posterials, 12–21 teeth, of which 0–5 may be bicuspid and the remainder unicuspid; transverse lingual lamina, 14–23 unicuspid teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae parentheses–shaped, each with 20–27 unicuspid teeth [50–63 according to McPhail and Lindsey (1970)]. Velar tentacles, 10–18, with tubercles; the dorsal wings may each consist of up to 5–6 long tentacles that reach the median tentacle. Median tentacle about the same length as the lateral ones immediately next to it. Four of five specimens from the Sprague River did not possess wings and had 7–10 tentacles. Body coloration (preserved), dorsal, lateral, and ventral aspects bluish gray in older individuals and ventral aspect either dark gray or almost white in recently metamorphosed individuals. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented or darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++++. Caudal fin shape, rounded or spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 94–105. Oral papillae, 12–18.

**Fig. 51. Oral disc of Entosphenus tridentatus.** After a drawing by Susan Laurie–Bourque [284 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–761, Stamp River, British Columbia, Canada].
**Habitat and Biology:** Anadromous, but also a number of permanent freshwater resident populations (Cultus Lake, British Columbia; Sprague River, Klamath River Basin, Oregon). In marine waters, adults mostly inhabit the mesopelagic zone down to 800 m depth and have been documented as far as 117 km off the coast of Oregon. In fresh waters, ammocoetes and adults inhabit lakes, rivers, and creeks. Ammocoetes occur in soft sediments in shallow areas along stream banks. Larval life is 4–6 yrs. Newly–hatched ammocoetes emerging from their nest are preyed upon by *Oncorhynchus kisutch* fry. Metamorphosis occurs between July and November. Migration to the sea begins in the fall and extends until the spring depending on whether the populations are coastal (former) or further inland (latter). Young outmigrating adults are preyed upon by *Ptychocheilus oreognensis* and introduced *Ictalurus punctatus* in the Snake River. Three gull species and one tern species feed on downstream migrants in the Columbia River. Great Blue Heron feed on adults in the San Francisco Bay area, California. Three pinnipeds, California and Steller sea lions and Pacific Harbor Seal, feed heavily on adults in the Rogue River, Oregon. Mink feed on adults in the Skeena River, British Columbia. In marine waters, adults are parasitic on a wide variety of fishes (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha, O. kisutch, O. mykiss, O. nerka, O. tshawytscha, Gadus macrocephalus, Theragra chalcogramma, Merluccius productus, Ophiodon elongatus, Anoplopoma fimbria, Hippoglossus stenolepis, Reinhardtius hippoglossoides, Atheresthes evermanni, A. stomias, Sebastes alutus, S. aleutianus, and S. reedi*) and whales (*Balaenoptera borealis, B. physalus, Megaptera novaeangliae, and Physeter macrocephalus*). Adults are found in the Strait of Georgia from December to mid–June. The duration of the feeding phase at sea has been estimated at 20–42 months. In British Columbia, return to fresh water begins as early as April and is completed by September. In the Columbia River, prior to the completion of the Grand Coulee Dam in 1941, spawning migrations of 800 km up to Kettle Falls, Washington occurred. In order to cross barriers such as falls, they use their suctorial disc to attach to the vertical surfaces and slowly make their way up. In British Columbia spawning is in June to the end of July, while in Oregon, it begins in May at water temperatures of 10–15 °C and continues through July. Fecundity, 98,300–238,400 eggs/female in Oregon populations from Clear, Trout, and Cow creeks, respectively, in the John Day, and one tern species feed on downstream migrants in the Columbia River. Great Blue Heron feed on adults in the San Francisco Bay area, California. Three pinnipeds, California and Steller sea lions and Pacific Harbor Seal, feed heavily on adults in the Rogue River, Oregon. Mink feed on adults in the Skeena River, British Columbia. In marine waters, adults are parasitic on a wide variety of fishes (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha, O. kisutch, O. mykiss, O. nerka, O. tshawytscha, Gadus macrocephalus, Theragra chalcogramma, Merluccius productus, Ophiodon elongatus, Anoplopoma fimbria, Hippoglossus stenolepis, Reinhardtius hippoglossoides, Atheresthes evermanni, A. stomias, Sebastes alutus, S. aleutianus, and S. reedi*) and whales (*Balaenoptera borealis, B. physalus, Megaptera novaeangliae, and Physeter macrocephalus*). Adults are found in the Strait of Georgia from December to mid–June. The duration of the feeding phase at sea has been estimated at 20–42 months. In British Columbia, return to fresh water begins as early as April and is completed by September. In the Columbia River, prior to the completion of the Grand Coulee Dam in 1941, spawning migrations of 800 km up to Kettle Falls, Washington occurred. In order to cross barriers such as falls, they use their suctorial disc to attach to the vertical surfaces and slowly make their way up. In British Columbia spawning is in June to the end of July, while in Oregon, it begins in May at water temperatures of 10–15 °C and continues through July. Fecundity, 98,300–238,400 eggs/female in Oregon populations from Clear, Trout, and Cow creeks, respectively, in the John Day, Molalla, and Umpqua river basins. Death of spawners follows 3–36 days after spawning. Eggs are eaten by *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and *Rhinichthys osculus* in the Umatilla River, Oregon.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 52):** Pacific Ocean Basin: Canada (Strait of Georgia, Cowichan, Nicola, Oyster, Qualicum, Skeena, Stamp and Fraser rivers, Haslam and Robertson creeks, and Babine and Cultus lakes, British Columbia); USA (Norton Sound, Alaska; Puget Sound and Snake River, Washington; Snake River, Idaho; Columbia, John Day, Sprague, Umatilla, Umpqua, Rogue, and Willamette rivers, and Clear, Cow, Milk, and Trout creeks, Oregon; Goose Lake, Oregon/California; San Francisco Bay, Merced, Trinity, and Tuolumne rivers, Carr, Cottonwood, Coyote, Deer, Mill, Salt, Sespe, and Tracy creeks, California); México (off Clarion Island, Revillagigedo Archipelago and Baja California); Japan (off Kushiro, Hokkaidō Island; Naka River Basin: Arakawa, Hoki, Maki, Naka, and Yusaka rivers, Honshu Island). The population in Clear Lake, California (Moyle 1976) and that of Elsie Lake Basin, British Columbia (Beamish and Northcote 1989) no longer exist. In the latter case, the direct cause of disappearance was the building between 1957 and 1959 of five dams on the outlet and in the area immediately surrounding Elsie Lake, on Vancouver Island, preventing access to the sea.

**Interest to Fisheries:** The Native American tribes of the mid–Columbia River Plateau have an ongoing tradition dating back hundreds of years of harvesting Pacific Lamprey, which they call ksuyas or asum. The adults are caught either by hand or dipnet in areas where they congregate prior to spawning. They are prepared for human consumption either by drying or roasting. Caloric values for Pacific Lamprey range from 5.9 to 6.3 kcal/g wet weight. Their oil is also extracted for use as teaching material. Ammocoetes are used for medicinal purposes. Ammocoetes are used as bait for introduced *Micropterus dolomieu* in the John Day River, Oregon. In 1812, Americans of European descent obtained Pacific Lamprey from the Umatilla tribe of Oregon for the purposes of consumption. In the early 1900s, fur trappers utilized Pacific Lamprey as bait for coyotes. A fishery for adult lamprey has existed at Willamette Falls on the Willamette River, Oregon at least since 1913. That year, 24.5 metric tons were harvested and ground into fishmeal for young hatchery salmon. Between 1943 and 1949, 740 metric tons in total were harvested and used for vitamin oil, food for livestock, poultry, and fishmeal. In 1994, about 1.8 metric tons were exported to Europe for human consumption. The North Carolina Biological Supply House regularly collects adults from this locality for use as teaching material.
Genus *Eudontomyzon* Regan 1911

**Synonyms:** *Eudontomyzon* Regan 1911: 194, 200–201 (Romania; Transylvania; type species: *Eudontomyzon danfordi* Regan 1911, by monotypy)

This genus was revised by Renaud (1982a) and comprises five species (2 parasitic and 3 nonparasitic). Four species occur in Europe and one species, *Eudontomyzon morii*, is endemic to Asia. Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina with two teeth separated by a wide bridge, which may occasionally bear one or more unicuspid teeth. Labial teeth villiform (except in *E. hellicicus* and *E. graecus* where they are pavement-like), radially-arranged in a curvilinear fashion and present on all fields of the oral disc (rarely, however, posteriars are absent in *E. mariae*) but not necessarily fully occupying all available space. Transverse lingual lamina U-shaped and with an enlarged median cusp. Velar tentacles with tubercles and a median tentacle is present. The type species is *Eudontomyzon danfordi* Regan 1911. Creaser and Hubbs (1922) treated *Eudontomyzon* as a subgenus of *Petromyzon* and Berg (1931) treated it as a subgenus of *Lampetra*. The former view is not supported by the cladogram produced by Gill *et al.* (2003) but the latter interpretation is consistent with Gill *et al.* (2003). Bănărescu (1969) suggested that *Eudontomyzon* originated in Siberia and dispersed to Europe and East Asia, subsequently becoming extirpated from Siberia during glaciation.

*Eudontomyzon danfordi* Regan 1911

**Synonyms:** *Eudontomyzon danfordi* Regan 1911: 200–201 [six syntypes: adults, 120–220 mm TL, BMNH 1951.5.22.1–5 and NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–717; type locality: Transylvania, Romania; type species by monotypy]; *Lampetra Bergi* Vladykov 1925: 251–252 (Subcarpathian Ukraine); *Lampetra (Eudontomyzon) gracilis* Kux 1965: 294 (holotype: adult male, 211 mm TL, LMB 12477; type locality: Topl'a River, Lukov, Slovakia)

FAO Names: En — Carpathian Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie carpathique

Local names: Chişcar or Cicar (Romanian); Vladykov (1931) lists 24 common names for the small region of Subcarpathian Ukraine alone. The common name of Hungarian Lamprey coined by Berg (1931) is inappropriate because the species does not occur in Hungarian waters.

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 211 mm TL. Body wet weight of 321 individuals 21.5–208 mm TL, 0.02–14.29 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 190 specimens measuring 50–208 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.8–10.3; branchial length, 10.2–14.7; trunk length, 48.1–58.9; tail length, 22.2–32.7; cloacal slit length, 0.5–2.4; prenostril length, 1.8–4.0. Trunk myomeres, 58–70. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (36% of specimens), + (45%), + + (18%) or + + + (1%); between upper lip and cheek, + + (4%) or + + (96%); cheek, – (2%), + (2%), + (26%) or + + (70%); subocular, – (78%), + (12%), + + (4%) or + + + (5%); upper prebranchial, – (22%), + (27%), + (22%) or + + (30%); lower prebranchial, – (28%), + (41%), + + (23%) or + + (8%); upper branchial, – (1%), + (1%), + (71%) or + + (28%); lower branchial, – (93%) or + (7%); ventral branchial, – (77%), + (22%) or + (1%); lower lip, – (35%), + (40%), + (20%) or + + (4%); caudal fin, – (1%), + (68%), + (28%) or + + + (3%); predorsal, – (34%), + (41%), + (20%) or + + + (5%); tongue precursor bulb, – (75%) or + (25%); along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, – (25%), + (50%), or + + + (5%).
Lampreys of the World

(25%). Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like (99%) or rounded (1%).

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 134–175 mm TL.

Adults: 120–300 mm TL. Body wet weight of 48 individuals 140–241 mm TL, 2.66–21.65 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 60–66 specimens measuring 140–241 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.8–13.5; branchial length, 8.6–11.4; trunk length, 42.9–52.5; tail length, 25.6–32.3; cloacal slit length, 0.6–1.7; eye length, 1.0–2.1; disc length, 2.8–7.5; prenstril length, 4.1–8.3; snout length, 4.8–9.3; postocular length, 2.2–3.5. Intestine diameter, 0.3–5.0 mm. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in a spawning male measuring 180 mm TL, 16.2. Trunk myomeres, 59–68. Dentition: Most labial teeth are villiform; supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspids; infraoral lamina, 7–12 teeth, the lateralmost sometimes bicuspids while the rest are unicuspids; usually 3 endolaterals on one side (96%), but 4 (3%) and 2 (1%) also found; endolateral formula, typically 1–2–2 (59%) and 2–2–2 (23%), but also 1–2–2 (9%), and rarely 1–1–2, 2–2–1, 2–3–2, 1–2–2–1, 1–2–1, 1–3–2, 1–3–1; 4–7 rows of anteraria; first row of anteraria, 6–13 unicuspids; 2–5 rows of exolaterals; 2–4 rows of posteraria; first row of posteraria, 15–28 unicuspids; transverse lingual lamina, 9–15 unicuspids, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 10–17 usually unicuspids teeth, rarely, one may be bicuspids. Velar tentacles, 7–16, with tubercles; dorsal wings consisting of 2–6 tentacles usually present on either side, not reaching the median tentacle. Body coloration (live) gray blue on the head and dorsal aspect, gray towards pink on lateral aspects and white on the ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, – (20%), + (4%), ++ (12%), +++ (64%). Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 90–115. Oral papillae, 15–25.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in brooks and rivers. In Slovakia, it occurs in the submountainous zone at altitudes between 465 and 550 m and in Subcarpathian Ukraine it is found almost exclusively above 250 m.

Larvae live 4+ – 5+ years. Metamorphosis occurs between the end of July to October. Adults live 17–19 months, feeding only during the first year. Adults parasitic/scavenger on various fishes (Barbus barbus, B. petenyi, Squalius cephalus, Barbatula barbatula, Cottus gobio, C. poecilopus). The spawning period varies with location. Dead and spent adults have been found in April and May in Subcarpathian Ukraine, whereas in Romania, spawning is said to take place from the end of May into June in Iara Brook, Transylvania and between the end of June and the beginning of July in Bistra Mărului Brook, Banat. Fecundity, 7,500–10,300 eggs/female.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 55): Black Sea Basin: Tisa River Basin (Hornád, Okna, and Topl'a rivers, and Ulíčka Brook, Slovakia; Apšhtisa, Borzhava, Kusva, Latorica, Rika, Sopurka, Terešhova, Tereblya, Tisa, and Uh rivers, Ukraine; Arieş, Bega, Bistriţa, Crişul Alb, Crişul Negru, Crişul Repede, Drăgan, Mureşul, Someşul, Someşul Cald, Someşul Mare, Someşul Mic, Someşul Rece, Strei, Vida, and Vişeu rivers and Agirbici, Anies, Bistra, Capus, Cormaia, Gudea–Mare, Gudea–Unita, Gurghiu, Iara, Lapusna, Moneasa, Râcătău, Răstolita, Riscă, Sâlăuta, Sebeşul, Toplita, and Zebrac brooks, Romania) and Timiş River Basin (Timiş River and Birzava, Bistra Mărului, and Sucu brooks, Romania).

Interest to Fisheries: In certain regions of Romania, local people consume (presumably adults of) this species and fishermen also use it (presumably the ammocoetes) as live bait. The feeding phase adults inflict serious damage to trout in Romanian hatcheries.

Fig. 54. Oral disc of Eudontomyzon danfordi. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine.

Fig. 55. Geographic distribution of Eudontomyzon danfordi.
**Eudontomyzon hellenicus** Vladykov, Renaud, Kott, and Economidis 1982

Figs. 56–58

**Synonyms:** *Eudontomyzon hellenicus* Vladykov, Renaud, Kott, and Economidis 1982: 2898, figs. 1, 2c, 3a [holotype: male, 96 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1977–1773; type locality: Kefalárion Brook, near Kefalárion, Central Macedonia Periphery, 41°04'N 24°16'E, Strymon River Basin, Greece]


**FAO Names:** En — Greek Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau grecque

**Fig. 56.** Side view of *Eudontomyzon hellenicus*, spawning female, 105 mm TL, paratype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1977–1753, Kefalárion Brook, near Kefalárion, Strymon River Basin, Greece, 19 May 1977, P.S. Economidis, A.I. Sinis, and V.D. Vladykov. After Renaud (1982a).

**Fig. 57.** Oral disc of *Eudontomyzon hellenicus*. After a drawing by Susan Laurie–Bourque [118 mm TL, CMNFI 1994–7, Kefalárion Brook, near Kefalárion, Strymon River Basin, Greece, 18 Jan. 1980, P.S. Economidis and A.I. Sinis].

Lampreys of the World 41

2.9–7.3; prenostril length, 3.6–7.3; snout length, 4.4–8.9; postocular length, 2.3–3.8. The intestinal diameter, <0.5–1.0 mm. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in eight spawning males measuring 96–133 mm TL, 3.3–9.1. Trunk myomeres, 53–63. Dentition: All labial teeth are pavement–like; supraoral lamina, 2 teeth, usually unicuspid, but one or both may be bicuspid; infraoral lamina, 7–11 teeth; typically 3 endolateral teeth on each side, but 4 teeth also occur (6 cases out of 96); endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2, but variant formulae occur in 25% of cases and each of the teeth can be either uni–, bi–, or tricuspid; 3–4 rows of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 4–8 teeth; 2–6 rows of exolaterals on each side; 1–4 rows of posteriors; first row of posteriors, 10–15 teeth; transverse lingual lamina with a greatly enlarged median tooth but no lateral teeth; longitudinal lingual laminae without teeth. Additionally, 9 of 66 adults possessed 1–2 accessory unicuspid teeth inside the ring formed by the supraoral and infraoral laminae and the endolateral teeth. Velar tentacles, 2–5. Body coloration (preserved) in mature adults is gray on the upper surface and flanks and light brown on the lower surface. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, + (2% of specimens), ++ (19%) or +++ (79%). Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater, in 25–75 cm deep, clear, fairly fast–flowing watercourses with gravely substrate, some rocks and aquatic vegetation. Also found in mud, especially among the roots of aquatic vegetation. Ammocoetes feed on green algae. Metamorphosis occurs between October and January. Adults nonparasitic and are believed to live only 3–4 months. The spawning period is believed to be between January and May.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 58):** Strymon River Basin (Ayannis, Kefaláirion, and Millopótamos brooks) and Loúros River Basin (Loúros River and Filippiás Brook), Greece.

**Interest to Fisheries:** None


**Fig. 58. Geographic distribution of *Eudontomyzon hellenicus*.**

---

**Eudontomyzon mariae** (Berg 1931)

**Synonyms:** *Lampetra mariae* Berg 1931: 94–96, pl. I, fig. 3, pl. IV, fig. 1 (36 syntypes: spawning adults, 161–206 mm TL, ZISP 23124; six of these, 171–183.5 mm TL, CMNFI 1986–718; type locality: Kharkiv River, near Kharkiv, 50°0’N 36°15’E, Don River Basin, Ukraine); *Eudontomyzon danfordi vladykovi* Oliva and Zanandrea 1959: 2–4 [holotype: spent female, 150 mm TL, CUP 4525, from the original type locality of Danube River at Čištovo, near Bratislava, Slovakia was so damaged that a neotype, an adult male, 150 mm TL, SNM 41858, from the new type locality of Hraničný Kriváň Brook, Slovakia was designated by Holčík (1963); *Eudontomyzon vladykovi stankokaramani* Karaman 1974: 1–4, fig. 2, tables 1–6 (holotype: adult male, 150 mm TL, presumed lost, type locality: Istočka River and Rastavički Brook, Beli Drim River Basin, near Peć, Serbia)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Rembszewski (1968) reported on three adult hybrids between *E. mariae* and *Lampetra planeri* in the Jeziorka River, Poland. Holčík and Šorić (2004) have recently elevated *E. stankokaramani*, but I prefer to leave it in synonymy until a more comprehensive study of the variation in the velar tentacle morphology of the wide–ranging *E. mariae* has been undertaken. Based on the facts that *E. mariae* exhibits a broad geographic distribution (Adriatic, Aegean, Baltic, and Black sea basins) with clear disjunctions and wide variation in a number of taxonomic characters, Renaud (1982a) suggested that *E. mariae* may consist of a number of subspecies. However, the lack of sufficient adult specimens from across the range to elucidate this question remains a problem. Additionally, the lampreys from the Kuban’ River Basin require a re–evaluation (N.G. Bogutskaya, Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, pers. comm., 2007).
**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 230 mm TL, but perhaps can exceed 250 mm TL based on the maximum total length recorded for metamorphosing ammocoetes. Body wet weight of 174 individuals 34–212 mm TL, 0.07–15.17 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 174 specimens measuring 34–212 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.3–11.8; branchial length, 9.4–20.5; trunk length, 50.0–58.0; tail length, 17.6–30.8; cloacal slit length, > 0.0–1.6; prenooltril length, 1.8–4.5. Trunk myomeres, 58–70. Body coloration (live and preserved for up to 3 yrs), with mottling. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (61% of specimens), + (35%), or ++ (4%); between upper lip and cheek, + (1%), ++ (8%) or +++ (91%); cheek, + (5%), ++ (58%) or +++ (36%); subocular, – (91%), + (2%), ++ (3%) or +++ (4%); upper prebranchial, – (34%), + (24%), ++ (25%) or +++ (17%); lower prebranchial, – (53%), + (28%), ++ (14%) or +++ (5%); upper branchial, + (2%), ++ (79%) or +++ (18%); lower branchial, – (91%), + (6%), ++ (2%) or +++ (1%); ventral branchial, – (92%), + (5%) or ++ (2%); lower lip, – (69%), + (22%) or ++ (9%); caudal fin, – (2%), + (11%), ++ (40%) or +++ (40%); predorsal, – (17%), + (38%), ++ (21%) or +++ (25%); tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, –; Tongue precursor shape, bulbous. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like (only 2 of 166 ammocoetes had a rounded caudal fin).

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 150–250 mm TL. Adults: 120–222 mm TL. Body wet weight of 37 individuals 131–195 mm TL, 3.61–12.69 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 39 specimens measuring 123–195 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.9–12.1; branchial length, 8.5–12.3; trunk length, 44.9–54.4; tail length, 24.3–31.3; cloacal slit length, 0.4–2.2; eye length, 0.7–2.1; disc length, 2.2–5.8; prenooltril length, 2.5–6.5; snout length, 2.7–7.6; postocular length, 2.4–3.7. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in eight spawning males measuring 143.5–184 mm TL, 25.0–38.6. Trunk myomeres, 60–73. Dentition: Most labial teeth are villiform; supraoral lamina, usually only 2 unicuspis teeth, but in less than 10% of cases, 1–3 small unicuspis teeth may also be found on the bridge; infraoral lamina, 5–10 usually unicuspis teeth, but 1–2 lateralmost teeth may be bicuspid; usually 3 endolaterals on each side (83%), but 4 (11%), 1 (4%), and 2 (2%) also found; endolateral formula, typically 1–2–2 (26%), 1–2–1 (22%), 2–2–1 (13%), 2–2–2 (11%), but also 1–1–1, 2–2–3, 1–1–2–2 (each 6%), 2, 1–1–2–1 (each 4%), 1–2, 1–2–2–2 (each 2%) – Naseka et al. (2009) reported the following additional formulae from the syntypic series, including a count of 5 endolaterals: 1–1–2, 1–3–1, 2–1–1, 2–3–2, 1–2–1, 1–2–2–1, 2–5 rows of anteriorals; first row of anteriorals, 5–10 unicuspis teeth, exceptionally, one lateralmost tooth may be bicuspid; 1–4 rows of exolaterals; rows of posteriorals, 0–3 (absent in 10% of individuals only); first row of posteriorals, either complete (continuous) with 12–20 unicuspis teeth (62% of individuals) or incomplete (discontinuous) with 1–12 unicuspis teeth (38% of individuals) or entirely absent (very rarely) – Naseka et al. (2009) reported the following additional counts from the syntypic series: complete row with 10 unicuspis and 1 bicuspid teeth; incomplete row with 13–17 unicuspis teeth and with 4 unicuspis and one bicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 3–7 unicuspis teeth, the median one enlarged (in 79% of individuals, the median cusp is both higher and wider, while in 21% of individuals it is wider, but not noticeably higher, than the flanking cusps); longitudinal lingual laminae each with 5–11 unicuspis teeth. Velar tentacles, 7–12, with tubercles. Body coloration unrecorded. No dark blotch near the apex of
the second dorsal fin. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented or darkly pigmented, at least on the ventral aspect. Caudal fin pigmentation, – (7%), + (3%), ++ (13%), +++ (77%). Caudal fin shape, spade-like (97% of individuals), rarely rounded. Oral fimbriae, 88–98. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater, in brooks, rivers, and lakes. Metamorphosis occurs in September in Poland and Slovakia and in July in the Ukraine. Adults nonparasitic. However, rare cases of ectoparasitism have been reported in Jelešná Brook, Slovakia and the Prut River, Ukraine. Adults are preyed upon by *Esox lucius*. Spawning occurs in late April – early May in the Ukraine. Fecundity, 1,950–7,106 eggs/female.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 61):** Baltic Sea Basin – Vistula River Basin: Jeziorka, Skawa, and Wilga rivers and Rudawa Brook, Poland; Neman River Basin: Berezyna, Isloch, and Peretut’ rivers, Belarus; Black Sea Basin – Dnepr River Basin: Iput, Ratomka, Svisloch’, and Volma rivers, Belarus and Desna, Dnepr, Goryn, Irpin’, Perya, Sozh, Teterev, and Uzh rivers, Ukraine; Don River Basin: Don River and Illovya River Basin, Russian Federation and Donets, Kharkiv, and Lopam rivers, Ukraine; Donstr River Basin: Strwiąż River, Poland and Donest River, Moldova river; Danube River Basin: Drava and Mur rivers, Austria and Argeș, Bratia, and Republic of Moldova rivers and Suceava Brook, Romania and Biela Orava, Danube, Hron, Ipel’, Rudava, and Turiec rivers, Hraničný Kriváň, Jelešná, and Mutnianka brooks, Slovakia and Sava River, Slovenia and Prut and Siret rivers, Ukraine; Kuban’ River Basin: Il’ River, Russian Federation and rivers west of the Caucasus in the Russian Federation and Georgia flowing directly into the Black Sea; Caspian Sea Basin – Volga River Basin: Sura and Elan’–Kadada rivers, Russian Federation; Adriatic Sea Basin – Lake Ohrid, The former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia; Beli Drim River Basin: Istočka River, Bistrica and Rastavički brooks, Serbia; Aegean Sea Basin – Vardar River, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

**Interest to Fisheries:** None


---

**Eudontomyzon morii** (Berg 1931)

**Synonyms:** Lampetra morii Berg 1931: 97, pl. V, fig. 1 [four syntypes: adults, 153–165 mm TL, ZISP 23145; one of these measuring 171 mm TL, longer than the reported range given in Berg (1931), CMNFI 1986–757; type locality: upper Yalu River, near Ko–sui–in, approx. 40°42’N 128°7’E, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea]

**FAO Names:** En — Korean Lamprey (Manchurian Lamprey, the original common name given by Berg (1931), no longer reflects common usage for the region’s name); Fr — Lamproie coréene

---

**Fig. 62.** Side view of *Eudontomyzon morii*, prespawning female, 196 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1980–930, upper Yalu River, near Changbai, Jilin Province, People’s Republic of China, July 1975. After Renaud (1982a).
Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: The ammocoetes have not been studied. Metamorphosing ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 153–290 mm TL. Body wet weight of individuals 172.5–211.5 mm TL, 6.3–10.3 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on four specimens measuring 171–211.5 mm TL): prebranchial length, 11.7–13.0; branchial length, 8.7–10.2; trunk length, 47.0–47.5; tail length, 29.8–30.4; cloacal slit length, 1.2–1.7; eye length, 1.2–1.7; disc length, 6.1–7.2; prenostril length, 6.7–7.5; snout length, 7.6–8.7; postocular length, 2.8–3.1. Intestinal diameter, 3–4 mm. Trunk myomeres, 68–74. Dentition: Most labial teeth are villiform; supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 6–10 teeth, the lateralmost tooth on each side usually bicuspid, the internal ones unicuspid; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2 (75%), but also 1–1–1 (25%); 3 rows of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 3–5 unicuspid teeth; 1–2 rows of exolaterals; 1 row of posteriors; first (and only) row of posteriors, 19–24 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 13–19 unicuspid teeth, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 14–15 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 9, with wings made up of two tentacles on each side. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++ (50%), +++ (50%). Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral fimbriae, 95–100. Oral papillae, 16–22.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Adults parasitic on various fishes (Sarcocheilichthys soldatovi, Rhynchocypris percnurus, Pseudogobio esocinus, Carassius auratus, Barbatula toni, Cobitis taenia). Fecundity, 14,000–20,000 eggs/female.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 64): Upper Yalu River Basin: Yalu River, People’s Republic of China and Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Interest to Fisheries: None

References: Berg (1931), Gill et al. (2003), Khidir and Renaud (2003), Ma and Yu (1959), Renaud (1982a), Vladykov and Kott (1979c)
### Genus *Ichthyomyzon* Girard 1858

**Synonyms:** *Ichthyomyzon* Girard 1858: 381 [original description; type species: *Petromyzon argenteus* Kirtland 1838 (by subsequent designation Jordan 1882) = *Ichthyomyzon bdellium* (Jordan 1885)]. *Scolecosoma* Girard, 1858: 384 (based on unidentified ammocoetes of *Ichthyomyzon*); *Reighardina* Creaser and Hubbs 1922: 4 (type species: *Ichthyomyzon fossor* Reighard and Cummins, 1916 by subsequent designation)

This genus was revised by Hubbs and Trautman (1937) and comprises six species (three parasitic and three nonparasitic) restricted to fresh waters in Canada and the USA. The main diagnostic feature is the presence of a single indented dorsal fin consisting of a lower anterior lobe and a higher posterior lobe. Supraoral lamina a single, usually multisicuspid tooth. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion and completely covering all fields of the oral disc. Transverse lingual lamina varies from straight to strongly w–shaped but with the median cusp never enlarged. Velar tentacles are smooth and a median tentacle is absent. According to Hubbs and Trautman (1937), the six species are arranged as pairs, each containing a parasitic species and a nonparasitic derivative, respectively, as follows: *Ichthyomyzon bdellium* – *I. greeleyi*; *I. castaneus* – *I. gagei*; *I. unicuspis* – *I. fossor*. The revisionary work of Hubbs and Trautman (1937) dealt only with the adults. Lanteigne (1981) conducted a comprehensive morphological study of the larvae of the six species. Hubbs and Trautman (1937) suggested that *Ichthyomyzon* was the nearest relative of *Petromyzon* and the cladistic analysis by Gill et al. (2003) corroborates their sister group relationship. The type species is *Ichthyomyzon bdellium* (Jordan, 1885).

### *Ichthyomyzon bdellium* (Jordan 1885)

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon bdellium* Jordan 1885: 792 [Replacement name for *Petromyzon argenteus* Kirtland 1838, a name preoccupied by Bloch 1795, a synonym of *Lampetra fluviatilis* (Linnaeus 1758)]. According to Hubbs and Trautman (1937), Kirtland’s type for *P. argenteus*, measuring 279 mm TL, has been lost; type locality: Big Miami (probably Great Miami River), Ohio River Basin, Ohio, USA

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Hubbs and Trautman (1937) suggested that one adult specimen from the lower part of the Scioto River, Ohio River Basin, Ohio, might be a hybrid between *I. bdellium* and *I. unicuspis*.

**FAO Names:** En — Ohio Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de l’Ohio

![Image 65](image65.png)

**Diagnostic Features:**
- **Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, 169 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 35 specimens measuring 110–169 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.7–8.2; branchial length, 8.8–11.8; trunk length, 53.0–62.6; tail length, 22.7–30.0. Trunk myomeres, 55–59. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (69% of specimens) or +++ (31%); subocular, – (6%), + (6%) or ++ (89%); upper branchial, +++ (100%); caudal fin, ++ (86%) or +++ (14%). Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 162 mm TL. Caudal fin shape, rounded.
- **Metamorphosing Ammocoetes:** 137 mm TL.
- **Adults:** 117–279 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 51 specimens measuring 125–259 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.4–14.0; branchial length, 7.6–10.6 [as high as 10.7 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; trunk length, 47.3–54.3; tail length, 25.1–31.2 [as low as 21.4 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; eye length, 1.1–1.8 [as low as 0.6 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; disc length, 6.9–9.5 [as low as 6.2 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in ten spawning males measuring 117–247 mm TL, 8.7–16.0. Trunk myomeres, 53–62. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2–3 teeth (if 3, the median one shortest); infraoral lamina, 5–11 teeth; typically 4 endolateral teeth on each side, but 5 teeth also occur; 7–10, mode...
of 8, bicuspid endolaterals in total, the other endolaterals, if any, unicuspid; 3–4 rows of anterials, usually 3; first row of anterials, 3 teeth, all unicuspid; 4–8 rows of exolaterals on each side, usually 6; 2 rows of posterials; first row of posterials, 8–9, all unicuspid; transverse lingual lamina moderately to strongly w–shaped, with numerous cusps; longitudinal lingual laminae, number of teeth unrecorded. Velar tentacles, 2–3, smooth. Body coloration (live), slate gray dorsal aspect and silvery gray lateral and ventral aspects. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented, although they may be unpigmented in recently transformed adults. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++++. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae, 103–144. Oral papillae, 20–32.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Ammocoetes and spawning adults inhabit brooks and small rivers, while feeding adults inhabit medium–sized to large rivers. Adults are parasitic on fishes (introduced *Cyprinus carpio* and native *Moxostoma carinatum*, *M. erythrum*, *Sander vitreus*).

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 67):** USA: Wabash River Basin, Illinois and Indiana; Ohio River Basin, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and West Virginia; Tennessee–Cumberland River Basin, Alabama, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

**Interest to Fisheries:** None

**References:** Daniels et al. (2006), Hubbs and Trautman (1937), Jordan (1885), Khidir and Renaud (2003), Kirtland (1838, 1840), Kott et al. (1988), Lanteigne (1981), Vladykov and Kott (1976d)
**Ichthyomyzon castaneus** Girard 1858

**Synonyms:** *Ichthyomyzon castaneus* Girard 1858: 381 [holotype: male, 248 mm TL, USNM 979; type locality: Galena, Minnesota, USA, but Hubbs and Trautman (1937) believe the state to be Illinois rather than Minnesota]; *Ichthyomyzon hirudo* Girard, 1858: 382 (holotype: unsexed adult, 125 mm TL, USNM 980; type locality: Arkansas River, Fort Smith, Arkansas, USA)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Hubbs and Trautman (1937) suggested that one adult specimen from Green Bay, near Gladstone, Lake Michigan Basin, might be a hybrid between *I. castaneus* and *I. unicuspis* and Starrett et al. (1960) suggested that an adult specimen from the Mississippi River, at Moline, Illinois might be a hybrid between *I. castaneus* and *I. unicuspis*.

**FAO Names:** En — Chestnut Lamprey, Western Lamprey (The latter name was proposed by Hubbs and Trautman (1937), but it was rejected by Chute et al. (1948) in favor of the former name.); Fr — Lamproie brune

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 165 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 22 specimens measuring 75–165 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.4–8.3; branchial length, 8.9–12.4; trunk length, 52.0–56.6; tail length, 25.0–30.3. Trunk myomeres, 50–56. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (50% of specimens) or +++ (50%); subocular, + (4%), ++ (77%) or +++ (18%); upper branchial, +++ (100%); caudal fin, ++ (96%) or +++ (4%). Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 94 mm TL. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 94–165 mm TL. Adults: 85–363 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 36 specimens measuring 89–261 mm TL): prebranchial length, 11.5–15.5; branchial length, 8.4–10.3 [as high as 11.4 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937) and a range of 7.3–12.6 according to Starrett et al. (1960)]; trunk length, 44.4–52.9; tail length, 23.9–34.4; eye length, 0.8–2.4; disc length, 8.5–11.6 [as low as 5.4 according to Starrett et al. (1960) and 6.3 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in a spawning male 183 mm TL, 5.3. Trunk myomeres, 49–56 [as high as 58 according to Starrett et al. (1960)]. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 1–4 teeth (as high as 5 according to Starrett et al. (1960)), usually 2–3; infraoral lamina, 6–11 teeth [as high as 13 according to Starrett et al. (1960)]; typically 4 endolateral teeth on each side, but 5 teeth also occur; 1–8, mode of 6, bicuspid endolaterals in total, the other endolaterals, if any, unicuspids; 2–4 rows of anterials [as high as 5 according to Starrett et al. (1960)], usually 4; first row of anterials, 3 teeth; 4–9 rows of exolaterals on each side [as high as 10 according to Starrett et al. (1960)], usually 6–7; 2–3 rows of posterials; first row of posterials, 8–11 usually unicuspids, but one lateralmost may be bicuspid; crest of transverse lingual lamina variable, linear or weakly w–shaped to rarely strongly w–shaped, with numerous cusps, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae number of teeth unrecorded. Additionally, one accessory tooth is occasionally developed inside the ring formed by the supraoral and infraoral laminae and the endolateral teeth. Velar tentacles, 2, smooth. Body coloration (preserved) in adults grading from darker on the upper surface to paler on the lower surface; lateral aspects sometimes mottled; spent adults blue–black.

**Fig. 68. Side view of *Ichthyomyzon castaneus*. After a photograph by William Pflieger [adult].**

**Fig. 69. Oral disc of *Ichthyomyzon castaneus*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [167 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1996–19, Sac River, Missouri, USA, 20–23 May 1951].**

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Ammocoetes more commonly found in firm, relatively stable, sand–silt substrate, in areas with current. Adults occur in still to swift water, clear to brown–tinged, over rocky and weedy substrates, to a maximum depth of 20 m. The usual habitat is large to medium–sized rivers with summer flows 0.8–31 m³/s and summer water temperatures 15.5–22 °C. It can also occur in small to large lakes. Generally associated with warmer water habitats and tolerant of variation in terms of discharge, water temperature, and substrate. Spawning adults only found in streams. Metamorphosis occurs in October, in Michigan. Adults parasitic on fishes (introduced *Cyprinus carpio* and native *Catostomus commersonii*, *Ictiobus* sp., *Moxostoma* sp., *Esox lucius*, *Salvelinus fontinalis*). Reported scavenging on *Catostomus* sp. In Manitoba, spawning behavior has been observed on 11–12 June at a water temperature of 16.5 °C and current velocity about 1 m/s. In Michigan, the spawning period is from 28 May to 25 June, at water temperatures between 15.6–22.2 °C, with peak spawning activity in early June. Nests (up to 6.2 m X 1 m X 0.05 m) are built with stones 3.5–5 cm in diameter in streams having 6.5–43 m width, 38–90 cm depth, and 1.1–54 m³/s flow. Up to four spawning lampreys have been found in a nest in Michigan and about 50 in Manitoba. Eggs are elliptical with long axis 0.64 mm and short axis 0.56 mm on average. Eggs are preyed upon by *Luxilus cornutus*. There are reported occurrences in Michigan of communal spawning of Chestnut Lamprey with Sea Lamprey (Pine, Platte, and Muskegon rivers) and of Chestnut Lamprey with Sea Lamprey and American Brook Lamprey (Betsie River).

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 70):** Canada and USA: Qu’Appelle River, Saskatchewan; lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg, Assiniboine, Rat, and Red rivers, Manitoba; Lake of the Woods, Chippewa, Mad, and St. Lawrence rivers, Ontario; Brewery Creek and St. Lawrence River, Québec; Red River of the North, North Dakota and Minnesota; Lake Michigan Basin, Wisconsin, Michigan (Betsie, Pine, Platte, and Muskegon rivers) and Indiana; Lake Huron Basin, Michigan; Mississippi River Basin, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Kansas, Missouri (Sac River), Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas (Arkansas River), Mississippi, and Louisiana; Trinity River Basin, Texas; Sabine River Basin, Texas; Bogue Chitto River Basin, Louisiana; Pearl River Basin, Mississippi; Mobile River Basin, Mississippi and Alabama; Alabama River Basin, Georgia.

**Interest to Fisheries:** In the Laurentian Great Lakes Basin, it has presumably been negatively affected by control measures directed towards *Petromyzon marinus*, except for the chemosterilization of males which affects only the latter species (see that particular species’ account).

**Ichthyomyzon fossor** Reighard and Cummins 1916

**Synonyms:** *Ichthyomyzon fossor* Reighard and Cummins 1916: 1–3, 5 (table), pl. 1, fig. 1, pl. 2, figs. 1–2 (holotype: male, 121 mm TL, UMMZ 107045, formerly UMMZ 48377; type locality: Mill Creek, Huron River Basin, Lake Erie Basin, west of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., Michigan, USA)

**FAO Names:** En — Northern Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie du nord, lamproie de ruisseau septentrionale

---

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained should be at least 182 mm TL judging by the size of the metamorphosing ammocoetes. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 73 specimens measuring 68–167 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.3–9.6; branchial length, 9.9–13.4; trunk length, 48.3–55.6; tail length, 24.0–31.9. Trunk myomeres, 48–53. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (77% of specimens) or +++ (23%); subocular, + (22), ++ (74%) or +++ (4%); upper branchial, ++ (8%) or +++ (92%); lower branchial – (100%); caudal fin, + (30%), ++ (67%) or +++ (3%). Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 84–182 mm TL. Adults: 86–166 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 59 specimens measuring 98–158 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.4–9.9; branchial length, 8.7–11.3 [as high as 11.9 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; trunk length, 46.7–54.6; tail length, 27.7–33.7; eye length, 1.1–2.0 [as low as 1.0 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; disc length, 4.0–6.4 [as low as 3.6 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 25 spawning males measuring 99–149.5 mm TL, 6.7–21.7. Trunk myomeres, 47–58. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 1–4 unicuspid teeth, usually 2; infraoral lamina, 6–11 teeth, usually unicuspid but one may be bicuspid; 4 endolateral teeth on each side; 0–1, strong mode of 0, bicuspid endolaterals in total, the other endolaterals unicuspid; 1–3 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3 unicuspid teeth; 1–5 rows of exolaterals on each side, usually 3–4; 2–3 rows of posterials; first row of posterials, 10–11 unicuspid teeth; crest of transverse lingual lamina strongly v-shaped and with either indistinct or about 20 small cusps, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae with 17 cusps each. Marginal membrane vestigial. A small gular pouch is present in both males and females. Velar tentacles, 1–2, smooth. Body coloration (preserved) in adults darker (grayish brown) on the dorsal and upper lateral aspects and lighter (pale gray or silvery white) on the lower lateral and ventral aspects, giving a distinctly bicolored appearance. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++ or +++. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Generally associated with warmwater habitats and tolerant of variation in terms of discharge, water temperature, and substrate. Mainly inhabits warmwater, isolated segments of moderate–sized to large streams with summer flows 0.03–31 m³/s, summer water temperatures 14–25.6 °C, and predominant substrates being either sand or sand with gravel.

Metamorphosis occurs in late August to September, in Michigan and extends to early October in Québec. Adults nonparasitic. Adults live less than 6 months. In Michigan, the spawning period is from 13 May to 6 July, at water temperatures...
between 12.8–23.3 °C, with peak spawning activity in late May to mid–June. In Québec, spawning occurs in May, at water temperatures between 12.8–17.2 °C, peaking at temperatures between 13.3–15.6 °C. Nests are usually in the open and are poorly defined, but have also been found downstream of large stones 18–36 cm in diameter, or on a patch of gravel downstream of a submerged log. The nests are found in streams having 3.5–8 m width, 10–61 cm depth, and 0.1–0.6 m³/s flow. Up to 13 spawning lampreys have been found in a nest. There are reported occurrences in Michigan of communal spawning of Northern Brook Lamprey with Silver Lamprey (Pine River), and of Northern Brook Lamprey with Sea Lamprey (Devils River). Fecundity, 1,200 eggs/female. During spawning, adults preyed upon by *Ambloplites rupestris*.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 73):** Canada and USA: Lake Winnipeg Basin, Manitoba; Lake Superior Basin, Ontario, Michigan, and Wisconsin; Lake Michigan Basin, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin; Lake Huron Basin, Ontario and Michigan (Devils and Pine rivers); Lake Erie Basin, Ontario, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania; Mississippi River Basin, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin; Gatineau River and St. Lawrence River Basin, Québec.

**Interest to Fisheries:** In the Laurentian Great Lakes Basin, it has been negatively affected by control measures directed towards *Petromyzon marinus*, except for the chemosterilization of males, which affects only the latter species (see that particular species’ account) (Schuldt and Goold, 1980). Vladykov (1949) reported that in the province of Québec, Canada, fishermen use ammocoetes as bait for sportfishes.


---

**Ichthyomyzon gagei** Hubbs and Trautman 1937

**Synonyms:** *Ichthyomyzon gagei* Hubbs and Trautman 1937: 80, 82–86, pl. I, fig. E, pl. II, fig. F (holotype: male in spawning condition, 103 mm TL, UMMZ 107042; type locality: brook, 0.4 km south of Dry Prong, Grant Parish, Louisiana, USA; presumably a secondary tributary to Little River, Red River Basin, Louisiana)

**FAO Names:** En — Southern Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau méridionale

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 150 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 95 specimens measuring 56–150 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.9–9.3; branchial length, 10.1–13.8; trunk length, 50.5–57.7; tail length, 24.2–31.2. Trunk myomeres, 49–56, with a strong mode of 52. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (93% of specimens) or +++ (7%); subocular, − (19%), + (70%) or ++ (12%); upper branchial, +++ (100%); caudal fin, + (45%) or ++ (55%). Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 122 mm TL. Caudal fin shape unrecorded.

**Metamorphosing Ammocoetes:** lengths unrecorded.
Adults: 86–129 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 35 specimens measuring 86–129 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.3–11.2; branchial length, 8.3–11.1; trunk length, 47.0–56.0; tail length, 25.6–33.3; eye length, 1.3–2.1 [as low as 1.1 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; disc length, 3.9–6.5 [as low as 3.8 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in six spawning males measuring 92–111 mm TL, 22.7–33.3. Trunk myomeres, 50–56, with a strong mode at 53. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2–4 teeth, usually 2; infraoral lamina, 5–10 unicuspid teeth, usually 8–9; 4–5 endolaterals on each side; 0–8 bicuspid endolaterals in total, the other endolaterals, unicuspid; 3–4 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3 unicuspid teeth; 3–4 rows of endolaterals on each side; 2 rows of posterials; first row of posterials, 9 unicuspid teeth; crest of transverse lingual lamina linear to weakly w–shaped, with no apparent cusps; longitudinal lingual laminae each with undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacle number unrecorded. Body coloration (preserved) distinctly bicolored, with the dorsal aspect dark and the ventral aspect light. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Inhabits creeks and small rivers. Adults nonparasitic. Average fecundities varied from 713–2,448 eggs/female among 19 localities across the distributional range.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 76):** USA; Missouri River Basin, Missouri; Lower Mississippi River Basin, Mississippi; Arkansas–Red–White River Basin, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma; Tennessee–Cumberland River Basin, Alabama, Kentucky [presumed extirpated according to the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (2004)], and Tennessee; Eastern Gulf of Mexico drainage, Alabama (Choctafaula Creek), Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi; Western Gulf of Mexico drainage, Louisiana and Texas.

**Interest to Fisheries:** None

Ichthyomyzon greeleyi Hubbs and Trautman 1937  

Synonyms: *Ichthyomyzon greeleyi* Hubbs and Trautman 1937: 93–98, pl. I, fig. F, pl. II, fig. H (holotype: female in spawning condition, 105 mm TL, UMMZ 92317; type locality: French Creek, a tributary to Allegheny River, 1.6 km east of Wattsburg, Erie County, Pennsylvania, USA); *Ichthyomyzon hubbsi* Raney 1952: 93–98, pl. I (holotype: adult male, 107.5 mm TL, CU 20324; type locality: Nottely River, Hiwassee River Basin, Tennessee River Basin, Union County, Georgia, USA)

FAO Names: En — Mountain Brook Lamprey, Allegheny Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau d’Allegheny

**Diagnostic Features:**

**Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, 160 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 26 specimens measuring 110–160 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.7–7.7; branchial length, 9.6–11.4; trunk length, 54.4–57.8; tail length, 24.5–29.2. Trunk myomeres, 55–60, with a strong mode of 58. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (100% of specimens); subocular, – (8%), + (73%) or ++ (19%); upper branchial, +++ (100%); caudal fin, ++ (96%) or +++ (4%). Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 153 mm TL. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 105–165 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 48 specimens measuring 110–165 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.1–11.5; branchial length, 8.9–10.6 [8.8–11.0 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; trunk length, 46.6–55.0; tail length, 25.7–33.9 [as low as 24.5 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; eye length, 0.9–1.8; disc length, 4.0–7.9. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 23 spawning males measuring 108–156 mm TL, 16.0–28.6. Trunk myomeres, 55–62, with strong modes of 57–59. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2–4 teeth, usually 3 (if 3, the median one shortest); infraoral lamina, 7–12 unicuspid teeth; 4–5 endolaterals on each side; 6–10 bicuspids endolaterals in total, the other endolaterals, if any, unicuspid; 4 rows of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 3 unicuspids teeth; 4–5 rows of exolaterals on each side; 2–3 rows of posteriors; first row of posteriors, 10–11 unicuspids teeth; crest of the transverse lingual lamina strongly w–shaped, with numerous cusps; longitudinal lingual laminae each with undetermined number of unicuspids teeth. Velar tentacles, 2–4, smooth. Body coloration (preserved), dark slate or brown color on the dorsal and lateral surfaces contrasting sharply with the light yellow ventral surface. Pineal region is light yellow. Spent individuals are dark blue on the back and sides and bluish white below. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 143 mm TL. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++++. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Found in large to small creeks. Adults nonparasitic. Spawning period at the end of May in Pennsylvania. Spawning occurs in watercourses with swift current and large stones. Adults preyed upon by *Necturus maculosus*. 

---

Fig. 77. Side view of *Ichthyomyzon greeleyi*, spawning male.

Fig. 78. Oral disc of *Ichthyomyzon greeleyi*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [128 mm TL, paratype, UMMZ 108111, Little Neshannock Creek, Ohio River Basin, Pennsylvania, USA, 26 May 1935, E.C. Raney].
Geographic Distribution (Fig. 79): USA: Ohio River Basin, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania (French and Little Neshannock creeks), New York, and West Virginia; Tennessee–Cumberland River Basin, Alabama, Georgia (Nottely River), Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Interest to Fisheries: None


Ichthyomyzon unicuspis Hubbs and Trautman 1937


Taxonomic Remarks: Hubbs and Trautman (1937) suggested that one adult specimen from Green Bay, near Gladstone, Lake Michigan Basin, might be a hybrid between *I. unicuspis* and *I. castaneus* and another from the Scioto River, Ohio River Basin, might be a hybrid between *I. unicuspis* and *I. bdellium*. Starrett et al. (1960) suggested that an adult specimen from the Mississippi River, at Moline, Illinois might be a hybrid between *I. castaneus* and *I. unicuspis*.

FAO Names: En — Silver lamprey, Northern Lamprey (The latter name was proposed by Hubbs and Trautman (1937), but it was rejected by Chute et al. (1948) in favor of the former name.); Fr — Lamproie argentée

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 138 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 72 specimens measuring 73–138 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.5–8.7; branchial length, 9.3–12.8; trunk length, 50.0–54.5; tail length, 26.2–32.6. Trunk myomeres, 48–54, with high modal counts of 51–53. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ (100% of specimens); subocular, – (36%) or + (64%); upper branchial, ++ (97%) or +++ (3%); caudal fin, + (25%) or +++ (75%). Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 91–155 mm TL.

Adults: 85–392 mm TL and wet weight 34–133 g for individuals 250–392 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 43 specimens measuring 85–270 mm TL): prebranchial length, 11.4–15.9; branchial length, 8.7–10.8 [8.0–12.2 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; trunk length, 42.4–49.2; tail length, 26.8–32.6 [25.8–35.0 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; eye length, 1.1–2.5 [as low as 0.7 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]; disc length, 7.9–12.4 [as low as 5.9 according to Hubbs and Trautman (1937)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in
seven spawning males measuring 185–279 mm TL, 5.3–7.7. Trunk myomeres, 47–55 [up to 57 according to Starrett et al. (1960)]. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 1–4 unicusp teeth, but usually 2; infraoral lamina, 5–12 unicusp teeth, usually 7–8; 3–6 endolaterals on each side, usually 4; endolateral formula, typically 1–1–1–1; 0–2 bicuspid endolaterals in total, usually 0, the other endolaterals unicuspid; 2–4 rows of anteriorests; first row of anteriorests, 1–3 unicusp teeth; 5–8 rows of exolaterals on each side [as few as 4 according to Starrett et al. (1960)]; 3 rows of posteriorests; first row of posteriorests, 8–10 unicusp teeth; crest of transverse lingual lamina moderately to strongly w-shaped, rarely weakly w-shaped, with about 35 short unicusp teeth, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 33-40 unicusp teeth. Well-developed marginal membrane. Velar tentacles, 2–6, smooth. Body coloration (live) a light yellow tan and (preserved) usually yellow, darker on the dorsal surface, gradually becoming lighter towards the ventral surface with mottling of these shades on the sides; occasionally grayish. Spent individuals blue-back. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented at least by 146 mm TL. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++++. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae, 81–108. Oral papillae, 15–25.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Generally associated with warmwater habitats and tolerant of variation in terms of discharge (summer flows 0.06–34 m$^3$/s), water temperature, and substrate. Occurs principally in the mainstems of large streams. It can also occur in small to large lakes. In Lake Huron, has been collected at depths between 26 and 31 m. Spawning adults are found in streams or lakes. Metamorphosis occurs in November, in Michigan. Duration of adult stage 12–13 months in Québec. Adults parasitic on fishes (*Acipenser fulvescens*, *A. oxyrinchus*, *Polyodon spathula*, *Catostomus catostomus*, *C. commersonii*, *Ictiobus niger*, *Amieturus nebulosus*, *Esox lucius*, *E. masquinongy*, *Coregonus clupeaformis*, *Salvelinus namaycush*, *Morone saxatilis*, *Ambloplites rupestris*). Up to 61 individuals were attached to a single *Acipenser fulvescens*. In Ohio, the spawning period is from 26 April to 2 June. In Michigan, the spawning period is from 23 May to 26 June, at water temperatures between 12.8–22.8 °C, with peak spawning activity in early June. Nests are built in streams having 3.5–30 m width, 10–61 cm depth, and 0.1–4.2 m$^3$/s flow. A nest can be 30–cm in diameter, open on the downstream side, 8–15 cm deep, and it can also contain sticks and twigs. Up to ten spawning lampreys have been found in a nest. Fecundity, 10,800 eggs/female. Spawning occurs during daylight hours and into dusk. There are reported occurrences in Michigan of communal spawning of Silver Lamprey with Northern Brook Lamprey (Pine River), of Silver Lamprey with Sea Lamprey (Carp Lake, Devils, East Au Gres, and Rifle rivers), and of Silver Lamprey, with Sea Lamprey, and American Brook Lamprey (Carp Lake River).

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 82):** Canada and USA: Hudson Bay Basin, Manitoba, Ontario, and Minnesota; Lake Superior Basin, Ontario, Michigan, and Wisconsin; Lake Michigan Basin, Illinois, Michigan (Carp Lake River), and Wisconsin; Lake Huron Basin, Ontario and Michigan (Devils, East Au Gres, Pine, and Rifle rivers); Lake St. Clair, Ontario; Detroit and St. Clair rivers, Michigan; Lake Erie Basin, Ontario, Michigan, New York, and Ohio (Swan Creek); Lake Ontario Basin, Ontario and New York; St. Lawrence River Basin, Ontario, Québec, New York, and Vermont; Ohio River Basin, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia; Missouri River Basin, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota; Upper Mississippi River Basin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin; Tennessee–Cumberland River Basin, Tennessee; Lower Mississippi River Basin, Mississippi.

![Fig. 81. Oral disc of *Ichthyomyzon unicuspis*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [male, 177.5 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1028, Manitoba, Canada].](https://example.com/fig81)

![Fig. 82. Geographic distribution of *Ichthyomyzon unicuspis*.](https://example.com/fig82)
Interest to Fisheries: In the Laurentian Great Lakes Basin, it has been negatively affected by control measures directed towards Petromyzon marinus, except for the chemosterilization of males, which affects only the latter species (see that particular species' account) (Schuldt and Goold 1980).


Genus Lampetra Bonnaterre 1788

Synonyms: Lampetra Bonnaterre 1788: li, 1

According to Rondelet (1558) the genus name is derived from the Latin lambendis petris, which means to suck rocks. This genus comprises seven species (2 parasitic and 5 nonparasitic). Three species are endemic to Eurasia (Lampetra fluviatilis, L. lanceolata, and L. planeri) and four are endemic to North America (L. aepyptera, L. ayresii, L. pacifica, and L. richardsoni). Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina with two teeth separated by a wide bridge. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion only in the anterior field. Exolaterals and posterials are absent except in Lampetra aepyptera where both are present and in L. lanceolata where one case of one posterial was recorded and L. richardsoni where one case of two posterials was recorded. Transverse lingual lamina u–shaped and with an enlarged median cusp. Velar tentacles with tubercles and a median tentacle is present. The type species is Lampetra fluviatilis (Linnaeus 1758). L. fluviatilis – L. planeri are said to constitute a paired species.

Lampetra aepyptera (Abbott 1860) Figs. 83–85

Synonyms: Ammocoetes aepyptera Abbott 1860: 327–328 [holotype: adult about 140 mm TL, ANSP 354; type locality: Ohio River, near Portland (not Portsmouth), Ohio, USA]; Lethenteron meridionale Vladykov, Kott, and Pharand–Coad 1975: 11–13, figs. 1–3 [holotype: adult male, 104 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1974–249; type locality: Blue Springs Creek, Tennessee River Basin, Tennessee, USA]

Taxonomic Remarks: The taxonomic position of this species is uncertain. It is provisionally placed in the genus Lampetra but further study may show that it should more appropriately be placed in the genus Okkelbergia Creaser and Hubbs 1922. It is the only species in the genus that possesses both exolateral and posterial teeth.

FAO Names: En — Least Brook Lamprey; Fr — Petite lamproie de ruisseau

Fig. 83. Side view of Lampetra aepyptera, spawning male.

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size recorded, 135 mm TL, but presumably can attain greater lengths as adults have been recorded to 178 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 44 specimens measuring 100–130 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.2 (estimated mean); branchial length, 10.8–15.4; trunk length, 50.3–56.2; tail length, 26.5–30.8. Trunk myomeres, 51–60. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, +; cheek, +++; subocular, –; lower prebranchial, ++; upper branchial, ++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, +; tongue precursor bulb, ++; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, ++. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 86–114 mm TL.
Adults: 75–178 mm TL and wet weight 0.9–3.0 g for individuals 82–120 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 166 specimens measuring 75–165 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.9–13.0; branchial length, 8.4–12.8; trunk length, 42.8–57.3; tail length, 23.4–35.0; eye length, 0.9–2.1; disc length, 2.8–6.7. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 71 spawning males measuring 102–146 mm TL, 23.1–60.0. Trunk myomeres, 53–62. Dentition: marginals, 63–67; supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 5–13 unicuspid teeth; 3–4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, 2–1–2 with variations, including 1–1–1, 2–3–2 and 2–3–3; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–5 unicuspid teeth (some teeth may even be found on the anterior field between the supraoral lamina and the first row of anterials; see fig. 84); 1–2 row of exolaterals on each side; 0–1 row of posterials; first row of posterials, when present, may be complete (13% of individuals) or incomplete (87%) with 1–22 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, undetermined number of unicuspid teeth, the median one of undetermined size; longitudinal lingual laminae each with an undetermined number of unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 3–5, with tubercles. Body coloration (live) of spawning individuals, dorsal aspect mottled gray–brown and ventral aspect light silvery–yellow. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation, darkly pigmented, but the extent of coverage has not been reported. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae, 12–20.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in streams and lakes. In Delaware, occurs in small streams with relatively slow current, usually 0.03 m/s or less, with water temperatures throughout the year 4.0–19.0 °C, dissolved oxygen 5.6–14.0 ppm, and pH 6.0–7.3. In Kentucky, occurs in small to medium size, clear creeks with sand–gravel substrate, either among debris (adults) or in mud banks with silt deposits (ammocoetes). Larval period varies from 2.5 to at least 5.4 yrs. Metamorphosis in early September and maybe even mid– to late August. In Maryland, metamorphosis has been reported as late as February. Adults nonparasitic. Fecundity, 572–3,816 eggs/female and relative fecundity, 373–687 eggs/g body weight. Egg diameter, 0.66–1.36 mm. In Delaware, spawning occurs at the end of March at a water temperature of 13.8 °C, dissolved oxygen 11.6 ppm, and pH 6.6. In Maryland, spawning occurs from 10 April to 10 May when the water reaches 16 °C. Both sexes participate in nest building. Stones up to 2.5 cm in diameter are moved using their oral disc. Nests are circular or oval, 15–22 cm in diameter and about 7 cm deep. They are built in streams 4.5–6.3 m wide and 15–41 cm deep with a substrate of sand and fine gravel. From 2–15 lampreys share a nest. Up to two males will spawn with one female. Average size at hatching, 3.4 mm TL. Modal length at age 1 is 27–28 mm TL and at age 2 is 50 mm TL. Most growth occurs during the spring season, intermediate growth in summer and fall and very little during winter. In Kentucky, mean length at age 1 is 39 mm TL, at age 2 is 65 mm TL, and at age 3 is 89 mm TL.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 85): USA: Delaware (Chesapeake Bay Basin), Maryland (Chesapeake Bay Basin, North, Patuxent, and Potomac river basins, Lake Chambers), Virginia (Rappahannock River Basin), North Carolina (Neuse River Basin), Kentucky, Ohio (Ohio River Basin), Tennessee (Tennessee River Basin), Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi (Tombigbee and Pascagoula river basins).

Interest to Fisheries: None

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon plumbeus* Ayres 1855: 2 (preoccupied by *P. Plumbeus* Shaw 1804: 263. Ayres’s holotype, an adult 121 mm TL, USNM 977, was destroyed; type locality: San Francisco Bay, California, USA); *?Ammocoetes cibarius* Girard 1858: 383–384 (holotype: metamorphosing ammocoete of 102 mm TL originally but with tail now missing, USNM 981, recatalogued as USNM 6176; type locality: Fort Steilacoom, Puget Sound, Washington); *Petromyzon ayresii* Günther 1870: 505 (Replacement name for *P. plumbeus* Ayres 1855. Neotype: female, 147 mm TL, CAS 25935; San Francisco Bay at Point Richmond, 35°54’35”N 122°23’12”W, Contra Costa County, California, USA)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** The specific identity of *Ammocoetes cibarius* Girard 1858 cannot be established with certainty and could be either *Lampetra ayresii* or *Entosphenus tridentatus* (see that species’ account). The population from Morrison Creek, British Columbia and named *Lampetra richardsoni var. marifuga* (meaning to shun the sea) by Beamish and Withler (1986) fed parasitically under laboratory conditions. Another interpretation would be therefore to call it a permanent freshwater resident population of *L. ayresii* as suggested by Renaud (1997) and as it is treated here.

**FAO Names:** En — River Lamprey (Although this is the official common name following Nelson et al. (2004), it should really be the Western River Lamprey, first proposed by Miller and Lea (1972). This would distinguish it from the European River Lamprey, *Lampetra fluviatilis*, a Linnaean species that certainly has a greater claim, by virtue of original usage, to being called River Lamprey than the latter does); Fr — Lamproie de rivière de l’ouest

**Diagnostic Features:**

**Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, 172 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 12 specimens measuring 102–172 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.9–8.3; branchial length, 9.6–11.8; trunk length, 51.7–55.0; tail length, 26.5–28.9. Trunk myomeres, 65–70. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (100% of specimens); subocular, – (100%); upper prebranchial – (100%); lower prebranchial, – (100%); upper branchial, ++ (100%); caudal fin, ++ (100%); tongue precursor bulb, – (100%); along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, – (100%). Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 114–311 mm TL. Body wet weight in individuals 175–230 mm TL, 20–24 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 68 specimens measuring 117–311 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.9–14.1; branchial length, 7.8–11.8; trunk length, 45.9–55.9; tail length, 24.4–29.5; eye length, 2.3–4.3; disc length, 4.7–7.2. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in two spawning males measuring 174–187 mm TL, 10.3–12.5. Trunk myomeres, 60–71. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 7–10 teeth, the lateralmost often bicuspid, the others unicuspid; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–2, very rarely 2–2–2; 3 rows of antericals; first row of antericals, 4 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; postericals absent; transverse lingual lamina, 12–17 unicuspid teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 9–12 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 3–5, with tubercles. Body

**Fig. 86. Side view of Lampetra ayresii, spawning male, 194 mm TL, Sacramento River, near Meridian, Sutter County, California, USA, 28–29 April 1954, E.D. Bailey. After Vladykov and Follett (1958).**

**Fig. 87. Oral disc of Lampetra ayresii. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [female, 147 mm TL, neotype, CAS 25935, San Francisco Bay at Point Richmond, California, USA, 7 Feb. 1954, W.I. Follett and B. Yacorzynski].**

**Habitat and Biology:** Anadromous. A permanent freshwater resident population is believed to occur in Morrison Creek, British Columbia. In marine waters, they inhabit surface waters. In fresh waters, they occur in lakes, rivers, and creeks. Adults predatory on fishes (*Clupea pallasii*, *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, *O. nerka*, *O. tshawytscha*). They leave rivers to enter the sea in late spring or early summer, where they actively feed throughout the summer, and return to the rivers in the fall. Adults at sea are preyed upon by *Ophiodon elongatus* and in the Columbia River estuary to a small extent by Brandt's cormorant. In the Sacramento River, California, the spawning season is thought to be from late April into May. Fecundity, 11,398–37,288 eggs/female. Egg diameter, 0.6–0.7 mm.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 88):** Pacific Ocean Basin in Canada and the USA: Morrison Creek and Skeena and Fraser rivers and Strait of Georgia (British Columbia); Taku River and Lynn Canal (Alaska); Duwamish River estuary, Puyallup River, Lake Washington, and Lake Sammamish (Washington); Yaquina Bay and Columbia River (Oregon); Mill Creek, Sacramento, Middle, and San Joaquin rivers, and San Pablo and San Francisco bays (California).

**Interest to Fisheries:** Beamish and Williams (1976) have estimated that this lamprey kills between 60 and 600 million young *Clupea pallasii* and *Oncorhynchus* spp. per year in the Strait of Georgia. They also kill young *Oncorhynchus kisutch* and *O. nerka* in rivers and lakes, respectively.

**References:** Ayres (1855a), Beamish (1980, 1985), Beamish and Williams (1976), Beamish and Withler (1986), Bean (1887), Couch and Lance (2004), Günther (1870), Khidir and Renaud (2003), Kott et al. (1988), Miller and Lea (1972), Roos et al. (1973), Vladykov and Follett (1958), Vladykov and Kott (1976d)

---

**Lampetra fluviatilis (Linnaeus 1758)**

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon fluviatilis* Linnaeus 1758: 230 (type locality: European rivers); *Petromyzon argenteus* Bloch 1795: 415, fig. 2; *Lampetra fluviatilis* Gray 1851: 140 (new combination); *Petromyzon Omali* Van Beneden 1857: 45, 551–554, figs. 1–3 [three syntypes: prespawning adults, 206.5–224.5 mm TL, MNHN 4161 (note, however, that the original description reports a length of only 160 mm); type locality: coastal waters of Belgium]; *Lampetra opisthodon* Gratianow 1907: 18 (type: adult, 287 mm TL; type locality: St. Petersburg, Russian Federation)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Berg (1931) suggested that this species consists of two races; a normal form (*forma typica*) and a smaller praecox form. The praecox form has been reported from the Neva River and Lake Ladoga in the Russian Federation and the Severn River in England (UK).

**FAO Names:** En — European River Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de rivière européenne, lamproie fluviatile européenne

**Local name:** Lampern (English); Flußneunauge (German)

---

**Fig. 88. Geographic distribution of Lampetra ayresii.**

**Fig. 89. Side view of Lampetra fluviatilis adult.**
**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 145 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 20 specimens measuring 100–145 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.8–9.3 [as low as 6.1 according to Potter and Osborne (1975)]; branchial length, 11.1–13.2; trunk length, 49.0–53.8; tail length, 25.2–28.5 [as high as 29.7 according to Potter and Osborne (1975)]. Trunk myomeres, 58–66. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (100% of specimens); subocular, ++ (80%) or +++ (20%); lower prebranchial, – (90%) or + or ++ (5% each); upper branchial, + (100%); caudal fin, – or + (combined total 100%). Dark pigment is found on the tongue precursor bulb and along its elastic ridge. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 80–130 mm TL.

Adults: 86–492 mm TL. Body wet weight in individuals 180–492 mm TL, 30–150 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 48 specimens measuring 108–386 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.0–12.9; branchial length, 7.9–10.8 [as high as 11.3 according to Zanandrea (1959b)]; trunk length, 46.2–54.3; tail length, 24.1–30.3; eye length, 1.4–3.1; disc length, 4.6–6.7 [as high as 7.0 according to Zanandrea (1959b)]. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 19 spawning males measuring 197–283 mm TL, 15.9–37.5. Trunk myomeres, 58–66. Dentition: marginals, 70–95; supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infroral lamina, 5–9 either all unicuspid teeth or, more frequently, the lateralmost are bicuspid and the internal ones unicuspid (Van Beneden (1857) reported 10 unicuspid teeth for Petromyzon Omalii but the three sytypes at the MNHN had either 5 or 7 teeth with the lateralmost in all cases bicuspid); 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–2, rarely 1–3–2 or 2–3–1; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–7 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; posterolateral teeth, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae straight or parentheses–shaped and each with 9–13 unicuspid teeth. Marginal membrane present. Velar tentacles, 4–10, with tubercles; no velar wings. Body coloration in recently metamorphosed individuals silvery; in preserved upstream migrants, bluish brown or lead gray on the dorsal aspect tending towards silvery on the lateral aspects and whitish or yellowish on ventral aspect. Early upstream spawning migrants returning from the sea have a bronze sheen. Dorsal fins of maturing individuals may have a purplish tint. Iris is golden yellow. Body coloration in the landlocked population in Lake Ladoga is completely black. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented or darkly pigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, – in young adults and +++ in spawning individuals. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 84–112. Oral papillae, 11–20.

**Habitat and Biology:** Anadromous, but some populations are permanent freshwater residents (e.g. Lough Neagh, Northern Ireland (UK); Loch Lomond, Scotland (UK); lakes Ladoga and Onega, Russian Federation). In fresh waters, in rivers, brooks, and lakes.

Adults predatory on marine fishes (Clupea harengus, Gadus morhua, Sprattus sprattus) from the end of July to October, as well as anadromous (Coregonus autumnalis) and freshwater fishes (Coregonus clupeoides). Trematodes and cestodes have been found in the intestine of prespawning adults at sea. Spawning migration upriver (Vistula and Neman rivers) begins near the end of September in the Baltic Sea Basin. In tributaries to the Gulf of Finland (Narva, Neva, and Luga rivers), upstream spawning migrations occur twice yearly; once in summer–fall and once in spring. In the upper Rhine River, the spawning season is February to April; in England (UK) from April to May; and in the lower Neva River, Russian Federation, from early June to early July. Fecundity is highly variable and ranges from 650 to 42,500 eggs/female; 10,000–16,000 eggs/female in Lake Ladoga. Communal spawning in the same redd by L. fluviatilis and L. planeri has been reported in the River Tywi Basin, Wales (UK), in April, at a water temperature of 11 °C. Both species participated in constructing a redd about 23 cm in diameter and 5–8 cm deep, consisting of pebbles, gravel and coarse sand.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 91):** Finland, Sweden (Dalälven and Lule Alv rivers); Ireland; Northern Ireland (UK) (Lough Neagh); Scotland (UK) (Loch Lomond); Wales (UK) (River Tywi Basin); England (UK) (Bela, Crake, Severn, Teme, Thames, and Trent rivers); The Netherlands (North Sea Basin: Maas River); Belgium (North Sea Basin: Schelde River Basin: Grande Nèthe River); France (Atlantic Sea Basin: Garonne and Dordogne rivers; Mediterranean Sea Basin: Rhône River); Denmark (North Sea Basin: Varde River); Germany (North Sea Basin: Elbe and Rhine rivers); Poland (Baltic Sea Basin: Vistula River); Russian Federation (Baltic Sea Basin: Neman (shared with Lithuania), Narva (shared with Estonia), Luga,
Lemenka, and Neva rivers, lakes Ladoga and Onega; Czech Republic (Elbe River Basin: brook in the Vltava River Basin); Italy (Mediterranean Sea Basin: Arno and Tiber rivers, Gulf of Gaeta); Portugal.

**Interest to Fisheries:** Fisheries exist in England (UK), Finland, France, and the Russian Federation. In the 19th century, up to 450,000 adults yearly were used by the English fishing fleet as bait in the fisheries for *Gadus morhua* and *Psetta maxima*. In Finland, the catch in 1983 was 2.3–2.4 million individuals (about 100 t) for a value of $800,000 US. There are reports of intoxication through eating this species (Halstead 1967). I have eaten several meals of adults of *L. fluviatilis* without any ill effect. These were collected from the Neva River, Russian Federation during the month of October 1993 and 2009. The animals were de–slimed, their heads and branchial regions removed, the rest of the body covered in sunflower flour, and cooked in sunflower oil.


---

**Lampetra lanceolata** Kux and Steiner 1972

**Fig. 92–94**

**Synonyms:** *Lampetra lanceolata* Kux and Steiner 1972: 377–381, figs. 1–3, 6, 10 (holotype: adult male, 137 mm TL, LMB 2077/2; type locality: 200 m upstream of the mouth of the Iyidere River, Trabzon, Turkey)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** In the original description of this species, Kux and Steiner (1972) measured in *L. lanceolata* two new morphological characters; the distance between the end of notochord and the tip of the caudal fin and the depth of the caudal fin, which they respectively compared with *Lampetra planeri* and *Eudontomyzon mariae*, and claimed that they were diagnostic. The taxonomic usefulness of these characters is difficult to evaluate because they have not been used in other lampreys. Other standard morphometrics such as the disc and tail lengths were not measured. A redescriptions of *L. lanceolata* is needed. For the purposes of this catalogue, I have supplemented below the incomplete original description with my observations of four topotypic specimens; three ammocoetes, 84–143 mm TL (CMNFI 1986–914) and one adult, 124 mm TL (CMNFI 1986–913, a paratype).

**FAO Names:** En — Turkish Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau turque

**Fig. 92. Side view of Lampetra lanceolata. After a photograph by Brian W. Coad [spawning female, 124 mm TL, paratype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–913, mouth of Iyidere River, Trabzon, Turkey, 20 April 1969, H.M. Steiner].**

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 143 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on three specimens measuring 84–143 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.3–8.3; branchial length, 11.5–13.1; trunk length, 50.6–52.8; tail length, 25.9–28.0. Trunk myomeres, 55–62. Body coloration (preserved), dorsal and upper lateral aspects brownish, lower lateral and ventral aspects lighter. Pigmentation: upper lip, – or +; between upper lip and cheek, +++;

---
cheek, –; subocular, –; upper prebranchial, –; lower prebranchial, –; upper branchial, + or ++; lower branchial, –; ventral branchial, –; lower lip, –; caudal fin, +; predorsal, +++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, ++. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 115–140.5 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on the holotype and two paratypes measuring 115–137 mm TL or on a single paratype 124 mm TL; if the latter case then a single value is given): prebranchial length, 11.1–11.7; branchial length, 10.2–10.9; trunk length, 46.7–51.6; tail length, 29.0; eye length, 2.0–2.3; disc length, 5.2. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in spawning males, undetermined. Trunk myomeres, 58–64. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 5–6 unicuspid teeth; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 9 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; posteriors absent except for one very small cusp on the right side; transverse lingual lamina, one low but wide–based median cusp with no flanking lateral teeth; longitudinal lingual laminae condition undetermined. Velar tentacles, 5 with tubercles. The median tentacle is shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration in mature individuals (preserved), dorsal and upper lateral aspects grayish brown, lower lateral and ventral aspects yellowish. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, –. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 124 (estimate based on number counted on right side times two because left side damaged). Oral papillae, about 23 (estimate based on number counted on right side times two because left side damaged).

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. The Iyidere River, Turkey is 5 m above sea level. Ammocoetes are found in a mixture of coarse sand and organic detritus near the river banks overgrown by riparian vegetation. Adults nonparasitic. Spawning was observed over a rocky substrate on 20 April at 200 m upstream of the mouth of the Iyidere River, Turkey. The water depth was 0.3 m and the stream width was 1.5 m.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 94): Turkey: Iyidere River.

Interest to Fisheries: None

References: Kux and Steiner (1972), Vladykov and Kott (1979c)
**Lampetra pacifica** Vladykov 1973

**Figs. 95–97**

**Synonyms:** *Lampetra pacifica* Vladykov 1973: 206, figs. 1–2, 5 [holotype: male, 175 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1971–769; type locality: Clackamas River, Columbia River Basin, near Estacada, Oregon, USA]

**Taxonomic Remarks:** This species may be a synonym of *L. richardsoni*, the lower number of trunk myomeres in the former reflecting a latitudinal cline. This requires further investigation.

**FAO Names:** En — Pacific Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau du Pacifique

**Fig. 95.** Side view of *Lampetra pacifica*, prespawning male, 173 mm TL (originally 175 mm TL), holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1971–769, Clackamas River, Columbia River Basin, near Estacada, Oregon, USA, 9 April 1964, W.H. Staut. After Vladykov (1973).

**Fig. 96.** Oral disc of *Lampetra pacifica*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [prespawning male, 173 mm TL (originally 175 mm TL), holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1971–769, Clackamas River, Columbia River Basin, near Estacada, Oregon, USA, 9 April 1964, W.H. Staut].

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained should be at least 175 mm TL judging by the size of the adults, but the largest recorded 148 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on mean values of four samples totaling 41 specimens measuring 75–143 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.1–8.8; branchial length, 11.5–13.1; trunk length, 49.5–52.6; tail length, 27.5–28.2. Trunk myomeres, 52–57. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, + (80% of specimens); subocular, – (29%) or + (44%) but the ammocoete in fig. 8 of the original description shows +++; lower prebranchial, – (33%) or + (60%) but the ammocoete in fig. 8 of the original description shows +++; upper branchial, ++ (% not known); caudal fin, + (84%); tongue precursor bulb, – or + (both 47%) or ++ (7%). Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 110–160 mm TL.

Adults: 98–175 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 39 specimens measuring 98–173 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.9–12.8; branchial length, 8.9–11.3; trunk length, 44.7–53.5; tail length, 24.3–35.0; eye length, 1.4–3.0; disc length, 4.1–7.2. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in ten spawning males measuring 112–133 mm TL, 17.8–36.4. Trunk myomeres, 53–58. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 6–9 unicuspid teeth, usually 8; usually 3 endolaterals on each side, occasionally 2 on one side; endolateral formulae highly variable with the first two teeth 1–3 and the third 1–2; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 6 unicuspid teeth (in spawning specimens, the teeth in the anterior field may be lost); exolaterals absent; posteri orals absent; transverse lingual lamina, undetermined number of minute unicuspid teeth on either side of an enlarged median one; longitudinal lingual laminae cusps too small to count. Velar tentacles, 3–6, with tubercles. Body coloration (preserved), dark gray on dorsal and lateral aspects, whitish on ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, + (in prespawning individuals) or +++ (in spawning individuals). Fleshy tissues around the lingual laminae darkly pigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded. Oral fimbriae, 83 (holotype). Oral papillae number unrecorded.
**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater; creeks and rivers. Metamorphosis occurs in October in Oregon and California. Adults nonparasitic. Based on the dates of collection of spawning individuals in the original description, the spawning period probably occurs between mid–April and August in Oregon, while in California spawning probably occurs between the end of April and the beginning of May.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 97):** Oregon (Columbia River Basin: Clackamas and Willamette rivers and Crystal Springs Creek) and California [Sacramento River Basin: Friant–Kern Canal (artificially linked to the Sacramento River Basin), San Joaquin River, and Mill, Big Chico, and Putah creeks] (USA).

**Interest to Fisheries:** None


---

**Lampetra planeri** (Bloch 1784)  

**Synonyms:** *Petromyzon planeri* Bloch 1784: 47 (type locality: brooks of Thuringia, Germany); *Petromyzon niger* Lacepède 1802: 666–668, pl. 15, fig. 2; *Petromyzon bicolor* Shaw 1804: 263

**Taxonomic Remarks:** Rembiszewski (1968) reported on three adult hybrids between *L. planeri* and *Eudontomyzon mariae* in the Jeziorka River, Poland.

**FAO Names:** En — European Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau européenne, lamproie de Planer  

**Local name:** Bachneunauge (German)

**Figs. 98–100**

**Fig. 98. Side view of *Lampetra planeri*. After a photograph by Brian W. Coad [spawning female, 127 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–833, Židovka Brook, Elbe River Basin, Czech Republic].**

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 177 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 23 specimens measuring 123–177 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.0–8.2; branchial length, 9.0–11.6; trunk length, 50.3–55.2; tail length, 25.0–28.6. Trunk myomeres, 58–64. Body coloration, dorsal and upper lateral aspects brownish, lower lateral and ventral aspects lighter. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (100% of specimens); subocular, – (percentage not known); lower prebranchial, – (72%) or + or ++ (14% each); upper branchial, + (95%) or ++ (5%); caudal fin, – (98%) or + (2%). Additionally, the lower lip and the ventral branchial region are both unpigmented (–). Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, spade–like.  

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.  

Adults: 86–170 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 16 specimens measuring 106–133 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.9–12.6; branchial length, 7.5–9.9; trunk length, 44.4–53.3; tail length, 25.4–31.4; eye length, 2.3–2.9; disc length, 5.2–7.0. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in ten spawning males measuring 111–140 mm TL, 21.4–52.6. Trunk myomeres, 60–65. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspид teeth; infraoral lamina, 7–9 teeth, usually all unicuspид, but occasionally one lateralmost bicuspid; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral
formula, typically 2–3–2; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 9 unicusp teeth; exolaterals absent; posteriors absent; transverse lingual lamina, 9–13 unicusp teeth, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with about 9 unicusp teeth. Velar tentacles, 4–6, with tubercles. Body coloration (preserved), dorsal and lateral aspects grayish, ventral surface whitish, dorsal fins and caudal fin yellowish. Some specimens display a prominent dark blotch at the apex of the second dorsal fin. The iris is yellow. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, unpigmented except for spawning individuals in which it is "weakly peppered". Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater; in rivers and brooks. Larval life is 5+ to 6+ years, with the smaller individuals of the latter year class delaying metamorphosis by one year. Metamorphosis occurs in September in the Czech Republic. Duration of the life cycle is believed to last 6 years on average. Adults nonparasitic. Communal spawning in the same redd by *L. fluviatilis* and *L. planeri* has been reported in the River Tywi Basin, Wales (UK), in April, at a water temperature of 11 °C. Both species participated in constructing a redd about 23 cm in diameter and 5–8 cm deep, consisting of pebbles, gravel, and coarse sand. In the river Yeo, England (UK), peak spawning activity varies between 26 March and 24 April when water temperatures reach 10–11 °C. As the spawning season progresses, male:female ratios shift from 3.54:1 to 1.60:1. In the Czech Republic, both sexes participate in the redd construction in shady areas of streams that are 1–8 m in width and a few centimeters to 0.8 m in depth. Spawning occurs between 1 and 17 June at water currents 1–4 m/s and water temperatures 10–16 °C. Sexually mature adults have been observed burrowing in fine sand.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 100):** Sweden (Delaven River), England (UK) (Brue, Chess, Teme, and Yeo rivers), Wales (UK) (River Tywi Basin), France (Allier, Auzon, Loire, and Morge rivers), Germany, Czech Republic (Elbe River Basin (Zdobnice River, Běléc and Židovka brooks) and Morava River Basin), Poland (Odra River and Vistula River Basin: Jeziorka River), Romania, Russian Federation, Italy (Dese River), and Spain.

**Interest to Fisheries:** None

**Lampetra richardsoni** Vladykov and Follett 1965

Synonyms: *Lampetra richardsoni* Vladykov and Follett 1965: 142, figs. 3, 5 [holotype: male, 154 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1964–57; type locality: Smith Creek, Cultus Lake Basin, British Columbia, Canada]

FAO Names: En — Western Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau occidentale

**Fig. 101.** Side view of *Lampetra richardsoni* adult.

**Fig. 102.** Oral disc of *Lampetra richardsoni*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [prespawning male, 154 mm TL, holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1964–57, Smith Creek, Cultus Lake Basin, British Columbia, Canada, 30 May 1942, G.C. Carl].

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 175 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 72 specimens measuring 29–175 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.5–13.8; branchial length, 8.7–17.2; trunk length, 46.7–55.5; tail length, 20.2–28.0. Trunk myomeres, 57–65. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, + (4% of specimens) or ++ (87%) or +++ (9%); subocular, + (2%) or ++ (11%) or +++ (87%); lower prebranchial + (9%) or ++ (40%) or +++ (51%); upper branchial, + (9%) or ++ (21%) or +++ (70%); lower branchial, + (% not known); caudal fin, + (21%) or ++ (55%) or +++ (23%); tongue precursor bulb, – (71%) or + (24%) or ++ (6%). Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, rounded or spade–like. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 80–154 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 45 specimens measuring 101–154 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.4–14.0; branchial length, 8.3–10.8; trunk length, 44.7–53.1; tail length, 25.2–30.4; eye length, 2.0–2.7; disc length, 4.1–7.9. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 26 spawning males measuring 122–151 mm TL, 17.6–30.8. Trunk myomeres, 60–67. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 7–10, usually 7 unicuspid teeth; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 1–2–1 (15 cases), 2–2–1 (12), or 2–2–2 (10), and rarely 2–3–2 (5) and 2–3–1 (1); 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–6 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; posteri orals usually absent (However, one specimen in Vladykov (1973a: fig. 6) has one unicuspid tooth at either end of the posterior field); transverse lingual lamina, 5–11 unicuspid teeth, the median one enlarged or only the median enlarged tooth is present; longitudinal lingual laminae cusps too small to count. Velar tentacles, 5–6, with tubercles. Body coloration (preserved), dorsal and lateral aspects grayish, ventral surface whitish. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, ++++. Fleshy tissues around the lingual laminae unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded or spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 93. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater; in lakes, creeks, and rivers. Adults nonparasitic. Spawning period in early May in British Columbia as evidenced by spent females being collected on 8 May. Spawning occurs in redds and fertilized eggs collected on 8 May hatched in about 28 days at water temperatures between 10–12 °C. Eggs are greenish.
**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 103):** Canada (Holmes Creek, Smith Creek, and Millstone River, British Columbia) and USA (Washington Creek, North Creek, Evans Creek, Matthews Creek, Clover Creek, Yakima River, Chehalis River, Steel Lake and Ames Lake, Washington and creek tributary to Umpqua River, Oregon).

**Interest to Fisheries:** In the state of Washington, in the early 1900s, ammocoetes were sold at $1.50 to $1.75 US per dozen to use as bait for sportfishes (Schultz, 1930).

**References:** Carl (1953), Kott et al. (1988), Schultz (1930), Vladykov (1973a), Vladykov and Follett (1965), Vladykov and Kott (1976d, 1979c)

---

**Genus Lethenteron** Creaser and Hubbs 1922

**Synonyms:** Lethenteron Creaser and Hubbs 1922: 3 (proposed as a subgenus of Entosphenus)

This genus comprises seven species (one parasitic and six nonparasitic). Of the six nonparasitic species, two are endemic to North America (Lethenteron alaskense and L. appendix), three are endemic to Asia (L. kessleri, L. ninae, and L. reissneri), and one is endemic to Europe (L. zanandreai). The parasitic species, Lethenteron camtschaticum, is very widespread, occurring in Eurasia and North America. Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina with two teeth separated by a wide bridge, which occasionally bears 1–2 teeth in some species. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion only in the anterior field. Exolaterals absent or if present, only one or two per lateral field, not a complete row, except rarely in L. alaskense, L. reissneri, and L. zanandreai. A single row of posterials, rarely absent. Transverse lingual lamina u-shaped with a greatly enlarged median cusp. Velar tentacles with tubercles and a median tentacle is present. The type species is Petromyzon appendix DeKay 1842.

---

**Lethenteron alaskense** Vladykov and Kott 1978

**Synonyms:** Lethenteron alaskense Vladykov and Kott 1978: 7–9, figs. 1–3 [holotype: male, 164 mm TL, NMC (= CMNFI) 1976–614; type locality: West Creek, a tributary to Brooks Lake, Alaska]

**FAO Names:** En — Alaskan Brook Lamprey, Darktail Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau d’Alaska

---

Fig. 104. Side view of Lethenteron alaskense, spawning male, 164 mm TL, holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1976-614, West Creek, a tributary to Brooks Lake, Alaska, USA, 11 June 1964, W. Heard. After Vladykov and Kott (1978a).
**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: The ammocoetes have not been studied. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded. Adults: 122–188 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 68 specimens measuring 122–188 mm TL): prebranchial length, 9.3–14.9; branchial length, 8.7–11.6; trunk length, 45.4–53.5; tail length, 25.7–33.5; eye length, 1.7–3.2; disc length, 3.8–7.3. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in a 141 mm TL spawning male, 26.9. The shape of the second dorsal fin in spawning males is arch–like and in females triangular. Trunk myomeres, 66–72. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth (1 of 34 specimens had 2 additional small unicuspid teeth on the bridge); infraoral lamina, 6–11 teeth, the lateralmost one on each side unicuspid or bicuspid and the internal ones unicuspid; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, 2–2–2; 3 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3–5 unicuspid teeth; total number of anterials, 23–38 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent or one or two unicuspid exolaterals present in each lateral field (Note: The holotype of *L. alaskense* possesses one exolateral tooth in each lateral field.), exceptionally, one complete row of exolaterals on each side; single row of posterials, 17–24 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 9–15 unicuspid teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 6–13 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 5–7, with tubercles and with the single median tentacle shorter than the lateral tentacles immediately next to it. Body coloration (preserved) in mature adults is gray brown on the upper surface and flanks and whitish on the lower surface. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Gular region unpigmented (2 of 64 specimens had weak pigmentation). Second dorsal fin with a dark blotch near the apex (4 of 64 specimens did not have a blotch). Caudal fin pigmentation, + (17% of specimens), ++ (36%) or +++ (46%). Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae, 18.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater, in creeks and rivers. Adults nonparasitic. Spawning period between 11 June and 25 September in Naknek River Basin, Alaska. Fecundity, 2,188–3,477 eggs/female. Egg length, 0.9 mm.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 106):** West Creek and Brooks River, Naknek River Basin and Chatanika River, Yukon River Basin, Alaska (USA) and Martin River, Mackenzie River Basin, Northwest Territories (Canada).

**Interest to Fisheries:** None

Lethenteron appendix (DeKay 1842)

Figs. 107–109

Synonyms: ?Petromyzon lamottenii Lesueur 1827: 5–6, pl. 3 (type locality: Lamotte mine, Missouri, USA); Petromyzon appendix DeKay 1842: 381–382, pl. 64, fig. 211 (type locality: DeKay received material from Mr. Joseph Mauran of Providence, Rhode Island, but this does not necessarily indicate the place of origin of the material. DeKay also mentioned receiving material from the Hudson River and this is more likely the type locality); ?Lampetra wilderi Gage in Jordan and Evermann 1896: 13 (type locality: Cayuga Lake, New York, USA)

Taxonomic Remarks: This species' nomenclatural history is very complex and over the years authors have used a variety of names for it (see Creaser and Hubbs, 1922, Hubbs and Trautman, 1937, Chute et al., 1948, Bailey, 1980, Vladykov and Kott, 1982a, 1982b). The specific name used here reflects a stable use over the last 25 years or so.

FAO Names: En — American Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de l’est, lamproie de ruisseau américaine

Fig. 107. Side view of Lethenteron appendix. After a photograph by John Lyons [adult].

Fig. 108. Oral disc of Lethenteron appendix. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine.

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 240 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 19 specimens measuring 100–143 mm TL): prebranchial length, 5.0 (estimated mean); branchial length, 12.6–14.4; trunk length, 51.0–53.7; tail length, 27.7–31.6. Trunk myomeres, 63–71. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, +; cheek, ++; subocular, –; upper prebranchial, –; lower prebranchial, –; upper branchial, ++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, + or ++; tongue precursor bulb, ++; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, +. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade-like.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 154–181 mm TL. Adults: 103–217 (exceptionally, 260–354, see under Biology below) mm TL and wet weight 2.8–16.2 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 329 specimens measuring 103–217 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.4–13.7; branchial length, 9.0–11.9; trunk length, 46.7–53.5; tail length, 24.0–32.3; eye length, 1.2–2.6; disc length, 3.2–6.0. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in 44 spawning males measuring 146–214 mm TL, 4.5–16.7. Trunk myomeres, 64–74. Dentition: suproraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth, but occasionally a third small cusp is present on the bridge; infroraoral lamina, 6–10 unicuspid teeth; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2; 3 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–6 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals usually absent, but Kott (1974) reported on the presence of one or two exolaterals, on either or both lateral fields in 21% of specimens examined; single row of posterials with 20 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina u-shaped with 15 unicuspid teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 5–8 unicuspid teeth. Marginal membrane vestigial. A small gular pouch occurs in males. Velar tentacles, 5–9, with tubercles. Body coloration (preserved), uniformly slate brown on the dorsal aspect, progressively paler on the lateral aspects, and much paler on the ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented, at least the ventral ones. Gular region darkly pigmented. Second dorsal fin with a dark blotch near the apex (38% of individuals) or not (62%). Caudal fin pigmentation, + (44% of specimens), ++ (26%) or +++ (30%). Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae, 18–35.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Mainly associated with stable, high quality, coldwater habitats. Ammocoetes and adults are most abundant in clear, permanent, unpolluted, pool–riffle streams where sand–gravel substrates predominate and
summer flows are 0.3–4,400 m$^3$/s and summer water temperatures 14–22.5 °C. In Michigan, ammocoetes have been reported in lentic habitats up to 450 m from the presumed originating stream, at water depths 1–16 m, where substrates vary from sand–silt, with or without detritus, to gravel–rubble–sand. Spawning adults can be found in streams or lakes. Larval life lasts 4.5 yrs or more based on length–frequency analysis. Diet of ammocoetes is organic detritus, diatoms (11 genera), and desmids (one genus). Metamorphosis occurs between mid–August and October in Tennessee. Adults nonparasitic. Duration of adult life is about six months. However, three reports (Manion and Purvis, 1971, Vladykov and Kott, 1980a, Cochran, 1997) of seven adults measuring 260–354 mm TL, exceeding the maximum reported larval length of 240 mm TL, have been interpreted as an indication in this species of facultative feeding, either parasitically or perhaps on fish eggs or organic detritus, in the adult stage. Between metamorphosis and spawning it spends most of its time hidden under stones. In Michigan, the spawning period is from 20 April to 26 June, at water temperatures between 6.7–20.6 °C, with peak spawning activity in early May. In Québec, peak spawning activity occurs at a water temperature of 17 °C. In Tennessee, the spawning period is in March and in Delaware, it is from 28 March to 4 April, at water temperatures between 6.8–12.0 °C. Nests are built in streams with gravel and cobble substrates having 1.5–18 m width, 15–61 cm depth, and 0.1–5.2 m$^3$/s flow. A typical nest is 16 cm in diameter. Up to 14 spawning lampreys have been found in a nest. The sex ratio is usually 1:1 and there are no significant differences in the length and weight of spawning males and females. Fecundity, 1,327–5,185 eggs/female and relative fecundity, 274–531 eggs/g body weight. Egg diameter, 0.94–1.19 mm. Eggs are spherical, adhesive, and demersal with color from pale yellow to light green. Hatching occurs 2–3 weeks after fertilization. Average length at hatching, 2.6 mm TL. Mean length at age 1 is 38 mm TL. There are reported occurrences in Michigan of communal spawning of American Brook Lamprey with Sea Lamprey (Carp Lake, Pine, and Pentwater rivers), of American Brook Lamprey with Chestnut Lamprey and Sea Lamprey (Betsie River), and of American Brook Lamprey with Silver Lamprey and Sea Lamprey (Carp Lake).

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 109): Canada and USA: Lake Superior Basin, Michigan; Lake Michigan Basin, Michigan (Carp Lake, Betsie, Pine, and Pentwater rivers) and Indiana; Lake Huron Basin, Michigan; Lake Erie Basin, Ontario and Michigan; Lake Ontario Basin, Ontario and New York; Mississippi River Basin, Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama; St. Lawrence River Basin, Québec and New York; Atlantic Slope basins, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.

Interest to Fisheries: In the Laurentian Great Lakes Basin, it has been negatively affected by control measures directed towards Petromyzon marinus, except for the chemosterilization of males, which affects only the latter species (see that particular species’ account) (Schuldt and Goold, 1980). Vladykov (1949) reported that in the province of Québec, Canada, ammocoetes were at the time extensively sold at $0.50 to $1.00 Canadian per dozen as bait for sportfishes.


**Lethenteron camtschaticum** (Tilesius 1811)

**Synonyms:** Petromyzon marinus Camtschaticus Tilesius 1811: 240–246, pl. 9 (type locality: marine waters off Petropavlovsk Kamchatskiy, Kamchatka, Russian Federation); Petromyzon lumbricalis Pallas 1814: 69–70, pl. 10, fig. 1; Petromyzon fluviialis Richardson 1823: 705; Petromyzon Japonicus von Martens 1868: 3, pl. 1, fig. 2; Ammocoetes aureus Bean 1881: 159; Lampetra japonica septentrionalis Berg 1931: 100–102, pl. V, fig. 4 (10 syntypes: adults, 284–377 mm TL, ZISP 12159; type locality: Onega River at Podporozhye, Russian Federation)
Taxonomic Remarks: Berg (1931) recognized three subspecies, *japonica*, *septentrionalis*, and *kessleri* under what he called *Lampetra japonica*. The first two are treated here together under *Lethenteron camtschaticum*, while *Lethenteron kessleri* is recognized here as a distinct species (see that species’ account). Further study is required to determine whether the *japonica* and *septentrionalis* taxa represent distinct species. Additionally, Berg (1931) suggested that the subspecies *septentrionalis* consists of two races; a normal form (forma typica) and a smaller praecox form.

FAO Names: En — Arctic Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie arctique
Local names: Kawayatsume (Japanese); Nû–mug–û–shûk (Alaskan native language)

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, approximately 220 mm TL. Wet weight of individuals 7–180 mm TL, 0.1–6.9 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 400 specimens measuring 7–180 mm TL, with an average of 76 mm; however, because the sample included individuals that were so small, the ranges for body proportions are very wide and not strictly comparable with other species, and therefore, I have included in parentheses the average values; additionally, these data are taken from Kucheryavyi et al. (2007) and may include some larval *L. kessleri*): prebranchial length, 4.9–22.1 (8.4); branchial length, 7.0–43.0 (15.4); trunk length, 17.5–61.1 (46.8); tail length, 18.9–79.6 (31.7). Trunk myomere number unrecorded. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation of the various body regions unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: approximately 140–184 mm TL (The latter number represents an average length). Adults: 110–625 mm TL. Wet weight of individuals 145–350 mm TL, 3.2–8.7 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 63 specimens measuring 130–460 mm TL): prebranchial length, 9.4–14.6 [7.3–21.3 according to Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)]; branchial length, 7.8–11.1 [as high as 20.8 according to Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)]; trunk length, 46.5–55.7 [21.9–56.3 according to Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)]; tail length, 24.6–30.8; eye length, 0.7–3.7; disc length, 4.5–7.7. The intestinal diameter can reach up to 13 mm. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in six spawning males measuring 339–401 mm TL, 14.6–19.5. Trunk myomeres, 65–77 [Kucheryavyi et al. (2007) reported counts of 63–85 for 19 downstream migrants and 55–79 for 87 anadromous individuals from Utkholok River Basin, Kamchatka]. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid, rarely bicuspid, teeth; infraoral lamina, 6–10 teeth, usually 8 [as few as 5 according to Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)], the lateralmost tooth on either end usually bicuspid, the internal ones unicuspid; usually 3, rarely 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula typically 2–2–2 with variant formulae, 2–2–1, 2–2–2–2, 2–2–1–1; 3 rows of anteriales; first row of anteriales, 3 unicuspid teeth; total number of anteriales, 20–33 teeth [5–43 according to Kucheryavyi et al. (2007) and as low as 11 according to Iwata et al. (1985), which may be due to regional effects, but this requires further investigation]; exolaterals absent; single row of posterials, 12–28 teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 13–18 teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 10–14 teeth. Velar tentacles, 5–7, with tubercles and with the single median tentacle shorter than the lateral tentacles immediately next to it, and with dorsal velar wings on either side, each consisting of a single tentacle. Body coloration (live) of recently transformed adults brown on dorsal and lateral aspects and silvery on ventral aspect, while upstream spawning migrants have a yellowish olive dorsal aspect, becoming lighter on the lateral aspects, and dull yellowish on the ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Gular region unpigmented. Second dorsal fin with a dark blotch near the apex. Caudal fin pigmentation, + (29% of specimens), ++ (57%) or +++ (14%). Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 87–112. Oral papillae, 12–22.

Fig. 110. Side view of *Lethenteron camtschaticum* adult.

Fig. 111. Oral disc of *Lethenteron camtschaticum*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [female, 496 mm TL, Hokkaidō Island at Fukagawa, Japan, 11 Oct. 1948, S. Sato].
Habitat and Biology: Anadromous. The Great Slave Lake Basin population is believed to be a permanent freshwater resident population. In fresh waters, occurs in rivers and lakes. Ammocoetes occur along river banks in silty–muddy substrate where current is slight. Spawning occurs on pebble–sand substrate.

Larval period lasts four years. Age classes range in total length approximately as follows: 0+ up to 35 mm; 1+ 30–65 mm; 2+ 60–155 mm; 3+ 150–220 mm. They tend to disperse downstream as they age. Mean densities in the Hay River, Northwest Territories, have been estimated at 137 ammocoetes/m². Larvae feed mainly on organic detritus and algae. Ammocoetes are preyed upon by fishes (*Lota lota, Esox lucius*, and *Sander vitreus*). Metamorphosis begins in late summer (mid–August) and continues through the winter in Great Slave Lake Basin, Northwest Territories, Canada and recently metamorphosed adults enter the lake in May to July. Downstream movement of recently metamorphosed adults towards the sea begins in late May and ends in July in Kamchatka. Adults parasitic on various fishes in both fresh (*Catostomus catostomus, Coregonus artedi, C. clupeaformis, Salvelinus namaycush, Stenodus leucichthys*) and marine waters. The site of attachment is usually below the lateral line and anterior to the pelvic fins. Adults are preyed upon by fishes (*Esox lucius*) and birds (gulls). Spawning adults ascend rivers in Japan between October and January, while this occurs between the end of May and June in Utkholok River Basin, Kamchatka, and between the end of November and the end of April in the Yukon River, Alaska. The spawning migration distance up the Yukon River exceeds 1,600 km. Both sexes participate in the building of the oval–shaped redd. Spawning occurs in June in Utkholok River Basin, Kamchatka, from April to July in Japan and mid June – early July in Great Slave Lake Basin, Canada. Fecundity, 9,790–29,780 eggs/female in Great Slave Lake Basin (believed to be a permanent freshwater resident population), 12,272–34,586 eggs/female in an anadromous population from Kamchatka, and 62,936–119,180 eggs/female in anadromous populations from rivers in Japan. In the latter case, the long diameter of the eggs varies from 0.85 to 1.23 mm and the short diameter from 0.75 to 1.14 mm. The eggs are dark blue and adhesive. When they emerge from the egg after about a one–month incubation period, larvae measure about 7 mm total length. Adult life is about two years.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 112): Varanger Fiord and Pasvik River, Norway; White Sea Basin, Barents Sea Basin to the Pechora River, Arctic Ocean Basin and its rivers from the Ob’ (Kara Sea Basin) to the Kolyma (East Siberian Sea Basin), Anadyr territory, Utkholok River and its tributary Kolkavayam River (Kamchatka Peninsula), Iturup and Sakhalin islands, Amur and Suchan rivers, Russian Federation; Mutan River (Sungari River Basin), Tumen River, People’s Republic of China; to the southern extremity of the Korean Peninsula; Toufutsu Lake and Assabu, Ishikari, Mukawa, Ohno, Ryukei, and Saru rivers (Hokkaidō Island) and Mogami and Shinano rivers (Honshū Island), Japan; Kenai Peninsula, Brooks Lake, Brooks and Naknek rivers (Naknek River Basin), Nushagak and Yukon rivers, Bering Sea at St. Lawrence Island and Bering Strait, Alaska, USA; Beaufort Sea, between Point Barrow, Alaska, USA and Anderson River, Canada; Yukon River, Mackenzie River Basin (Mackenzie River, Artillery Lake, and Great Slave Lake, and its tributaries Hay and Slave rivers), and Anderson River, Canada.

Interest to Fisheries: Around 1879 it was of great importance for native peoples along the Yukon River at Russian Mission and Anvik, Alaska, where they would catch upstream spawning migrants by the dozens through the ice using long multi–forked poles or dipnets (Turner, 1886, Nelson, 1887). The oil in the lamprey would be rendered through boiling in water and used for human food or in lamps as a substitute for seal oil. Recently, there has been an interest in starting a commercial fishery for upstream migrants targeting the Asian market in the USA and abroad in addition to the traditional subsistence harvest. The 2003 quota was set at 20,000 kg. The taste has been compared to that of sardine because of the high lipid content that can reach 38% of the body weight. In Japan, in the Shinano River estuary, upstream spawning migrants are caught between October and January using large handnets; in 1959, daily catches varied from a few dozen to over 1,000 lampreys (Honma 1960). In winter, lampreys are caught at the same place but using a gang of about ten bell–shaped leather fishing traps that is laid in a string along the river floor (Honma, 1960). The lampreys are served in a number of different ways in restaurants, and in salt–dried form are highly valued as a medicine against night blindness (Honma, 1960).

**Lethenteron kessleri** (Anikin 1905)

**Figs. 113–115**

**Synonyms:** 
Petromyzon kessleri Anikin 1905: 10 (type locality: Tom’ and Kirgizka rivers near Tomsk, Ob’ River Basin, western Siberia, Russian Federation); Lethenteron matsubarai Vladykov and Kott 1978: (holotype: 150 mm TL, BC 77–71; type locality: Shokotsu River, Hokkaidō Island, Japan)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** 
Iwata *et al.* (1985) synonymized Lethenteron matsubarai Vladykov and Kott 1978 with *L. kessleri* (Anikin 1905). However, while they examined the holotype of the former, they did not compare it with material of *L. kessleri* from the type locality (Tom’ and Kirgizka rivers near Tomsk, Russian Federation), but rather with material from Hokkaidō Island, Japan. Their action is provisionally accepted here with the caveat that further studies with appropriate comparative material are required. Of particular note is the fact that material examined by Iwata *et al.* (1985) did not possess a dark blotch on the second dorsal fin, as in *L. matsubarai*, while material examined by Poltorykhina (1971, 1974) from the Irtysh River Basin, part of the Ob’ River Basin to which the Tom’ and Kirgizka rivers belong, possessed a dark blotch. It is not clear whether the 100–165 mm TL non–feeding adult stage resident form on Kamchatka, and identified by Kucheryavyi *et al.* (2007) as *L. camtschaticum*, refers instead to *L. kessleri*.

Yamazaki *et al.* (2006) suggested that *L. kessleri* was a junior synonym of *L. reissneri* based on their examination of trunk myomeres, allozymes, and mtDNA genes CO I and cyt b in larval material from the type localities. This needs to be corroborated with the examination of adult material.

**FAO Names:** 
En — Siberian Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de Sibérie

**Diagnostic Features:**

**Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, at least 218 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 50 specimens measuring a mean of 218 mm TL; the values given below represent a mean): prebranchial length, 5.7; branchial length, 9.8; trunk length, 54.4 (derived by deduction); tail length, 30.1. Trunk myomeres, 67–71. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation of the various body regions unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 225–233 mm TL (This is a range of means).

**Adults:** 112–230 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 300 specimens measuring 153–230 mm TL; the values given below represent ranges of means based on samples of 50 specimens): prebranchial length, 11.2–12.0; branchial length, 9.5–9.6 (8.9–11.9 absolute range according to Iwata *et al.* (1985) based on 97 specimens 112–184 mm TL); trunk length, 48.8 (derived by deduction); tail length, 29.1–30.9; eye length, 2.1–2.2; disc length, 5.6–6.0. The intestinal diameter is less than 1.0 mm. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in three spawning males measuring 147–169 mm TL, 5.9–10.0 [5.8–34.7 according to Iwata *et al.* (1985) based on 23 spawning males 121–160 mm TL]. Trunk myomeres, 65–73 [57–78 in resident *L. camtschaticum* form *sensu* Kucheryavyi *et al.* (2007)]. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth, rarely 3; infraoral lamina, 5–10 teeth, usually 6–8, the lateralmost unicuspid or bicuspid [one or both rarely unicuspid in resident *L. camtschaticum*]
form sensu Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)] and occasionally some of the internal ones also bicuspid, the rest unicuspied; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2, variant formulae, 2–2–1 and 2–1–2 [also 2–2–2–2 in resident L. camtschaticum form sensu Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)]; 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 3–5 unicuspied teeth; total number of anterials, 15–28 unicuspied teeth [8–30 in resident L. camtschaticum form sensu Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)]; exolaterals usually absent, but if present, only 1 unicuspied tooth per lateral field; single row of posteriars consisting of 16–25 unicuspied teeth [as low as 12 in resident L. camtschaticum form sensu Kucheryavyi et al. (2007)], sometimes completely absent; transverse lingual lamina, numerous unicuspied teeth, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae parentheses–shaped, each with numerous unicuspied teeth. Velar tentacles, 7. Body coloration (live), brownish on dorsal and lateral aspects and whitish on the ventral aspect. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Gular region pigmentation unrecorded. Second dorsal fin with a dark blotch near the apex; however, specimens from Japan do not have a dark blotch. Caudal fin pigmentation, – (rarely) or +++ (usually). Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in rivers, brooks, and lakes. Ammocoetes live in oozy substrate. Metamorphosing ammocoetes are mostly found in areas with abundant aquatic vegetation at the mouth of small streams. Larval life lasts 6+ yrs. Ammocoetes feed on detritus and unicellular algae. Onset of metamorphosis is at the end of July beginning of August and is complete at the end of October to the middle of November. The population in the upper Irtys River Basin is apparently unique among lampreys in that it continues to feed during metamorphosis gradually switching from a detritus and unicellular algae diet to an exclusively unicellular algae diet. This would explain the fact that the maximum total length of the metamorphosing ammocoete exceeds the maximum total length of the ammocoete; mean of 233 mm in the former versus 218 in the latter. Unicellular algae consumed include Cyanophyceae (Oscillatoria), Chlorophyceae (Spirogyra, Chlorella), and Diatomeae (Fragilaria, Pinnularia). This phenomenon is particularly interesting as it implies that the metamorphosing ammocoetes must switch from a filter–feeding mode to a grazing mode of feeding, since, during the process of metamorphosis, the oral cirri are lost. The grazing may be achieved possibly with the help of the lingual laminae and the action of the piston cartilage. Adults are nonparasitic. Spawning period in Japan in early May. Fecundity, 1,387–2,125 eggs/female in Japan, with long diameter of eggs varying from 1.12 to 1.22 mm and the short diameter from 0.91 to 1.11 mm. Kucheryavyi et al. (2007) reported a fecundity of 468–3,441 eggs/female in non–feeding adult stage resident L. camtschaticum (= L. kessleri?) on Kamchatka.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 115): Russian Federation: Tom’, Kirgizka, and Yenisei rivers, Kolyma and Anadyr river basins; Kazakhstan: Upper Irtys River Basin (Irtys, Ul’ba, and Cheremshanka rivers); Japan: Toufutsu Lake, Abira, Assabu, Atsuma, Barou, Betsubetsu, Bettouga, Chashikotsu, Chitose, Ichani, Mukawa, Nishikitappu, Saru, Shiraoi, Shizunai, Shokotsu, and Yuuchi rivers, Hokkaidō Island.

Interest to Fisheries: None


Fig. 115. Geographic distribution of Lethenteron kessleri.
**Lethenteron ninae** Naseka, Tuniyev, and Renaud 2009

**Figs. 116–118**

**Synonyms:** *Lethenteron ninae* Naseka, Tuniyev, and Renaud 2009: 18, 20, figs. 2, 3a, 4a, 5, 6, 7a, 8, Table 3 (holotype: adult female, 164 mm TL, ZISP 54431; type locality: Shakhe River at Khartsyz, Sochi District, 43° 48' 35" N 39° 36' 54" E, Black Sea Basin, Russian Federation)

**FAO Names:** En — Western Transcaucasian Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau de la Transcaucasie occidentale

![Image](image-url)

**Fig. 117. Oral disc of Lethenteron ninae, female, 163.8 mm TL, holotype, ZISP 54431, Shakhe River at Khartsyz, Black Sea Basin, Sochi District, Russian Federation, 27 Sept. 2007, S.B. Tuniyev. After Naseka et al. (2009).**

**Fig. 116. Side view of Lethenteron ninae adult, 162.5 mm TL, paratype, ZISP 54435, Mokva River, Black Sea Basin, Abkhazia, Georgia, 24 Sept. 2007, S.B. Tuniyev. After Naseka et al. (2009).**

**Diagnostic Features:**

Ammocoetes: Maximum size known 148 mm TL. However, presumably attain greater lengths than 166 mm TL, the longest recorded length of the adults. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on nine specimens measuring 90–142 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.0–7.9; branchial length, 12.5–13.7; trunk length, 50.4–54.0; tail length, 25.1–28.7. Trunk myomeres, 56–60. Pigmentation: upper lip, + (11% of specimens), ++ (22%), +++ (67%); cheek, ++ (33%), +++ (67%); subocular, – (22%), + (11%), ++ (33%), +++ (33%); upper prebranchial, +++ (100%); lower prebranchial, + (33%), ++ (67%); upper branchial, ++ (33%), +++ (67%); lower branchial, – (100%); ventral branchial, – (89%), + (11%); caudal fin, + (100%); tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, +. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Tongue precursor bulb shape triangular. Caudal fin shape, rounded or spade–like. Body coloration (live and freshly preserved) is gray on the dorsal aspect and lighter on the ventral aspect and without mottling.

Metamorphosing ammocoetes: Size unrecorded.

Adults: 130.6–166 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 12 recently metamorphosed specimens measuring 130.6–166 mm TL): prebranchial length, 8.7–13.1; branchial length, 9.6–10.9; trunk length, 50.1–53.6; tail length, 25.7–29.2; eye length, 1.4–2.0; disc length, 3.8–5.2; prenosostral length, 4.0–6.0; snout length, 4.8–6.9; postocular length, 2.7–3.6. Trunk myomeres, 58–62. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 5–7 mostly unicuspid teeth, but 1–2 may be bicuspid; 3 endolateral teeth on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2, but 2–3–2 (20% of cases) and 2–2–3 (15%) also occur, 1–2 rows of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 5–7 unicuspid teeth; exolaterals absent; first posterior row absent (27% of cases) or present in a single incomplete row consisting of 3–7 mostly unicuspid teeth, but 1–2 may be bicuspid; transverse lingual lamina, 9–15 unicuspid teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae straight, each with 5–9 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 7; the median one shorter than the adjacent lateral ones and the tentacles have tubercles on their dorsal aspect. There are no velar wings. Body coloration (live and freshly preserved) is gray on the dorsal aspect and lighter on the ventral aspect and without mottling. Dark blotch near apex of second dorsal fin. Lateral line neuromasts darkly pigmented on the ventral surface and prebranchial region in some individuals but unpigmented in others. Caudal fin pigmentation, + or ++. Caudal fin shape, rounded or spade–like. Oral fimbriae, 69–99. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

**Habitat and Biology:** Freshwater. Ammocoetes live in silt, sand or fine pebble substrate in the middle and lower sections of rivers where the current is absent or slow, at water depths of 10–50 cm, among submerged plants (*Rumex acetosella, Polygonum* sp., *Juncus* sp.). Adults are also found in the same general habitat as both life stages are commonly caught together.

Metamorphosis is believed to occur prior to mid–September when fully metamorphosed individuals were first caught. Adults are nonparasitic. The spawning period is undetermined.
Geographic Distribution (Fig. 118): Black Sea Basin: Shakhe and Mzymta rivers, and Chakhtsutsyr Brook, Russian Federation; Bzyb’ and Mokva rivers, Abkhazia, Georgia.

Interest to Fisheries: None

Reference: Naseka et al. (2009)

Lethenteron reissneri (Dybowski 1869)  

Figs. 119–121

Synonyms: Petromyzon Reissneri Dybowski 1869: 958 (type locality: Onon and Ingoda rivers, Amur River Basin, Russian Federation)

Taxonomic Remarks: This taxon requires a revision in light of papers by Yamazaki and Goto (1998) and Yamazaki et al. (1999, 2003). They report on two morphologically indistinguishable but genetically divergent forms based on protein electrophoresis as well as mitochondrial DNA evidence. These cryptic species, referred to in Yamazaki et al. (2003, 2006) as Lethenteron sp. N(orthern) and L. sp. S(outhern), are partly sympatric on Honshū Island, Japan (Makino, Shou-gawa, and Ushiwatari rivers). They consider the two forms to be distinct undescribed species. The relationships between these two forms and either L. reissneri or L. kessleri is not clear. For the purposes of this catalog however, and pending such a revision, they are treated together here under L. reissneri since they had been treated as such in Yamazaki et al. (2001). More recent work by Yamazaki et al. (2006) shows that Lethenteron sp. N belongs in a monophyletic group with L. camtschaticum, L. kessleri, and L. reissneri, while L. sp. S forms a distinct clade based on both partial sequences of mtDNA genes, CO I (1009 bp) and cyt b (384 bp). However, all the material used in these analyses was larval and the results need to be corroborated with adult material.

FAO Names: En — Far Eastern Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau de l’Extrême–Orient  
Local name: Sunayatsume (Japanese)

Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, at least 202 mm TL judging by the maximum total length attained by adults. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 75 sympatric specimens of the northern and southern forms on Honshū Island, Japan measuring 59.7–145.4 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.0–10.1; branchial length, 9.8–14.0; trunk length, 49.3–56.8; tail length, 22.9–30.9. Trunk myomeres, 51–60. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation of various body regions unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 111–202 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 19 specimens measuring 116–172 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.3–12.3; branchial length, 9.6–13.3 (as low as 9.5 according to Iwata et al., 1985); trunk length, 46.0–54.2; tail length, 25.0–31.6; eye length, 1.2–2.4; disc length, 4.7–6.4. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage
of branchial length, in three spawning males measuring 143–154 mm TL, 26.7–48.8 [16.4–67.8 according to Iwata et al. (1985) based on 21 spawning males 111–154 mm TL]. Trunk myomeres, 57–65. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 6–11 unicuspid teeth; 3 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2; 1–2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4–5 unicuspid teeth; total number of anterials, 38–44 unicuspid teeth according to Vladykov and Kott (1978a), however, one of the specimens that they identified in their publication as this species was used here for the drawing of the oral disc (fig. 120) and it only shows 13 unicuspid anterials; usually one exolateral present on one or both sides, exceptionally, one complete row of exolaterals on each side; single row of posterials consisting of 19–27 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 13 unicuspid teeth, the median one greatly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with 7–8 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 7, with tubercles, the median tentacle shorter than the lateral ones immediately next to it. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Gular region unpigmented. Second dorsal fin unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, + (33%) or +++ (67%). Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Occurs in rivers, brooks, ponds, and lakes. Adults nonparasitic. Spawning period in Japan is from mid to late May. Fecundity, 495–2,942 eggs/female in Japan, with the long diameter of eggs varying from 0.98 to 1.37 mm and the short diameter from 0.86 to 1.25 mm.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 121): Russian Federation: Onon and Ingoda rivers (Amur River Basin), Tym’ River (Sakhalin Island); Japan: Lake Biwa, Honshū Island and Ohnuma and Touru lakes, Hyotan Pond, Ashiribetsu, Atsunai, Butokamabetsu, Chito, Chitose, Futoro, Hekiriji, Kamekawa, Kikonai, Kototo, Monbetsu, Moshousanbetsu, Ohno, Onbetsu, Osatsu, Rukotsu, Ruuomansorappchi, Ryukei, Shiruuchi, Shokanbetsu, Toubetsu, and Utabetsu rivers, Hokkaidō Island.

Interest to Fisheries: None


Fig. 120. Oral disc of *Lethenteron reissneri*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–843, Osawa, Hokkaidō Island, Japan, 10 May 1936, S. Sato].

Fig. 121. Geographic distribution of *Lethenteron reissneri*. 
**Lethenteron zanandreai** (Vladykov 1955)

**Synonyms:** *Lampetra zanandreai* Vladykov 1955: 216, pl. 1, table 2 (holotype: male, 131 mm TL, originally kept in the Provincial Department of Fisheries, Québec, Canada, and later transferred to NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1; type locality: Guà di Lonigo River, Adige River Basin, Vicenza, Italy)

**Taxonomic Remarks:** In the original description, Vladykov (1955: 218) stated that “mandibular labials (= posterials) are lacking”. However, examination of two topotypic paratypes [NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1] revealed the presence of two posterials in one and five posterials in the other. Furthermore, one of these also possessed four exolaterals in a row next to the marginal row on either side of the oral disc, while the other had none. It would seem therefore advisable to provisionally place this species in *Lethenteron* even though this genus by definition should not possess exolaterals.

**FAO Names:** En — Lombardy Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau de Lombardie

**Diagnostic Features:**

- **Ammocoetes:** Maximum size attained, 158 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 24 specimens measuring 91–158 mm TL): prebranchial length, 7.6–9.3; branchial length, 11.8–13.8; trunk length, 50.5–54.4; tail length, 23.3–28.5. Trunk myomeres, 52–56. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, – (11% of specimens) or + (68%) or ++ (21%); lower prebranchial, – (4%) or + (7%) or ++ (29%) or +++ (61%); upper branchial, + (43%) or ++ (46%) or +++ (11%); caudal fin, + (36%) or ++ (57%) or +++ (7%). Additionally, the lower lip (+++) and the ventral branchial region (+ or ++) are pigmented. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin shape, rounded.

- **Metamorphosing Ammocoetes:** lengths unrecorded.

- **Adults:** 118–156 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 19 specimens measuring 118–156 mm TL): prebranchial length, 10.2–13.7; branchial length, 9.3–11.9; trunk length, 45.5–52.6; tail length, 24.0–28.7; eye length, 1.6–2.5; disc length, 4.6–6.9. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in six spawning males measuring 128–139 mm TL, 23.5–40.0. Trunk myomeres, 54–60. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 5–8 unicuspid teeth, usually 7; three endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–3–2 (2–2–2 in the holotype); 2 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 4 unicuspid teeth; 0–1 row of exolaterals on each side; single incomplete row of posteriors with 2–5 unicuspid teeth (2 in the holotype); transverse lingual lamina, 5–7 unicuspid teeth, the median one enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae each with about 6 or 7 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 3–5, with tubercles. Body coloration (preserved), dorsal and lateral aspects grayish, ventral surface whitish, dorsal fins and caudal fin yellowish. No dark blotch near the apex of the second dorsal fin. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, spade–like. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

---

Fig. 122. Side view of *Lethenteron zanandreai*, male, 131 mm TL, holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1, Guà di Lonigo River, Adige River Basin, Vicenza, Italy, 19 April 1953, G. Zanandrea. After Vladykov (1955).

Fig. 123. Oral disc of *Lethenteron zanandreai*. After a drawing by Paul I. Voevodine [male, 131 mm TL, holotype, NMC (= CMNFI) 1986–1, Guà di Lonigo River, Adige River Basin, Vicenza, Italy, 19 April 1953, G. Zanandrea].
Habitat and Biology: Freshwater. Adults nonparasitic.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 124): Italy (Adige River Basin: Guà di Lonigo River and Po River Basin: Ticino River) and Croatia.

Interest to Fisheries: None


Genus Petromyzon Linnaeus 1758

Synonyms: Petromyzon Linnaeus 1758: 230; Bathymyzon (as subgenus) Gill 1883: 253–254 [based on an adult with obsolescent supraoral and infraoral laminae; Petromyzon (Bathymyzon) Bairdii Gill 1883 type species by monotypy]; Oceanomyzon Fowler 1908: 461 (Oceanomyzon wilsoni Fowler 1908 type species by monotypy)

This is a monotypic genus (one parasitic species) with a widespread distribution, occurring in North America, Europe, and North Africa. Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina a single bicuspid tooth. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion and completely covering all fields of the oral disc. Transverse lingual lamina strongly w–shaped, the median tooth not enlarged. Velar tentacles are smooth and a median tentacle is usually absent. The type species is Petromyzon marinus Linnaeus 1758.

Petromyzon marinus Linnaeus 1758


FAO Names: En — Sea Lamprey (anadromous or landlocked), Lake Lamprey (landlocked form only); Fr — Lamproie marine

Fig. 124. Geographic distribution of Lethenteron zanandreai.

Fig. 125. Side view of Petromyzon marinus adult.
Diagnostic Features: Ammocoetes: Maximum size attained, 156 mm TL (but presumably at least 167 mm TL, the length attained by metamorphosing ammocoetes). Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 123 specimens measuring 60–129 mm TL; the values given below represent ranges of means based on six groups of samples as follows: 11 and 21 specimens 60–90 mm TL, 39 and 21 specimens 90–99 mm TL, and 10 and 21 specimens 120–129 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.9–9.2; branchial length, 12.1–14.5; trunk length, 52.3–53.1; tail length, 23.4–28.8. Trunk myomeres, 67–74. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, + or ++; cheek, +++; subocular, +++; upper prebranchial, ++ or +++; lower prebranchial, +; upper branchial, ++ or +++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, + or +++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, +. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, typically rounded, rarely spade–like.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: 136–167 mm TL.
Adults: 114–1,200 mm TL. Body wet weight of the 1,200 mm TL individual was 2.3 kg. Maximum size attained by landlocked populations in the Laurentian Great Lakes, 600 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on a variable number of specimens and sizes as indicated after the ranges): prebranchial length, 9.2–16.0 (in 46 specimens 192–827.5 mm TL); branchial length, 8.1–16.0 (in 46 specimens 192–827.5 mm TL); trunk length, 45.6–58.5 (in 42 specimens 256–827.5 mm TL); tail length, 22.0–42.2 (in 46 specimens 192–827.5 mm TL); eye length, 0.8–3.6 (in 41 specimens 256–827.5 mm TL); disc length, 4.5–9.3 (in 58 specimens 135–835 mm TL); snout length, 6.5–10.9 (in 41 specimens 256–827.5 mm TL). The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in seven spawning males measuring 385–492 mm TL, 9.5–13.0. Spawning males develop a rope–like dorsal ridge ahead of the first dorsal fin and extending to the level of the posterior part of the branchial region, and hence, are sometimes called corded males. Trunk myomeres, 67–74. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 1 bicuspid tooth; infraoral lamina, 6–10 unicuspид tooth, the lateralmost sometimes bicuspid; 4 endolaterals on each side; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2–2; 3 rows of anterials; first row of anterials, 1 unicuspid tooth; 5–7 rows of exolaterals on each side; 3 rows of posterials; first row of posterials, 10 unicuspид teeth; transverse lingual lamina strongly w–shaped, with 12–14 cusps, the median one not enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae j–shaped, each with 12–14 cusps. Moderately well–developed marginal membrane. Velar tentacles, 2–3, smooth. Body coloration (preserved), newly–transformed individuals 135–175 mm TL: prebranchial length, 6.9–9.2; branchial length, 8.1–16.0; trunk length, 45.6–58.5; tail length, 22.0–42.2; eye length, 0.8–3.6; disc length, 4.5–9.3. Caudal fin length, 12.1–14.5; trunk length, 52.3–53.1; tail length, 23.4–28.8. Trunk myomeres, 67–74. Body coloration unrecorded. Pigmentation: upper lip, ++ or +++; cheek, +++; subocular, +++; upper prebranchial, ++ or +++; lower prebranchial, +; upper branchial, ++ or +++; lower branchial, –; caudal fin, + or +++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, +. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape, typically rounded, rarely spade–like.

Habitat and Biology: Some populations are permanent freshwater residents [Laurentian Great Lakes, Finger Lakes (Lake Cayuga), Lake Champlain], while others are anadromous. Occupies a wide range of streams and habitats. Larvae are found in streams with summer flows 0.03–4,400 m³/s and summer water temperatures 10–26.1 °C. Relatively abundant in cool, pool–riffle streams with sand–gravel substrate, high water quality and stable flows, but is also tolerant of fluctuating flows. In Michigan, ammocoetes have been reported to live up to 450 m from the presumed originating stream, at water depths 1–16 m, where substrates vary from sand–silt, with or without detritus, to gravel–rubble–sand. Feeding adults of permanent freshwater populations can be found in small to large lakes and large rivers and, in the case of anadromous populations, in small to large rivers and in the ocean. In the ocean, it occurs both pelagically and benthically, possibly to a depth of 4,099 m. Spawning adults can be found in creeks or lake inlets.

Duration of larval life is usually a minimum 5 yrs, but has been reported as short as 2 yrs and as long as 19 or more yrs. Duration of adult life in anadromous populations approximately two years. Metamorphosis occurs in July–October, but has been reported as early as April, in Michigan. In fresh waters, adults are parasitic on fishes (Coregonus johannae, C. nigripinnis, C. senex, Oncorhynchus mykiss, Salvelinus namaycush) and in the sea, they are parasitic on fishes (Cetorhinus maximus, Acipenser oxyrinchus, Alosa sapidissima, Clupea harengus, Salmo salar, Gadus morhua, Urophycis chuss, Scomber scombrus) and marine mammals. Multiple attachments can occur (e.g., 3 on Cetorhinus maximus, 2–3 on Urophycis chuss). Adults are preyed upon by Lamna nasus in northwestern Atlantic waters. Feeding migrations in landlocked parasitic adults in the Laurentian Great Lakes can reach 628 km. In Michigan, the spawning period is from 27 May to 2 September, at water temperatures between 11.1–26.1 °C, with peak spawning activity in late...
May to mid–June. In Ontario, nest building occurs from 4 to 21 June at water temperatures 18–23 °C. In Québec and New York streams spawning also occurs in June, but in New York lakes spawning is from the end of May to the beginning of July. Nests are built in streams having 1.5–43 m width, 15–90 cm depth, and 0.01–54 m³/s flow. Up to ten spawning lampreys have been found in a nest. Fecundity, 43,997–101,932 [up to 108,000 according to Gage (1928)] eggs/female in landlocked populations and 151,836–304,832 eggs/female in anadromous populations. There are reported occurrences in Michigan of communal spawning of Sea Lamprey with Chestnut Lamprey (Pine, Platte, and Muskegon rivers), of Sea Lamprey with Northern Brook Lamprey (Devils River), of Sea Lamprey with Silver Lamprey (Carp Lake, Devils, East Au Gres, and Rifle rivers), of Sea Lamprey with American Brook Lamprey (Carp Lake, Pine and Pentwater rivers), of Sea Lamprey with American Brook Lamprey and Chestnut Lamprey (Betsie River), and of Sea Lamprey with American Brook Lamprey and Silver Lamprey (Carp Lake).

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 127):**

- East and West North Atlantic Ocean
  - Canada and USA: Lake Superior Basin, Ontario, Michigan; Lake Michigan Basin, Wisconsin, Michigan (Carp Lake, Betsie, Muskegon, Pentwater, Pine, and Platte rivers), Illinois, and Indiana; Lake Huron Basin, Ontario, Michigan (Devils, East Au Gres, and Rifle rivers); Lake Erie Basin, Ontario, New York, Ohio, Michigan; Lake Ontario Basin, Ontario, New York; St. Lawrence River Basin (Québec, New York, Vermont) and along the eastern coast of Canada (Newfoundland-Labrador but only in the Newfoundland part, Québec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia) and the USA (New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, South Carolina, Florida) from Newfoundland down to Florida and into the Gulf of Mexico; west coast of Greenland; Iceland; European coast from Scandinavia (northern Norway) down into the Baltic Sea (Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russian Federation, Finland), along the coasts of England (UK) (Severn River), France, and Portugal, and then down into the Mediterranean Sea (Spain, France, Italy) to the Adriatic Sea (Italy, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro), and along the North African coast (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia).

**Interest to Fisheries:** Invaded the upper Laurentian Great Lakes (Huron–Michigan–Superior) in the late 1930s, where it contributed to some extent to the collapse of the Lake Trout and various cisco (*Coregonus johannae*, *C. nigripinnis*, and *C. zenithicus*) fisheries. The fishes that did not die directly from the lamprey attacks or indirectly from secondary fungal infection had reduced market value because of the unsightly wounds. Splake, a fast–growing hybrid between Brook Trout and Lake Trout was developed specifically in response to the effect of Sea Lamprey on Lake Trout. Overfishing was also a major consideration in the demise of Lake Trout populations and Gilbertson (1992) has suggested that another contributing factor would be the extreme sensitivity of eggs and sac fry of this species to a persistent dioxin–like PCB isomer that was probably present in the Great Lakes by the 1930s and resulted in its reduced reproductive success. Sea Lamprey has been targeted by control measures in the Laurentian Great Lakes' Basin that include lampricide treatments (3–trifluoromethyl–4–nitrophenol, abbreviated as TFM, with or without the synergist 2',5–dichloro–4'–nitrosalicylanilide, abbreviated as Bayer 73) aimed at ammocoetes, beginning in 1957, electromechanical barriers that intercept upstream migrants, beginning before 1957, and later low–head barriers, adjustable–crest barriers, also known as inflatable barriers, traps, and chemosterilization of males. Approximately 258,000 adult Sea Lamprey, were taken between 1953 and 1960 at electrical barriers operated in Lake Superior Basin alone. Between 1958 and 1980, 54.5 million Canadian dollars where spent for Sea Lamprey control and research. Despite some attempts at developing a fishery oriented towards ethnic communities in large cities around the Great Lakes such as Toronto, a fishery for landlocked Sea Lamprey has not become established. Additionally, high levels of mercury in adults preclude their use for human consumption. Historical fisheries for the anadromous form existed in the 1800s on the Merrimack and Connecticut rivers, Massachusetts, when it was abundant, before dams and pollution. Such fisheries have existed for centuries in Europe [England (UK), France, Portugal]. Recipes include Lamproie à la bordelaise, which involves cooking in red wine. There are reports of intoxication through eating this species (Halstead, 1967).

**References:** Anonymous (2000), Beamish and Potter (1975), Berg (1948), Bonnaterre (1788), Borri (1922), Boutellier (1918), Bryan et al. (2005), Cochran and Marks (1995), Dollfus (1955), Fetterolf (1980), Fowler (1908), Gage (1893, 1928),
Genus *Tetrapleurodon* Creaser and Hubbs 1922

**Synonyms:** *Tetrapleurodon* Creaser and Hubbs 1922: 3 (proposed as a subgenus of *Entosphenus*)

This genus comprises two species (1 parasitic and 1 nonparasitic) endemic to México. Two dorsal fins. Supraoral lamina with two unicuspid teeth separated by a wide bridge, which may occasionally bear one or two unicuspid teeth. Labial teeth radially–arranged in a curvilinear fashion and found in all fields of the oral disc but do not fill all of the available space, especially in the lateral and posterior fields. Intraoral lamina cusps internal to the lateralmost ones generally of two sizes. Transverse lingual lamina weakly u–shaped with the median cusp only slightly enlarged. Velar tentacles with tubercles and a median tentacle is present (at least in *T. spadiceus*). The type species is *Lampetra spadicea* Bean 1887. *T. geminis* is believed to be the nonparasitic derivative of *T. spadiceus*. In the upper reaches of the Celio River, Michoacán, México, both species are found in spawning readiness on the same spawning grounds in November.

*Tetrapleurodon geminis* Álvarez del Villar 1966

**Synonyms:** *Tetrapleurodon geminis* Álvarez del Villar 1966: 121 (fig. 5 in the original description is not a photograph of the holotype in side view because the individual in the figure measures only about 120 mm TL; holotype: male, 136 mm TL, whereabouts unknown; type locality: Celio River, at Jacona, Michoacán, México)

**FAO Names:** En — Jacona Lamprey, Mexican Brook Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie de ruisseau mexicaine; Sp — Lamprea de Jacona

**Fig. 128.** Side view of *Tetrapleurodon geminis*, adult, about 120 mm TL. After Álvarez del Villar (1966).

**Diagnostic Features:** Ammocoetes: Álvarez del Villar (1966) could not distinguish larvae of this species from those of *Tetrapleurodon spadiceus* (see species account below) and the following description probably applies to both species. Maximum size attained, 176 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 30 specimens measuring 120–173 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.7–9.3; branchial length, 11.2–13.9; trunk length, 47.0–52.5; tail length, 27.2–31.2. Trunk myomeres, 61–65. Body coloration, dark gray on the dorsal and lateral aspects and cream colored on the ventral aspect. Pigmentation: upper branchial, ++; caudal fin, +++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, –. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded. Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.

Adults: 106–148 mm TL. Body wet weight of individuals measuring 108–148 mm TL, 4.3–7.0 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL [based on 22 specimens for which the range in TL was not given but inferred to be 106–148 mm based on other parts of the text in Álvarez del Villar (1966)]: prebranchial length, 12.0–14.2; branchial length, 9.3–11.6; trunk length, 40.3–50.7; tail length, 26.7–32.9; eye length, 2.0 (holotype); disc length, 5.7 (holotype). The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in four spawning males measuring 115–126 mm TL, 7.7–12.5. Trunk myomeres, 60–65. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth; infraoral lamina, 5–9 unicuspid teeth of which 5 are large and 0–4 are small.
(87% of specimens possess both large and small cusps); endolaterals on each side 3–4; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2–2 or 1–1–1, but one to six endolaterals may be missing; 3 rows of anteriors; first row of anteriors, 2 unicusp teeth; 1 row of exolaterals; 1 row of posteriors; first row of posteriors, 8 unicusp and 1 bicusp teeth; transverse lingual lamina, 19 unicusp teeth, the median one slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae with undetermined number of teeth. Velar tentacle number unrecorded. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin pigmentation, +++. Caudal fin shape unrecorded. Oral fimbriae number unrecorded. Oral papillae number unrecorded.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in rivers. Spawning habitat is a fast–flowing, clear–water stream with a stony substrate. Since Álvarez del Villar (1966) could not distinguish between ammocoetes of the two species of Tetrapleurodon, aspects treated here that refer to ammocoetes probably apply to both species. Eggs hatch between the months of November and January and ammocoetes undergo metamorphosis at the end of three years. Ammocoetes live in the mud and feed on plankton (algae of the genera Rhizosolenia, Pleurosigma, Pinularia, Stauroneis, Amphora, and Cocconema, filamentous Chlorophyceae, rotifers, ciliates, and occasionally euglenoid flagellates). The mean total length reached at the end of the first year of larval life is 83 mm; at the end of two years, 135 mm; and at the end of three years, 146 mm. During the rainy season (July) of their first year, ammocoetes exhibit shrinkage in their total length. Metamorphosis occurs in April–August. Adults nonparasitic. After 3–4 months of adult life, spent downstream in the Duero River, they migrate a short distance (3 km) upstream to the spawning grounds in the upper reaches of the Celio River and die after spawning. The duration of the adult life is therefore at most six months. Spawning period between 19 November (when the water temperature reaches about 20°C) and 3 January. Fecundity, 990–3,456 eggs/female. Egg diameter, 0.7–0.8 mm.

Geographic Distribution (Fig. 130): México: Celio River, at Jacona and Duero River (Michoacán State).

Interest to Fisheries: None

References: Álvarez del Villar (1966), Cochran et al. (1996), Kott et al. (1988), Miller et al. (2005), Vladykov and Kott (1979c)
**Tetrapleurodon spadiceus** (Bean 1887)  

Figs. 131–133

Synonyms: *Lampetra spadicea* Bean 1887: 374–375, pl. XX, fig. 6 [holotype: adult of undetermined sex, 188 mm TL, USNM 38005; type locality: Guanajuato State, México is given in the original description, but this has been questioned by Álvarez del Villar (1966) because A. Dugès, who sent the holotype to Bean, referred to it as Jacona 'eel', and therefore, the type locality is more probably Jacona, in Michoacán State, México].

FAO Names: En — Chapala Lamprey, Mexican Lamprey; Fr — Lamproie mexicaine; Sp — Lamprea de Chapala

![Fig. 131. Side view of Tetrapleurodon spadiceus. After a photograph by Brian W. Coad [prespawning adult, 264.5 mm TL, UMMZ 192539, Lake Chapala, Jalisco State, México, 20 June 1969, C.D. Barbour and R.J. Douglass].](image)

**Diagnostic Features:**  
Ammocoetes: Álvarez del Villar (1966) could not distinguish larvae of this species from those of *Tetrapleurodon geminis* (see preceding species account) and the following description probably applies to both species. Maximum size attained, 176 mm TL. Body proportions, as percentage of TL (based on 30 specimens measuring 120–173 mm TL): prebranchial length, 6.7–9.3; branchial length, 11.2–13.9; trunk length, 47.0–52.5; tail length, 27.2–31.2. Trunk myomeres, 61–65. Body coloration, dark gray on the dorsal and lateral aspects and cream colored on the ventral aspect. Pigmentation: upper branchial, ++; caudal fin, +++; tongue precursor bulb, –; along elastic ridge of tongue precursor, –. Lateral line neuromast pigmentation unrecorded. Caudal fin shape unrecorded.

Metamorphosing Ammocoetes: lengths unrecorded.  
Adults: 180–310 mm TL. Body wet weight of individuals measuring 187–225 mm TL, 21.3–26.3 g. Body proportions, as percentage of TL [based on 54 specimens for which the range in TL was not given but inferred to be roughly 180–310 mm TL based on Fig. 6 in Álvarez del Villar (1966)]: prebranchial length, 10.9–15.7; branchial length, 8.2–13.6; trunk length, 41.0–50.3; tail length, 27.2–34.3; eye length unrecorded; disc length unrecorded. The urogenital papilla length, as a percentage of branchial length, in spawning males unrecorded. Trunk myomeres, 60–65. Dentition: supraoral lamina, 2 unicuspid teeth, but 20% of individuals had 1–2 additional unicuspid teeth on the bridge; infraoral lamina, 5–9 unicuspid teeth, of which 4–5 are large and 0–4 are small (84% of specimens possess both large and small cusps); 4 endolaterals on each side, exceptionally 3 or 5; endolateral formula, typically 2–2–2–2, rarely, one of the teeth is tricuspid; 3 rows of anteriorals; first row of anteriorals, 6 unicuspid teeth; 1 row of exolaterals; 1 row of posterolateral; first row of posterolateral, 21 unicuspid teeth; transverse lingual lamina weakly u-shaped, 17–22 unicuspid teeth, the median one or two unicuspid teeth slightly enlarged; longitudinal lingual laminae parentheses-shaped, each with 24–25 unicuspid teeth. Velar tentacles, 19–21, with tubercles; the dorsal wings are long, reaching the median tentacle. Body coloration unrecorded. Lateral line neuromasts unpigmented. Caudal fin pigmentation, +++. Caudal fin shape, spade-like. Oral fimbriae, 109–136. Oral papillae, 13–27.

Habitat and Biology: Freshwater, in lakes and rivers. Spawning habitat is a fast-flowing, clear-water stream with a stony substrate.  
Since Álvarez del Villar (1966) could not distinguish between ammocoetes of the two species of *Tetrapleurodon*, aspects treated here that refer to ammocoetes probably apply to both species. Eggs hatch between the months of November and January and ammocoetes undergo metamorphosis at the end of three years. Ammocoetes live in the mud and feed...
on plankton (algae of the genera *Rhizosolenia*, *Pleurosigma*, *Pinularia*, *Stauroneis*, *Amphora*, and *Cocconema*, filamentous Chlorophyceae, rotifers, ciliates, and occasionally euglenoid flagellates). The mean total length reached at the end of the first year of larval life is 83 mm; at the end of two years, 135 mm; and at the end of three years, 146 mm. During the rainy season (July) of their first year, ammocoetes exhibit a shrinkage in their total length. Metamorphosis occurs in April–August. Following metamorphosis, adults migrate to Lake Chapala or the Duero River (Lerma River Basin) where they live as ectoparasites of fishes (carp and catfish) for two years. The diet appears to be predominantly blood. A large number of scales of *Moxostoma austrinum* and either of *Algansea popoche*, *Yuriria alta*, or *Y. chapalae*, as well as possibly *Chirostoma* sp. has been found mixed with blood in the intestine of adults. Attacks on the small cyprinids and the atherinopsid almost certainly resulted in their death. Around late June, early July they begin to migrate upstream to the spawning grounds in the upper reaches of the Celio River and die after spawning. Nine individuals in spawning readiness were collected on 19 November (water temperature was about 20°C). Fecundity, 6,617–9,095 eggs/female. Egg diameter, 0.7–0.8 mm.

**Geographic Distribution (Fig. 133):** México: Celio River, at Jacona and Duero River, at Zamora (Michoacán State), Lerma River and Lake Chapala (Jalisco and Michoacán states). All these drain into the Pacific Ocean through the Santiago River.

**Interest to Fisheries:** Is presumed to kill a certain number of commercial fish species (*Algansea popoche* and *Chirostoma* sp.) in Lake Chapala.

**References:** Álvarez del Villar (1966), Bean (1887), Cochran *et al.* (1996), Khidir and Renaud (2003), Miller *et al.* (2005), Vladykov and Kott (1976d, 1979c)