click for previous page

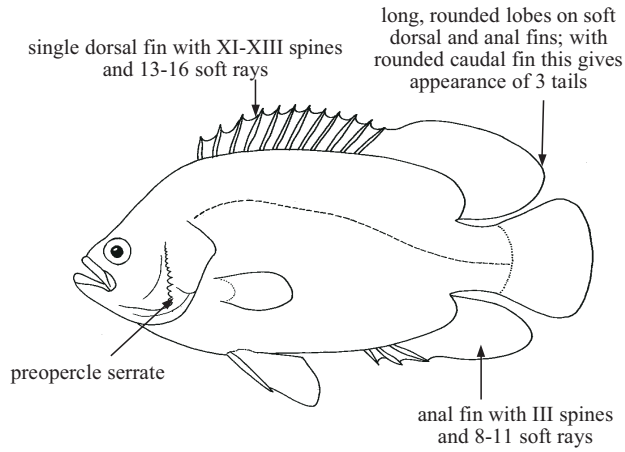


## LOBOTIDAE

Vol. 5, p. 2942

### Tripletails

To over 100 cm. In coastal waters and estuaries, some entering fresh water; also found offshore around floating objects. Three species in the area. Species of the genus *Coius* (formerly *Datniodes*) sometimes placed in a separate family, Coiidae or Datnioidae.

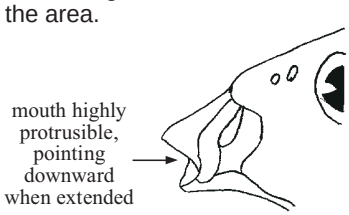



## GERREIDAE

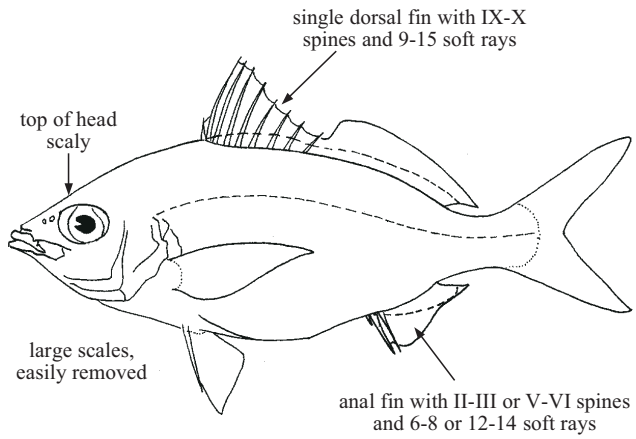
Vol. 5, p. 2946

### Silverbiddies, mojarras

To about 35 cm. Near bottom in coastal and estuarine waters to depths of about 70 m; also entering fresh water. Fourteen species in the area.




**detail of head**

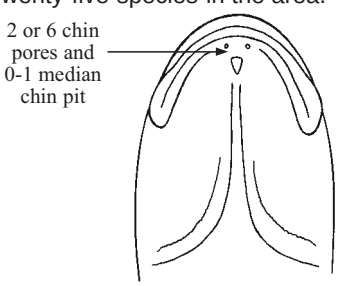



## HAEMULIDAE

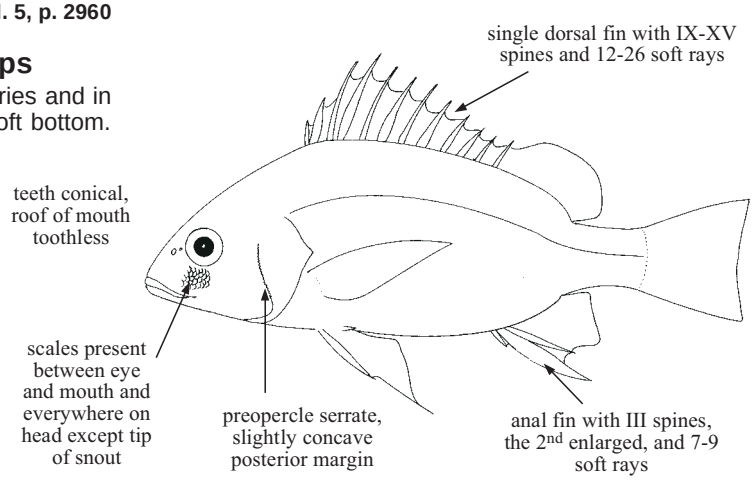
Vol. 5, p. 2960

### Grunts, sweetlips, rubberlips

To 120 cm. Near bottom in estuaries and in coastal waters on reefs or over soft bottom. Twenty-five species in the area.



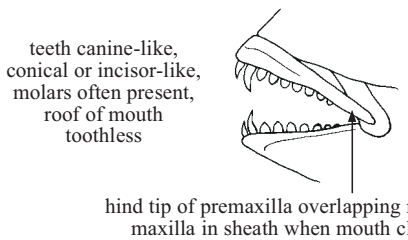

**ventral view of head (*Pomadasys*)**

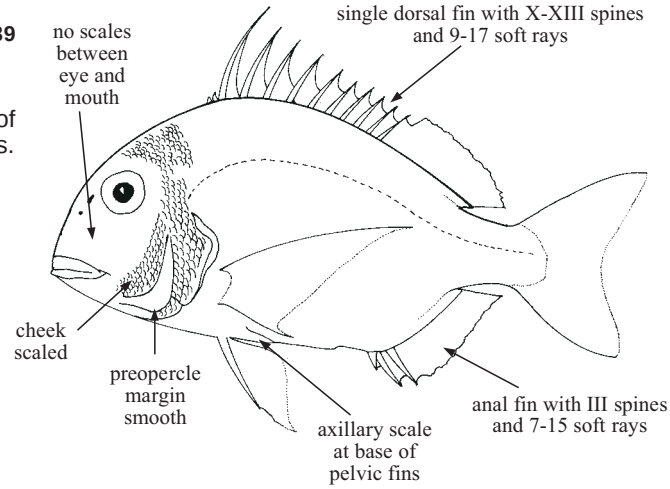


**SPARIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 2989

## Porgies

To 75 cm. Coastal, demersal to a depth of about 150 m, occasionally entering estuaries. Twelve species in the area.

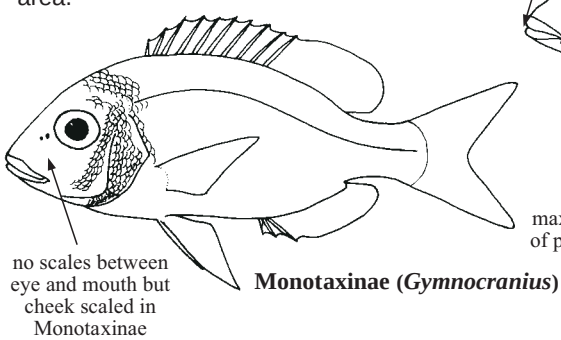


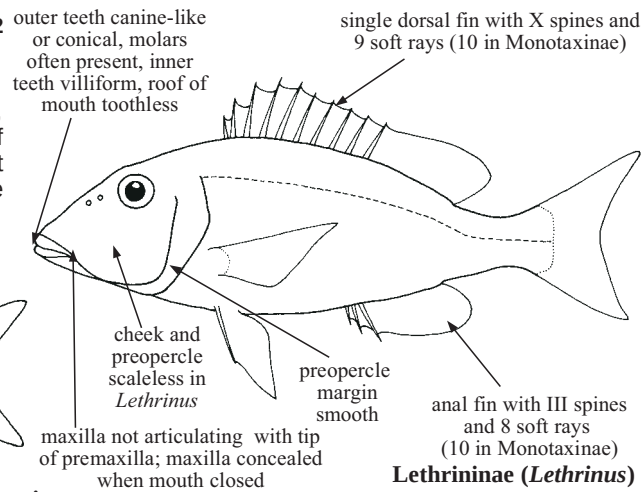




**LETHRINIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3002

## Emperors

To 100 cm. Demersal in coastal waters, mostly over sandy, rocky, and coral reef bottom, to outer edge of continental shelf at depths to 180 m. Thirty-three species in the area.

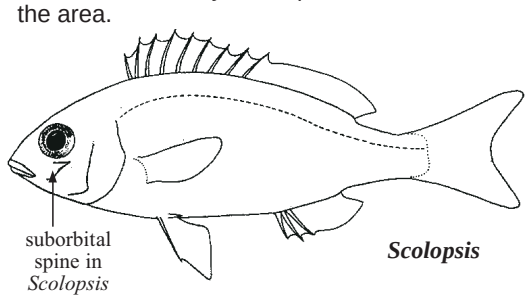


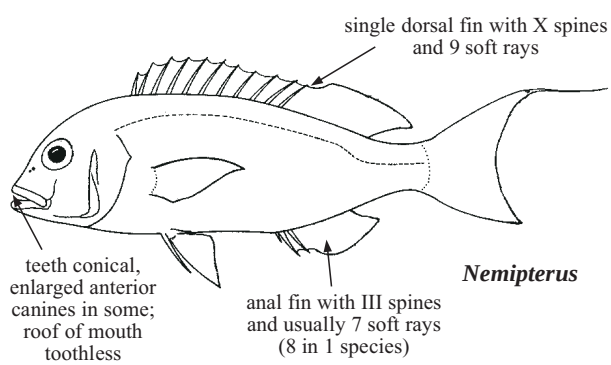




**NEMIPTERIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3049

## Threadfin breams

To about 35 cm standard length. Demersal in coastal continental shelf waters, mostly over sand and mud bottom to a depth of about 300 m. Fifty-four species listed from the area.

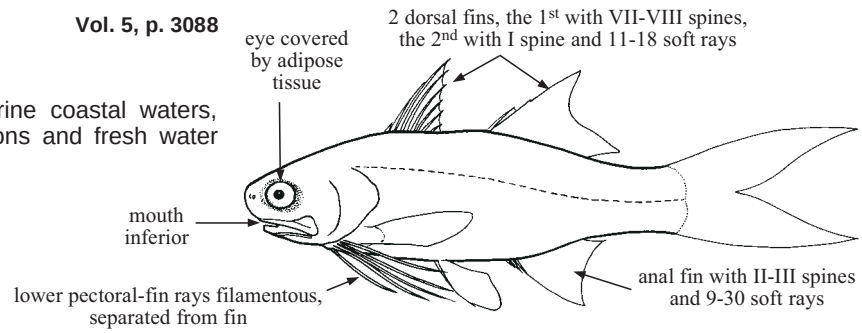


**POLYNEMIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3088**

## Threadfins

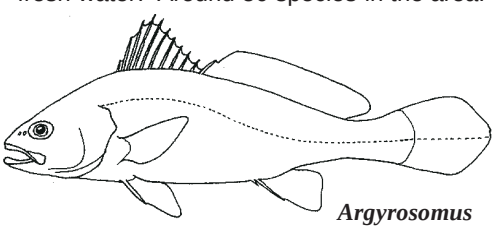
To about 200 cm; marine coastal waters, estuaries, coastal lagoons and fresh water river mouths; benthic.

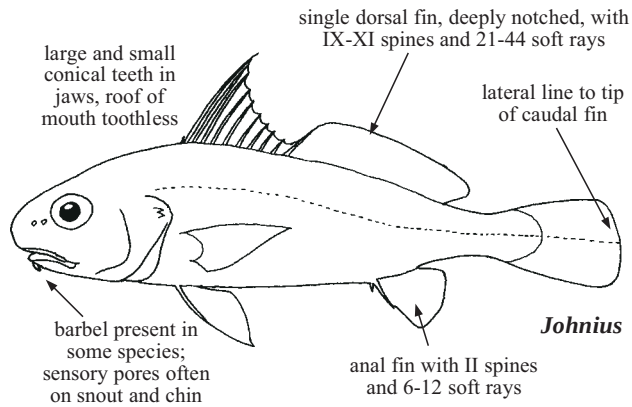



**SCIAENIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3115**

## Croakers

To 160 cm standard length. Demersal, coastal and continental shelves, mostly over soft bottoms; some also in estuaries and in fresh water. Around 50 species in the area.

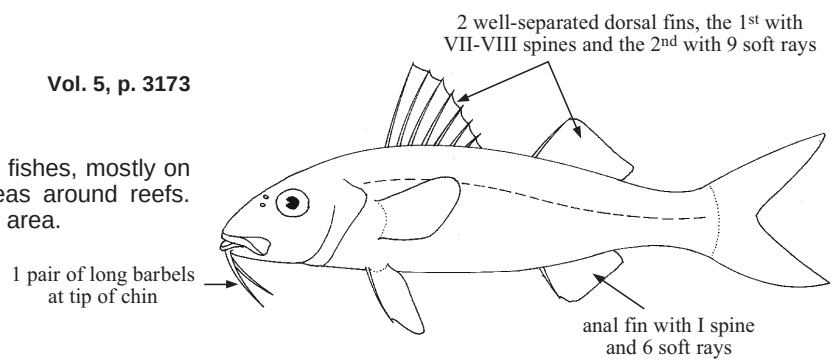



**MULLIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3173**

## Goatfishes

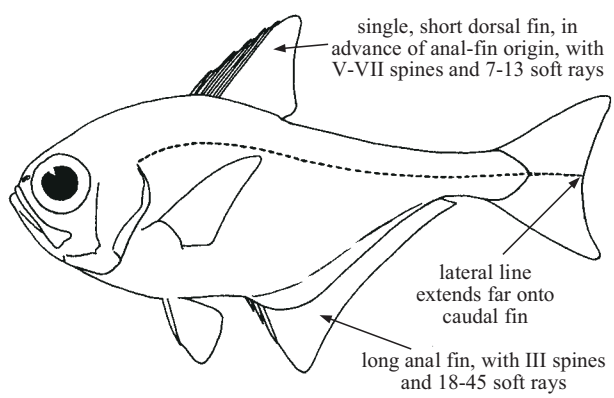
To 50 cm. Bottom coastal fishes, mostly on soft bottoms or sandy areas around reefs. Twenty-nine species in the area.




**PEMPHERIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3199**

## Sweepers

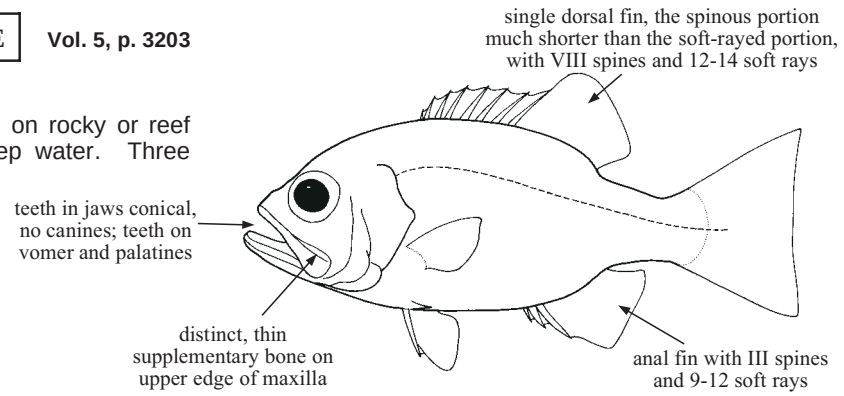
To about 22 cm. Bottom coastal fishes, most common around coral reefs and down to a depth of around 100 m. Around 10 species in the area.



**GLAUCOSOMATIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3203

## Pearl perches

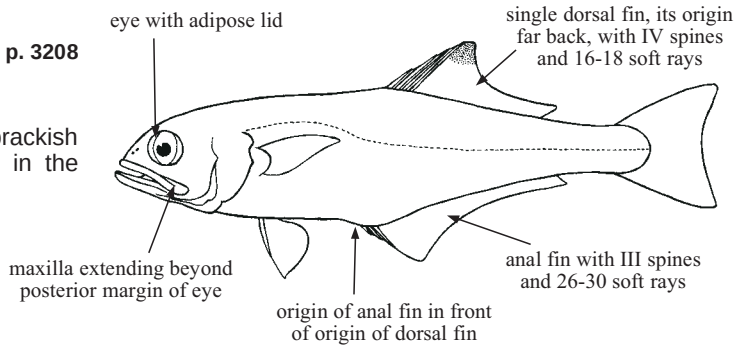
To about 70 cm. Coastal on rocky or reef bottom in moderately deep water. Three species in the area.




**LEPTOBRAMIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3208

## Beachsalmon

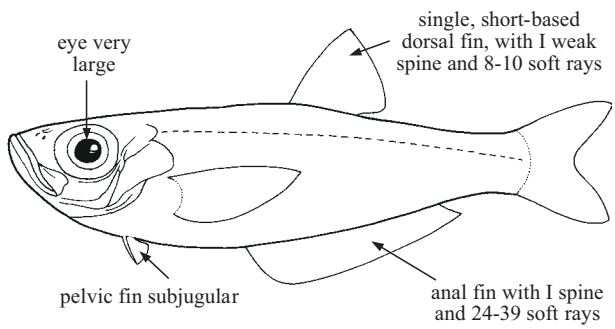
To about 43 cm. Coastal, entering brackish and fresh water. A single species in the family, also in the area.




**BATHYCLUPEIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3209

## Bathyclupeids

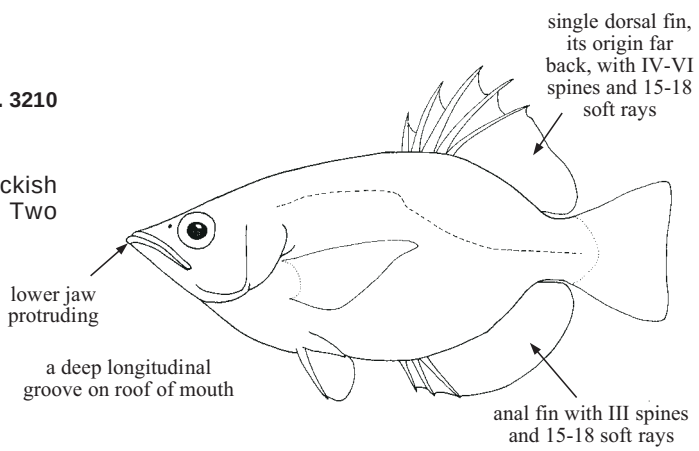
To 30 cm. Deep-sea fishes on the continental slope and oceanic waters; meso-, bathy-, or benthopelagic. Three species in the area.




**TOXOTIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3210

## Archerfishes

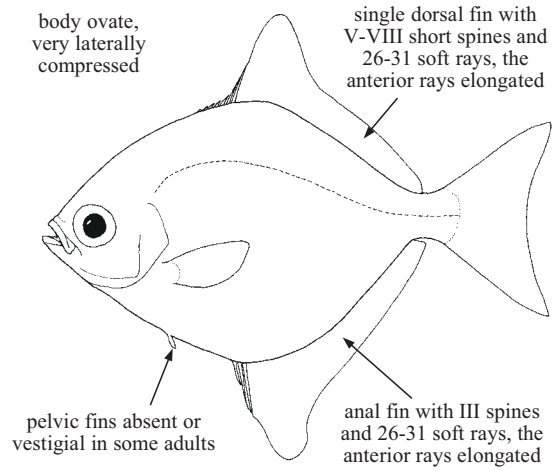
To about 50 cm. Mangroves and brackish waters, also entering fresh water. Two brackish-water species in the area.



**MONODACTYLIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3214**

## Moonfishes

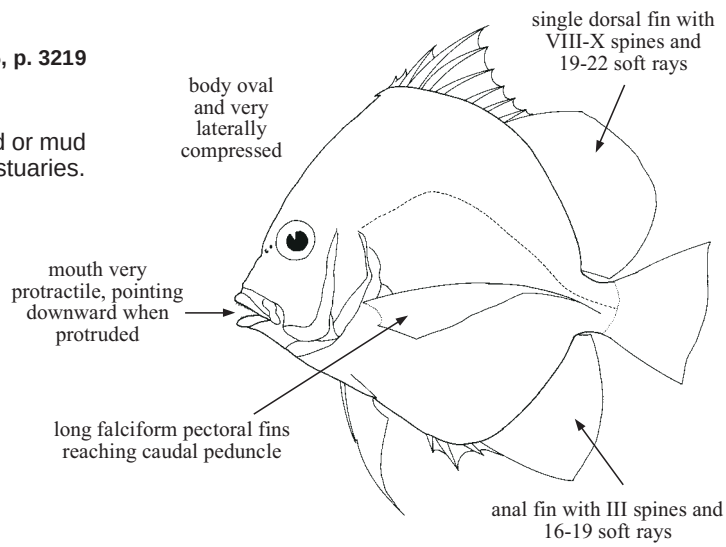
To 25 cm. Coastal, estuaries and entering fresh water. Three species in the area.




**DREPANIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3219**

## Sicklefishes

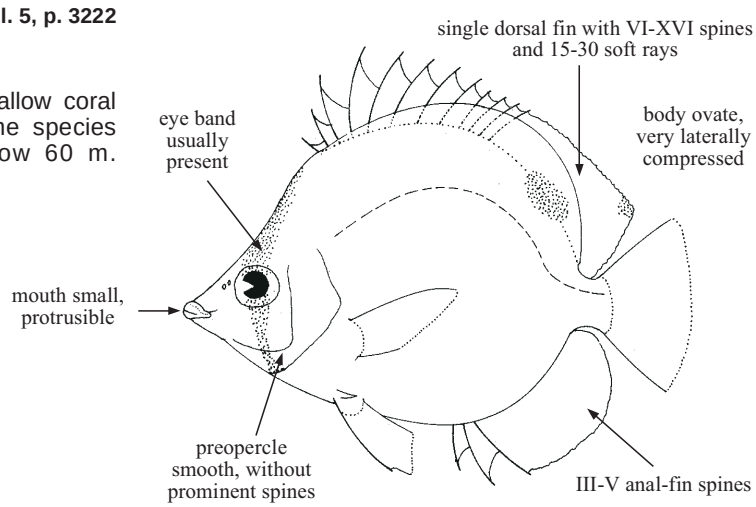
To 50 cm. Coastal, mostly over sand or mud bottom, also on reefs and enters estuaries. Two species in the area.




**CHAETODONTIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3222**

## Butterflyfishes

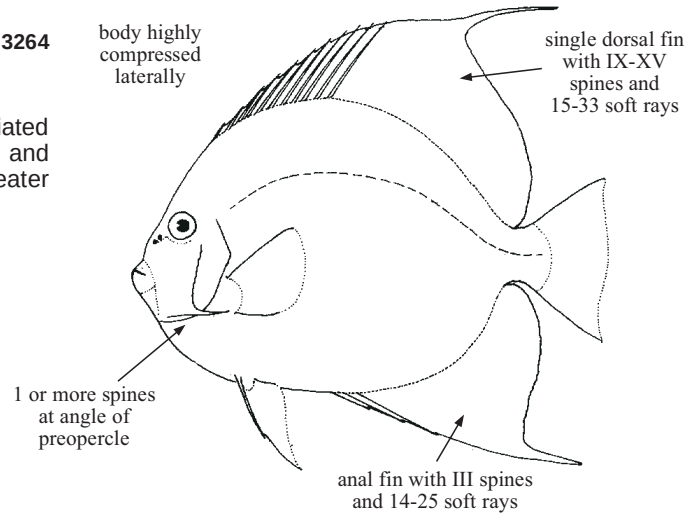
To about 30 cm. Mostly on shallow coral reefs to a depth of 60 m; some species restricted to deep water below 60 m. Seventy species in the area.



**POMACANTHIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3264

## Angelfishes

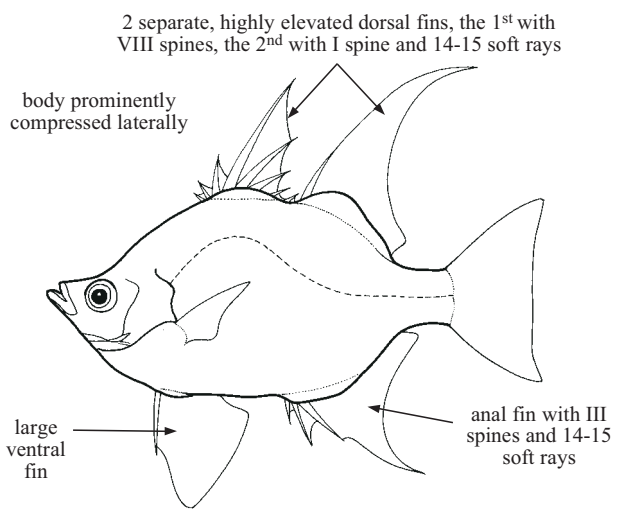
To about 50 cm. Most closely associated with coral reefs at depths between 5 and 60 m, some species restricted to greater depths. Around 44 species in the area.




**ENOPLOSIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3285

## Old wife

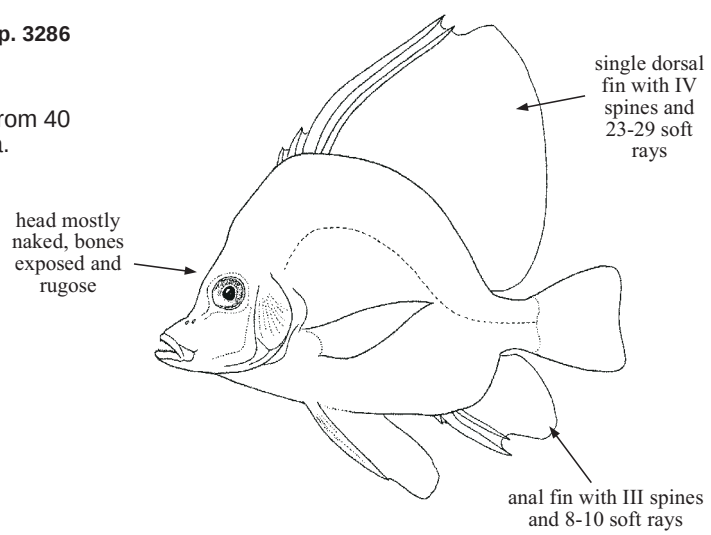
To 31 cm. Coastal rocky reefs and seagrass beds from shallow water to a depth of 100 m. A single species in the area.




**PENTACEROTIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3286

## Armourheads

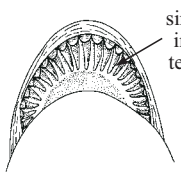
To 35 cm. On hard bottom at depths from 40 to 400 m. A single species in the area.



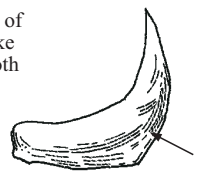
**KYPHOSIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3288**

## Seachubs

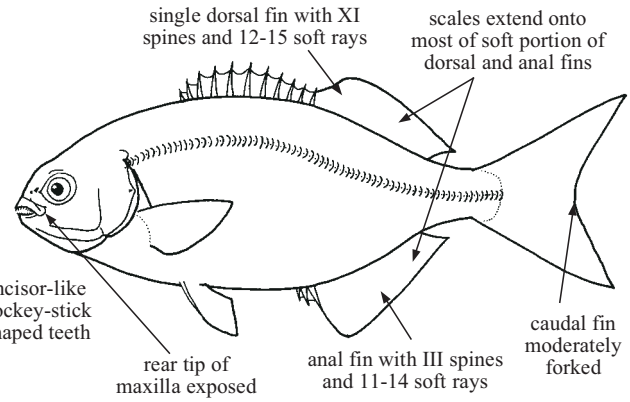
To 60 cm. Occurs on rocky or coral reefs. Five species in the area.




**upper jaw viewed from below**



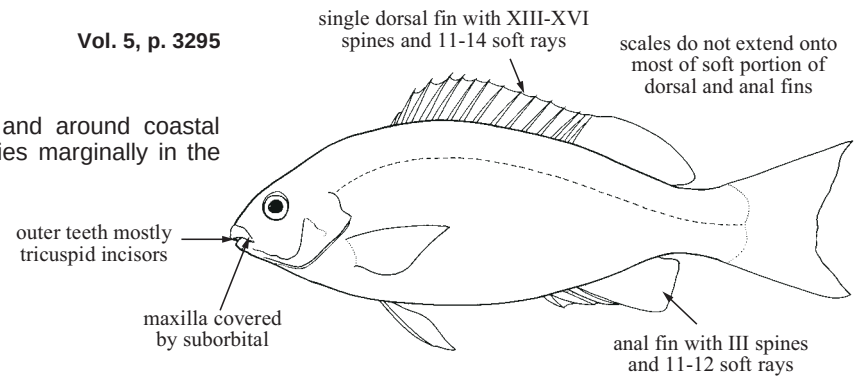

**individual tooth, lateral view**




**GIRELLIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3295**

## Nibblers

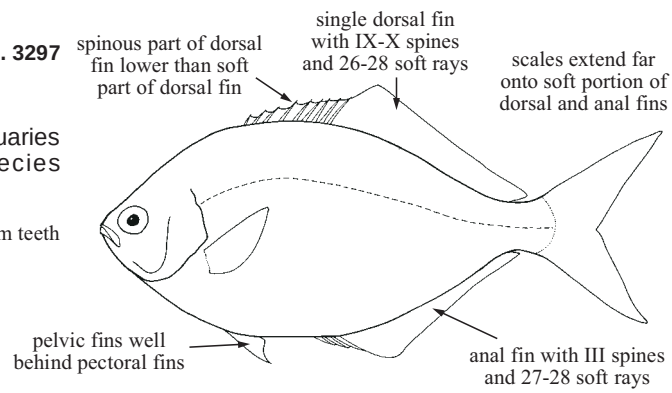
To 76 cm. Estuaries and around coastal rocky reefs. Two species marginally in the area.




**SCORPIDIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3297**

## Halfmoons

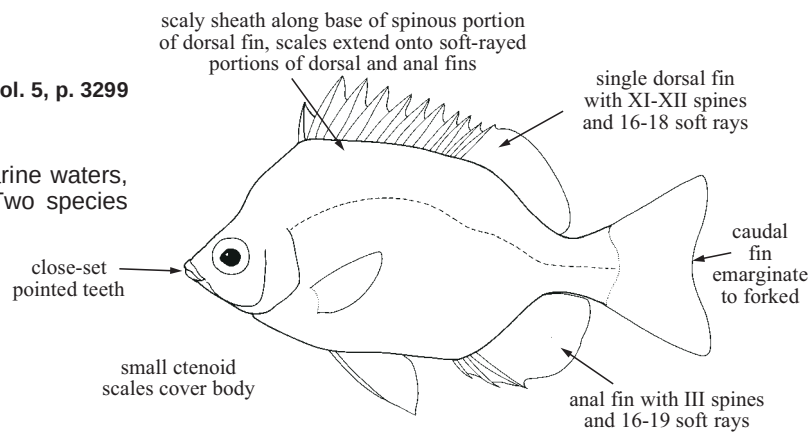
To 37 cm. Mostly on rocky reefs in estuaries and coastal areas. A single species marginally in the area.




**MICROCANTHIDAE** **Vol. 5, p. 3299**

## Microcanthids

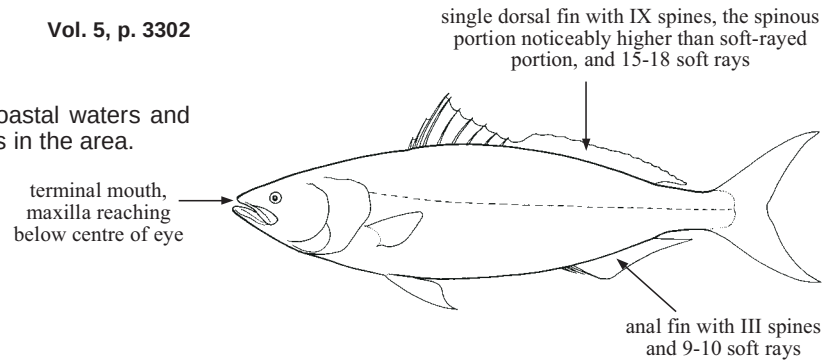
To 25 cm. In coastal and estuarine waters, typically around rocky reefs. Two species marginally in the area.



**ARRIPIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3302

## Australian salmons

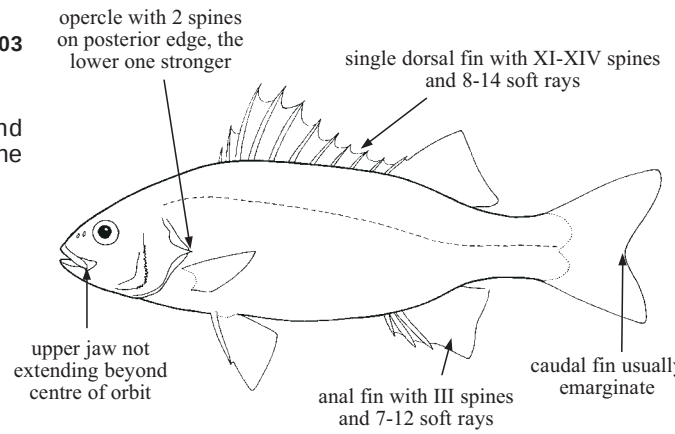
To about 1 m. Shallow coastal waters and estuaries. A single species in the area.




**TERAPONTIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3303

## Terapon perches

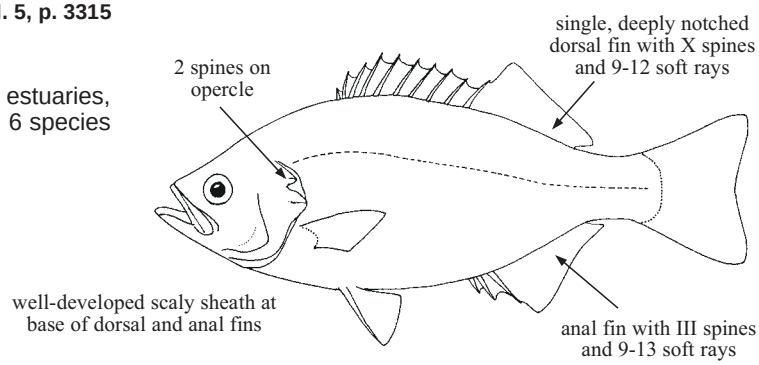
To about 35 cm. Coastal waters and estuaries, also entering fresh water. Nine species in the area.




**KUHLIIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3315

## Flagtails

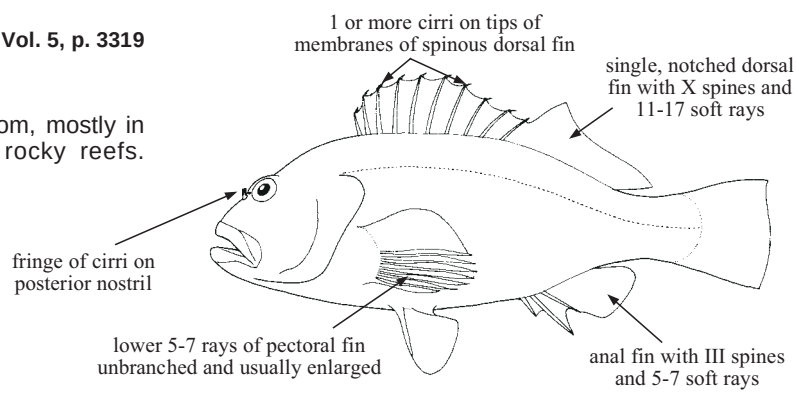
To 50 cm. Coastal waters and estuaries, also entering fresh water. Around 6 species in the area.




**CIRRHITIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3319

## Hawkfishes

To about 30 cm. On the bottom, mostly in shallow waters on coral or rocky reefs. Nineteen species in the area.

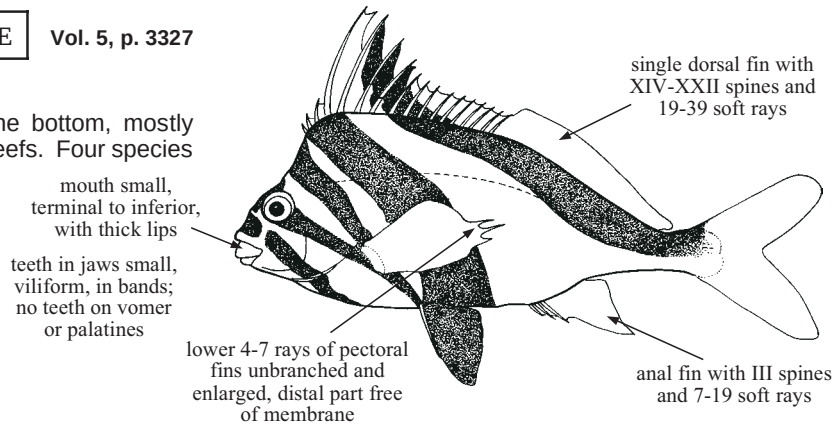


## CHEILODACTYLIDAE

Vol. 5, p. 3327

### Morwongs

To around 45 cm. On the bottom, mostly inshore on rocky or coral reefs. Four species in the area.

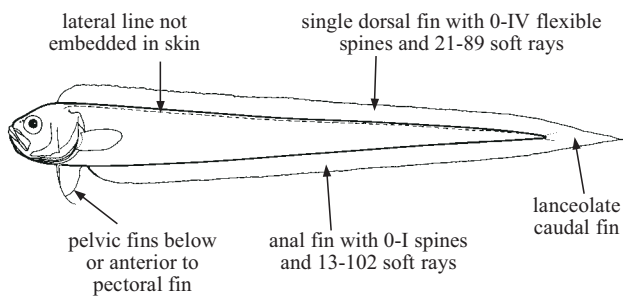



## CEPOLIDAE

Vol. 5, p. 3329

### Bandfishes

To about 40 cm. In burrows in sand or mud bottom, from shallow waters to a depth of 475 m. Around 9 species in the area, although the taxonomy is very confused.



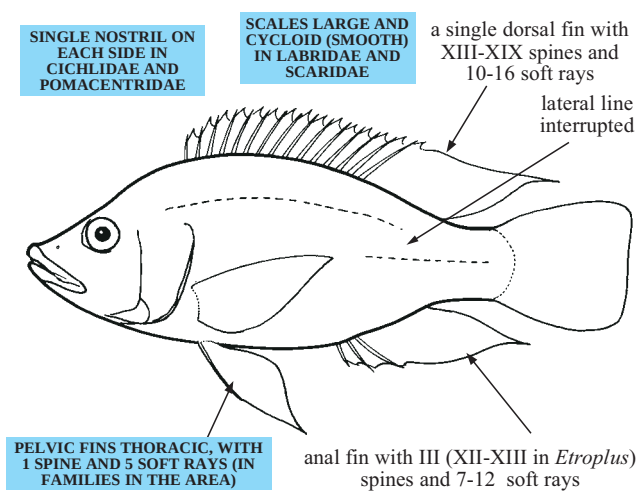

# Order PERCIFORMES: LABROIDEI - Wrasses and allies

## CICHLIDAE

Vol. 5, p. 3331

### Cichlids

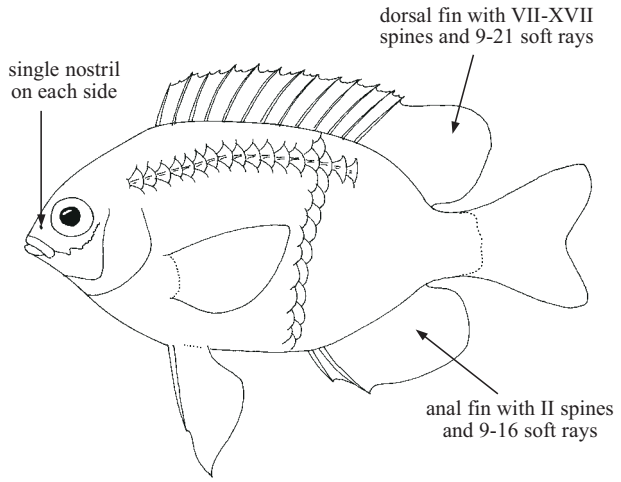
To about 60 cm. Usually fresh water, but entering brackish waters. Ten species tolerant to brackish water introduced into the area, but only 1 species regularly found in brackish water.



**POMACENTRIDAE** Vol. 5, p. 3335

## Damselfishes

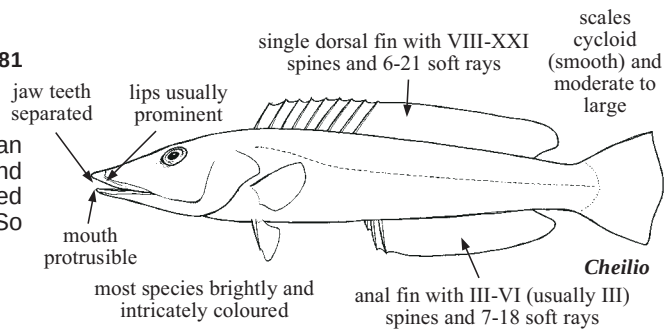
To about 25 cm, but most species smaller than 5 cm. Very common on coral and rocky reefs and also occurring in other shallow habitats such as sand, rubble, silty, and seagrass bottoms. So far, 209 species recorded from the area.

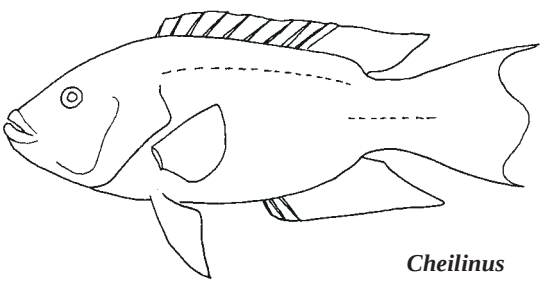


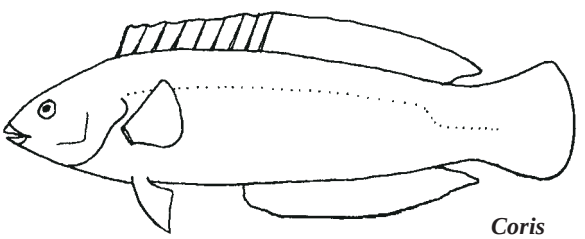

**LABRIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3381

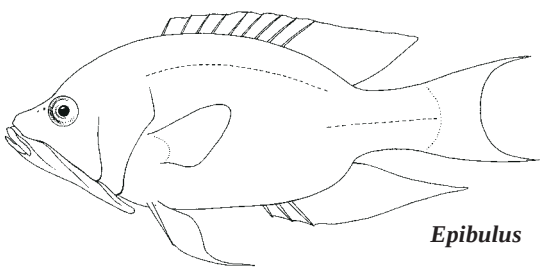
## Wrasses

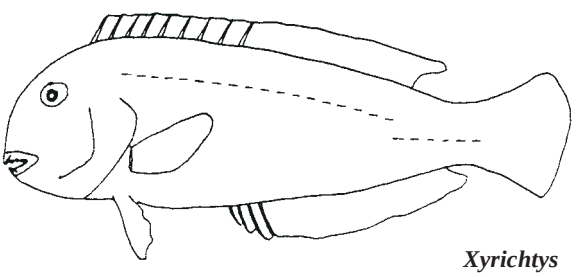
To about 200 cm (but most species less than 20 cm). Very common on coral reefs and also found on rocky, sand, and seaweed bottoms down to a depth of at least 100 m. So far, 183 species listed from the area.

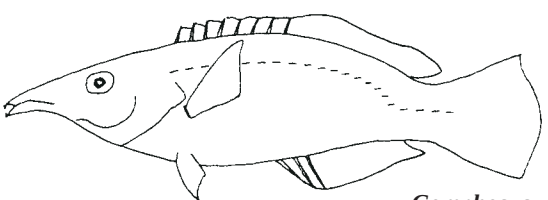




*Cheilinus*


*Coris*


*Epibulus*


*Xyrichtys*

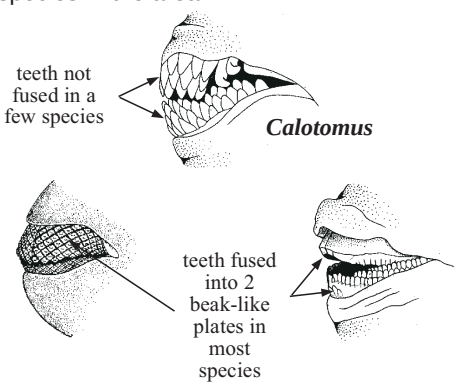

*Gomphosus*

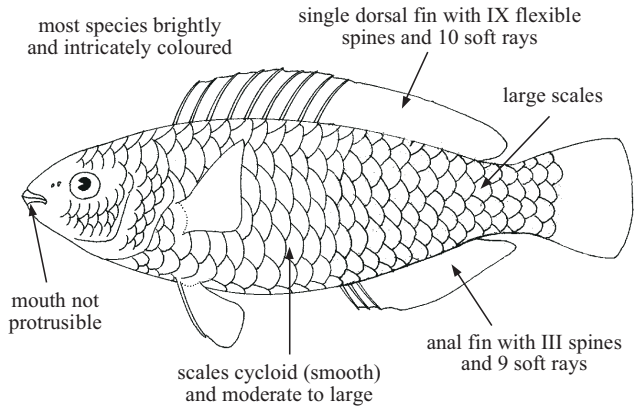
diverse body shapes, a few representative forms shown here

**SCARIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3468**

## Parrotfishes

To 120 cm. Most common on coral reefs at depths shallower than 30 m. Around 44 species in the area.



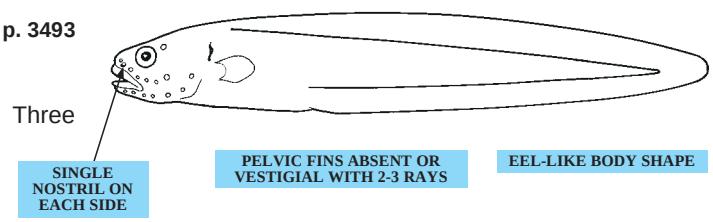




# Order PERCIFORMES: ZOARCOIDEI - Eelpouts

**ZOARCIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3493**

## Eelpouts

To around 20 cm. Deepsea pelagic. Three species in the area.



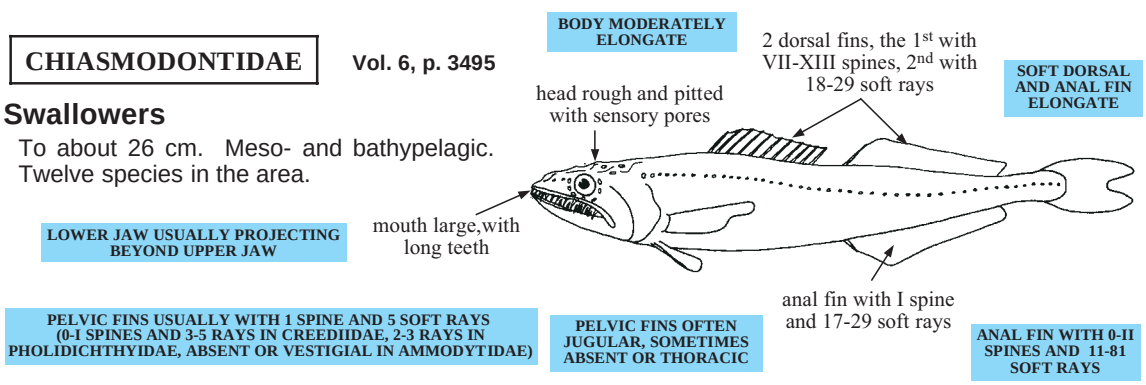

# Order PERCIFORMES: TRACHINOIDEI - Stargazers and allies

A diverse assemblage of families difficult to characterize as a group; the composition of this suborder is provisional.

**CHIASMODONTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3495**

## Swallowers

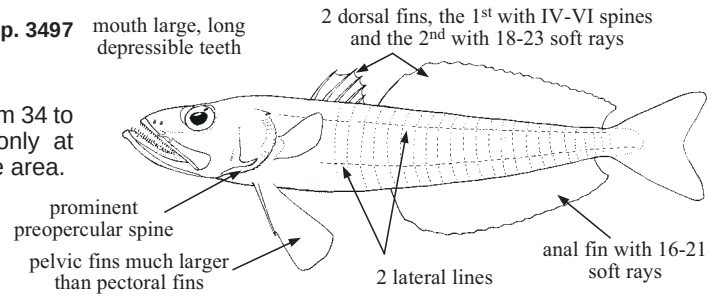
To about 26 cm. Meso- and bathypelagic. Twelve species in the area.



**CHAMPSODONTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3497**

## Gapers

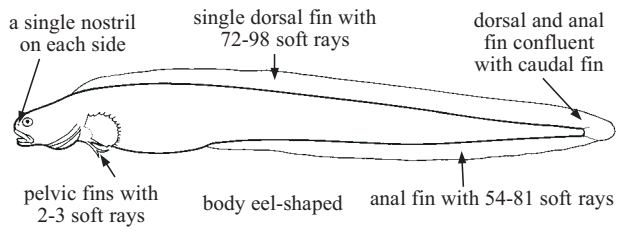
To about 15 cm. Pelagic at depths from 34 to 1 100 m, reaching shallow depths only at night. A single species possibly in the area.




**PHOLIDICHTHYIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3500**

## Convict fish

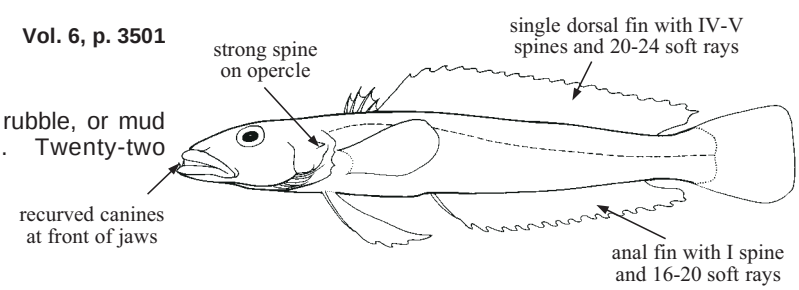
To at least 34 cm. On rocky or coral reefs or over mixed soft and hard bottom. Two species in the area.




**PINGUIPEDIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3501**

## Sandperches

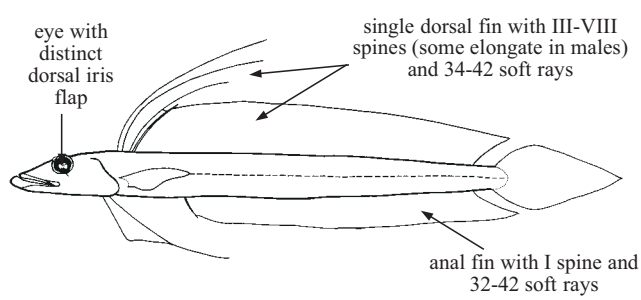
To about 30 cm. On sand, rubble, or mud bottoms in coastal waters. Twenty-two species in the area.




**TRICHONOTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3511**

## Sanddivers

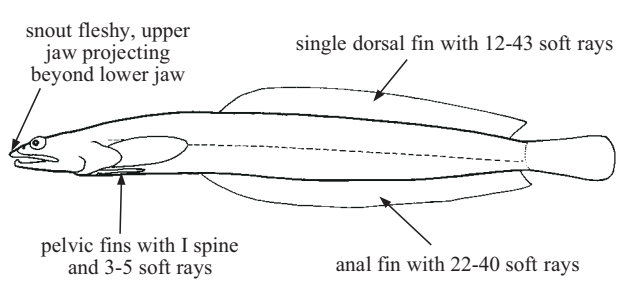
To about 16 cm standard length. Over sand bottom in shallow water to depths of about 50 m. Two described species from the area, at least 1 other undescribed species also in the area.




**CREEDIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3513**

## Sandburrowers

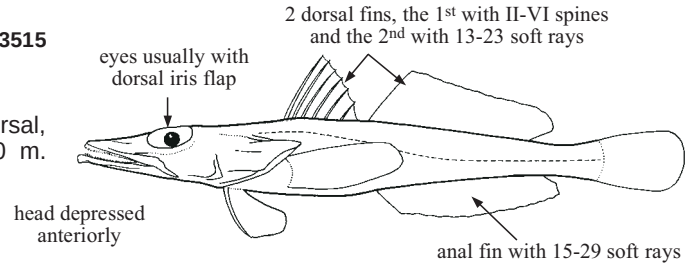
To about 8 cm standard length. On sand or rubble bottom from shallow depths to around 150 m. Around 6 species in the area.



**PERCOPHIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3515**

## Duckbills

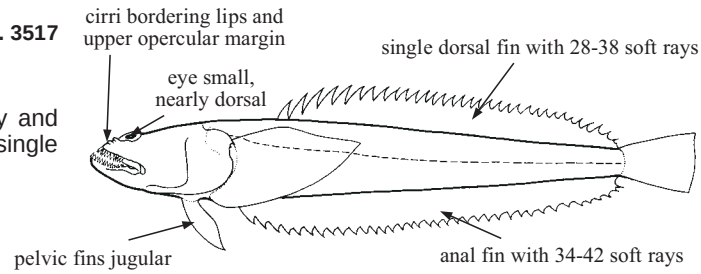
To about 30 cm standard length. Demersal, from shallow water to a depth of 600 m. About 10 species in the area.




**LEPTOSCOPIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3517**

## Southern sandfishes

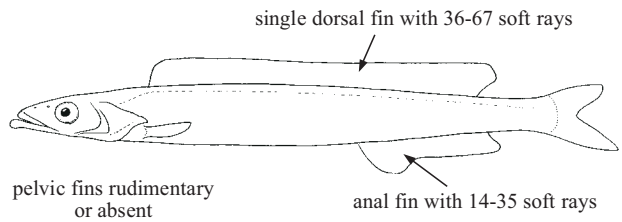
To about 40 cm. Burrowing on sandy and muddy bottoms in coastal areas. A single species in the area.




**AMMODYTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3518**

## Sandlances

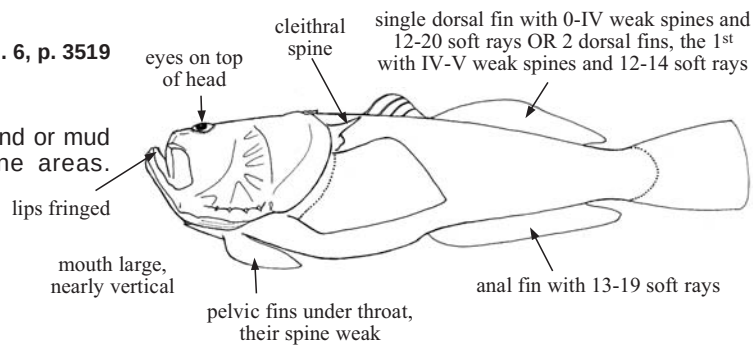
To about 15 cm. On sandy coastal bottoms. Three species in the area.




**URANOSCOPIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3519**

## Stargazers

To about 65 cm. Burrowing in sand or mud bottom in coastal and estuarine areas. Sixteen species in the area.

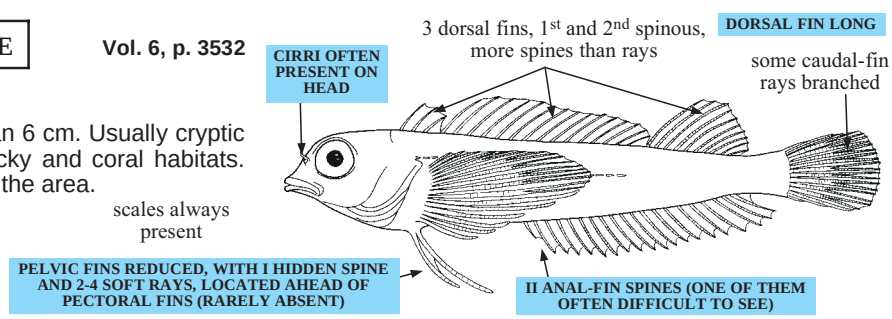



# Order PERCIFORMES: BLENNIOIDEI - Blennies and allies

**TRIPTERYGIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3532**

## Triplefins

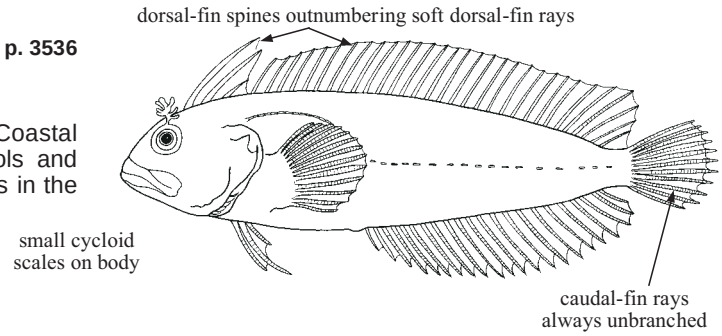
Most species less than 6 cm. Usually cryptic in shallow coastal rocky and coral habitats. Around 60 species in the area.



**CLINIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3536**

## Clinids

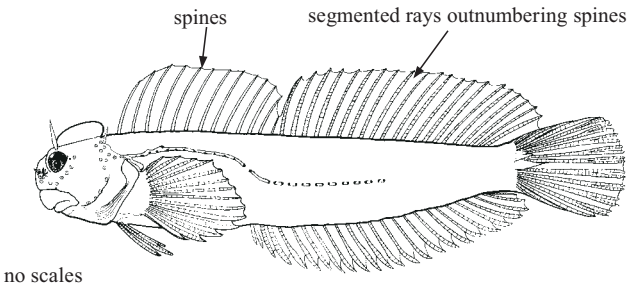
To about 60 cm, most smaller. Coastal inshore and estuaries, in rocky pools and among seaweeds. At least 4 species in the area.




**BLENNIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3538**

## Blennies

Most less than 15 cm, 2 eel-like species reaching 53 cm. Coastal and estuarine, usually at depths less than 20 m, mostly on rocky and coral reefs, tidepools, and among seaweeds; a few in fresh water. About 195 species in the area.

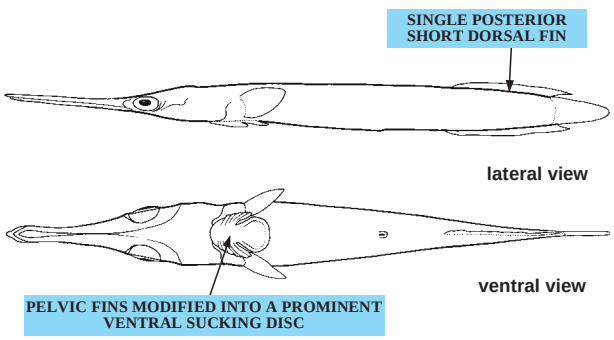



# Order PERCIFORMES: GOBIESOCOIDEI - Clingfishes

**GOBIESOCIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3547**

## Clingfishes

To about 7 cm. Coastal reef and seagrass habitats from shallow water to a depth of about 200 m. Nine species in the area.

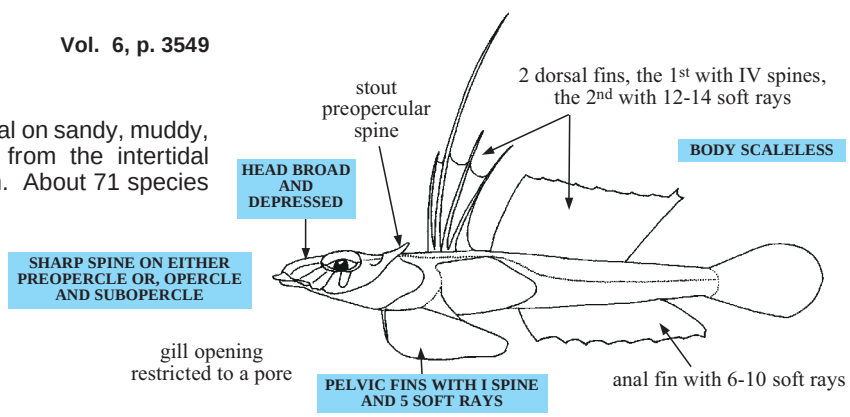



# Order PERCIFORMES: CALLIONYMOIDEI - Dragonets

**CALLIONYMIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3549**

## Dragonets

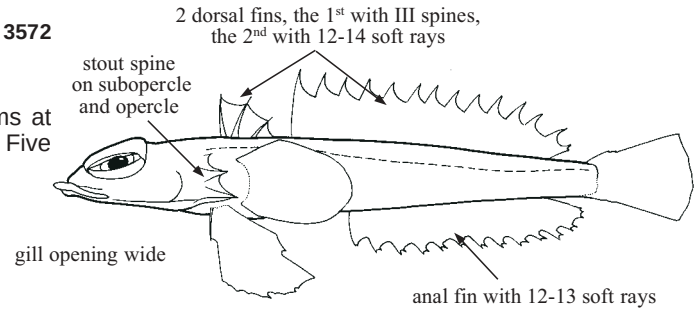
To about 45 cm. Demersal on sandy, muddy, rocky, or coral bottom, from the intertidal zone to a depth of 800 m. About 71 species in the area.



**DRACONETTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3572**

## Deepwater dragonets

To 14 cm. On sandy or muddy bottoms at depths between about 130 and 600 m. Five species listed from the area.

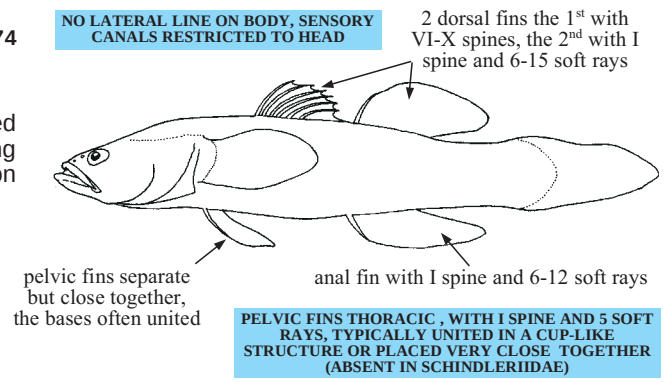



# Order PERCIFORMES: GOBIOIDEI - Gobies and allies

**ELEOTRIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3574**

## Sleepers

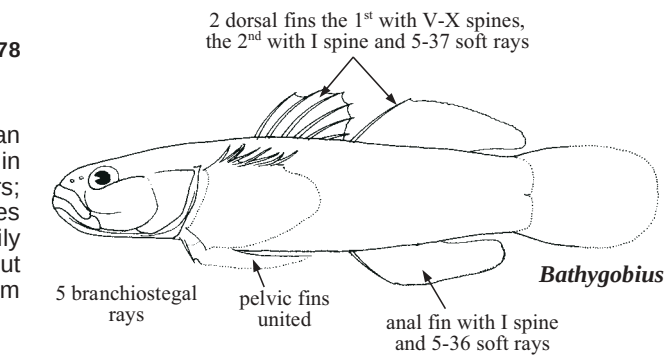
To about 60 cm but most do not exceed 20 cm. Generally fresh water, but entering brackish waters, some species found on coral reefs. Around 23 species in the area.

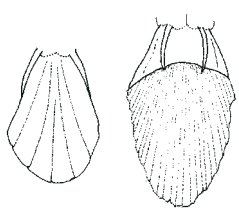



**GOBIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3578**

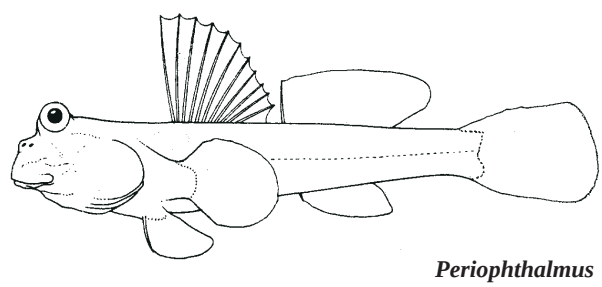
## Gobies

To about 30 cm, but most species less than 10 cm. Demersal in coastal waters; some in brackish waters and a few in fresh waters; usually in shallow depths, but a few species to below a 150 m; benthic; the largest family of fishes; of little interest to fisheries, but some species of interest to the aquarium trade. Around 500 species in the area.



**pelvic fins united**

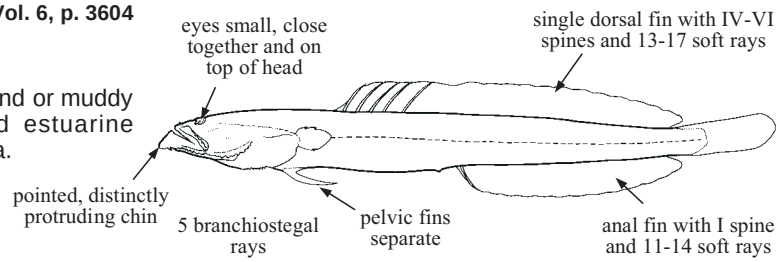


***Periophthalmus***

**KRAEMERIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3604**

## Sandgobies

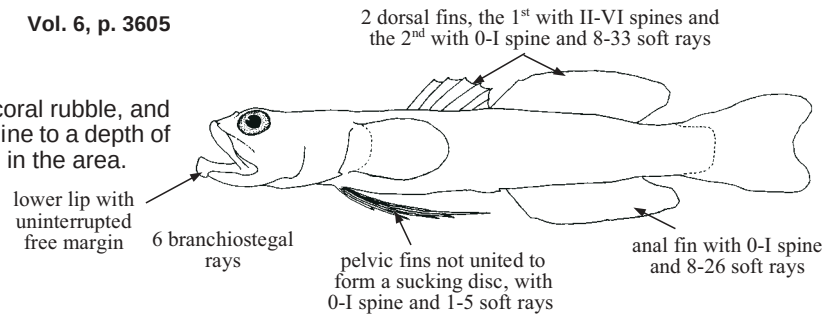
To about 7 cm. Burrowing in sand or muddy sand in shallow coastal and estuarine bottoms. Six species in the area.




**XENISTHMIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3605**

## Wrigglers

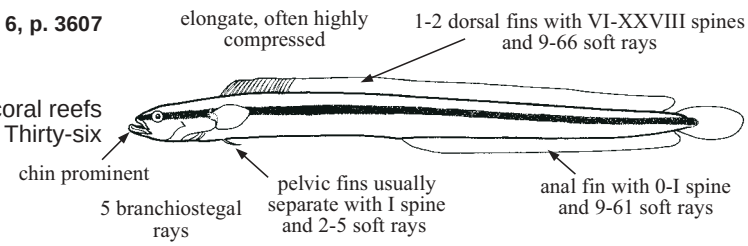
To 3.5 cm. Cryptic in coral, coral rubble, and sand habitats from the shoreline to a depth of around 30 m. Seven species in the area.




**MICRODESMIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3607**

## Wormfishes

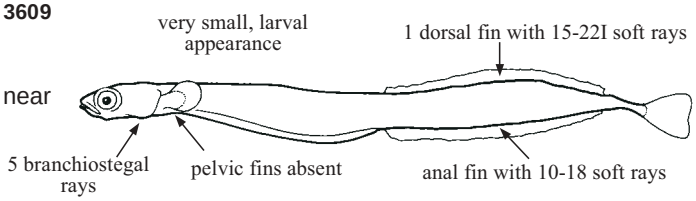
To almost 13 cm. Near bottom on coral reefs or sandy areas near coral reefs. Thirty-six species in the area.




**SCHINDLERIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3609**

## Schindler's fishes

To around 2 cm. Pelagic, offshore or near coral reefs. Two species in the area.

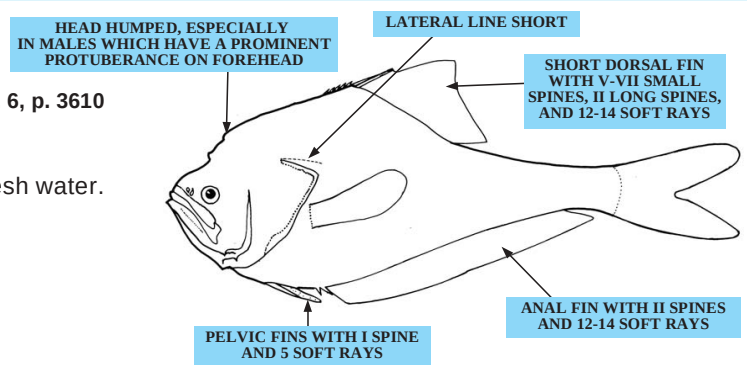



# Order PERCIFORMES: KURTOIDEI - Nurseryfishes

**KURTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3610**

## Nurseryfishes

To about 36 cm. Brackish and fresh water. A single species.



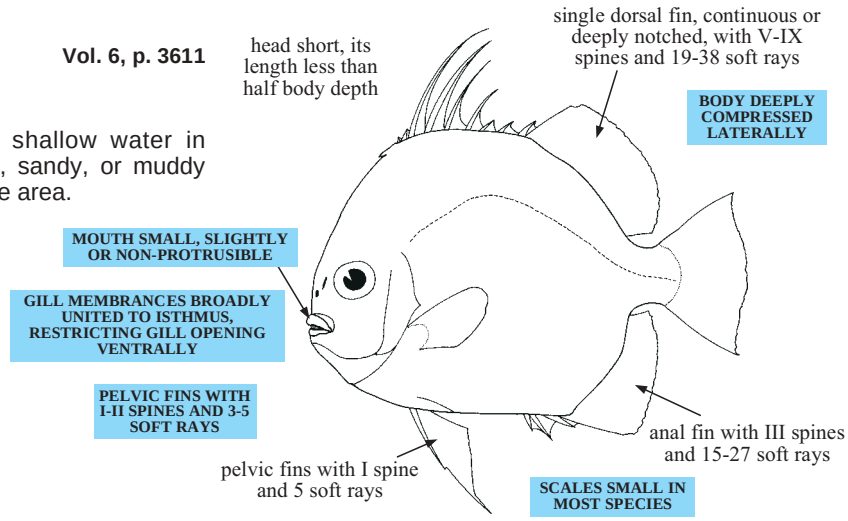
# Order PERCIFORMES: ACANTHUROIDEI - Surgeonfishes

## EPHIPPIDAE

Vol. 6, p. 3611

### Spadefishes

To 25 cm. Nearshore shallow water in estuaries, on coral reefs, sandy, or muddy bottom. Six species in the area.

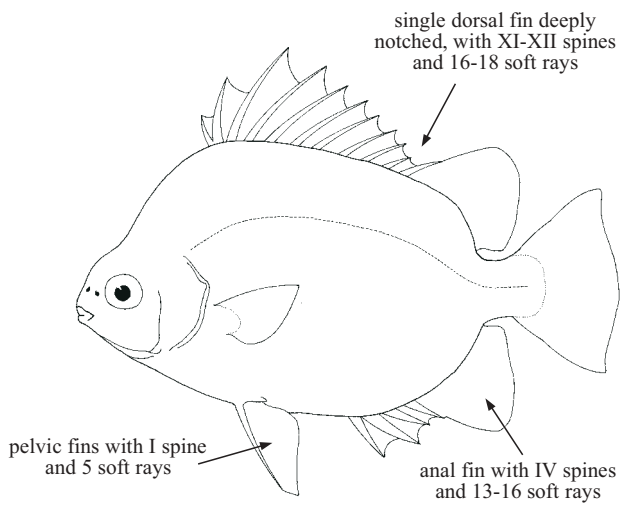



## SCATOPHAGIDAE

Vol. 6, p. 3623

### Scats

To about 32 cm. Mostly in estuaries, but also entering fresh water. Two species currently recognized in the area.

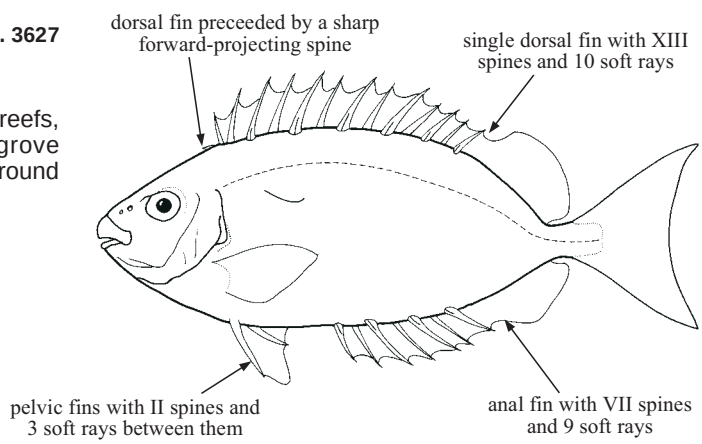



## SIGANIDAE

Vol. 6, p. 3627

### Rabbitfishes

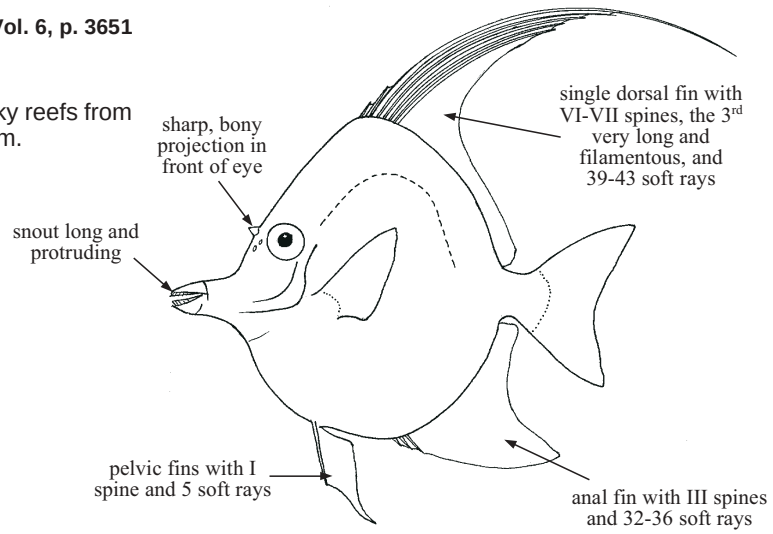
To 55 cm. Bottom dwelling on coral reefs, seagrass beds, estuaries, and magrove swamps, in shallow water to depths of around 50 m. Twenty-one species in the area.



**ZANCLIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3651**

## Moorish idol

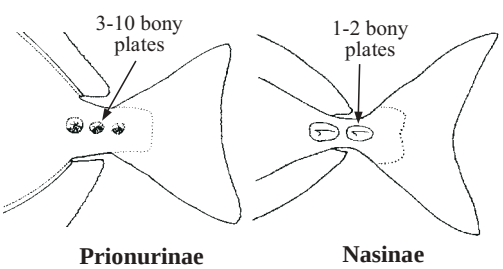
To about 22 cm. On coral or rocky reefs from shallow water to a depth of 180 m.

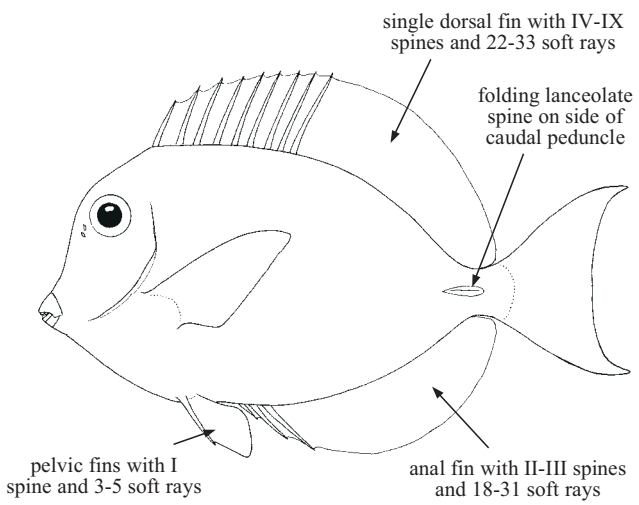



**ACANTHURIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3653**

## Surgeonfishes

To about 75 cm. Near bottom on coral or rocky reefs, generally at depths less than 100 m. Usually at a depth of less than 50 m. Fifty-six species in the area.



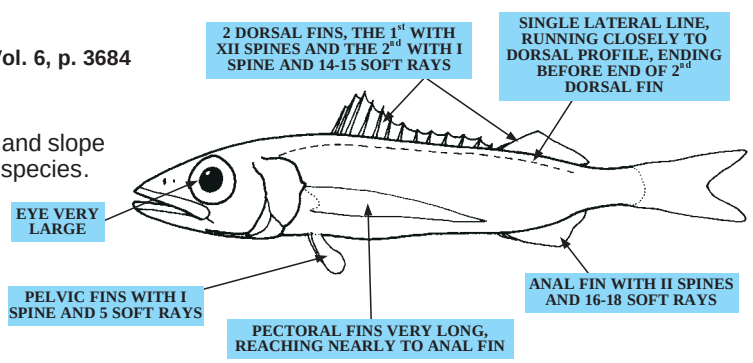




# Order PERCIFORMES: SCOMBROLABRACOIDEI - Longfin escolars

**SCOMBROLABRACIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3684**

## Longfin escolar

To 30 cm. On the continental shelf and slope between 100 and 900 m. A single species.



# Order PERCIFORMES: SCOMBROIDEI - Tunas and allies

## SPHYRAENIDAE

Vol. 6, p. 3685

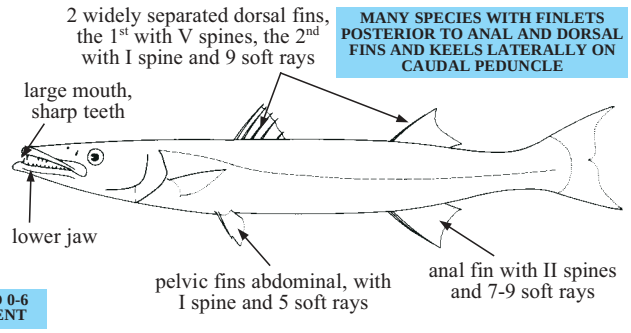
### Barracudas

To 170 cm. Nearshore pelagic and demersal from near surface to a depth of about 100 m. Around 9 species in the area.

MANY SPECIES WITH FINLETS POSTERIOR TO ANAL AND DORSAL FINS AND KEELS LATERALLY ON CAUDAL PEDUNCLE

UPPER JAW NOT PROTRUSIBLE, PREMAXILLA FIXED

PELVIC FINS WITH 0-I SPINE AND 0-6 RAYS, OFTEN REDUCED OR ABSENT

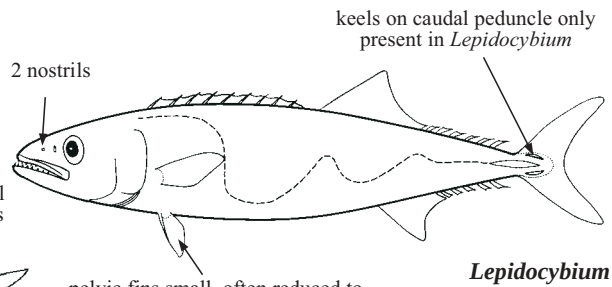



## GEMPYLIDAE

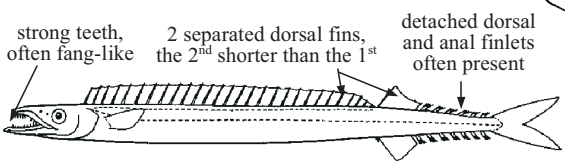
Vol. 6, p. 3698

### Snake mackerels

To about 300 cm. Marine, from the surface (at night) to below a depth of 200 m; pelagic. Fourteen species listed from the area.




*Lepidocybium*



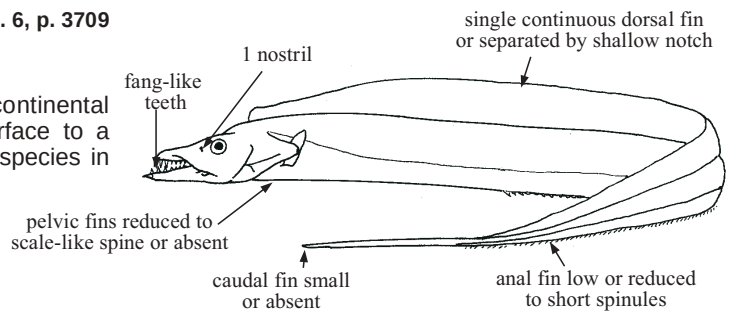

*Gempylus*

## TRICHIURIDAE

Vol. 6, p. 3709

### Cutlassfishes

To 225 cm. Benthopelagic on continental shelves and slopes from the surface to a depth of about 2 000 m. Sixteen species in the area.

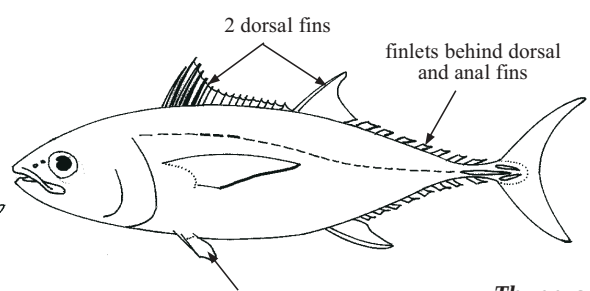



## SCOMBRIDAE

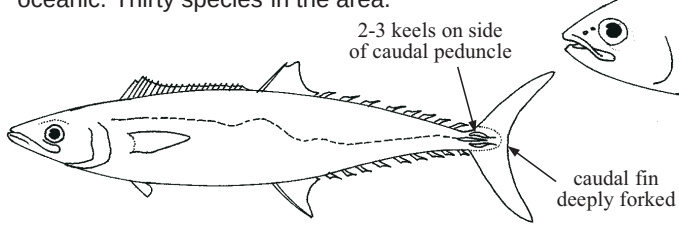
Vol. 6, p. 3721

### Tunas

To over 5 m. Epipelagic nearshore and oceanic. Thirty species in the area.




*Thunnus*

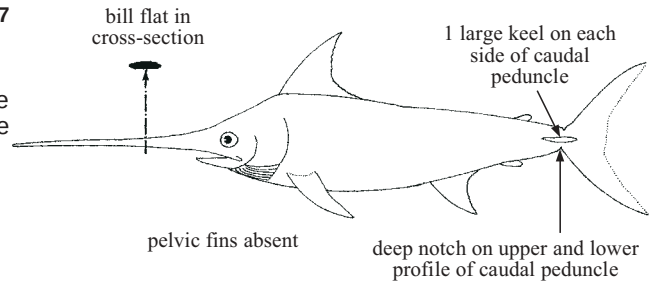



*Scomberomorus*

**XIPHIIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3757**

## Swordfishes

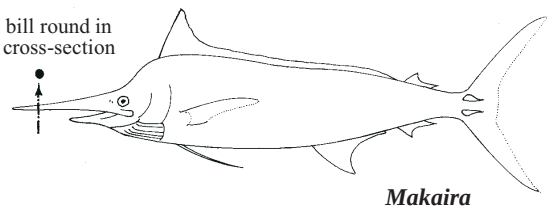
To 450 cm. Pelagic, oceanic, from surface waters to a depth of 550 m. A single species.



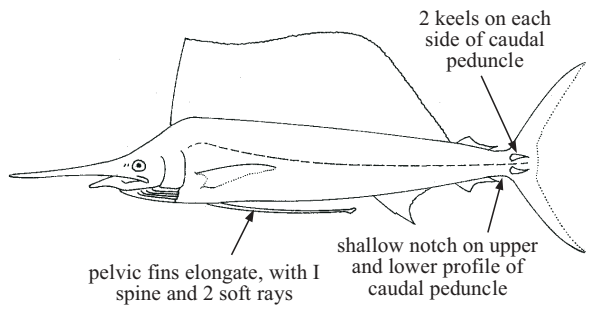

**ISTIOPHORIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3759**

## Billfishes

To 5 m. Epipelagic oceanic, usually above the thermocline. Five species in the area.




*Makaira*



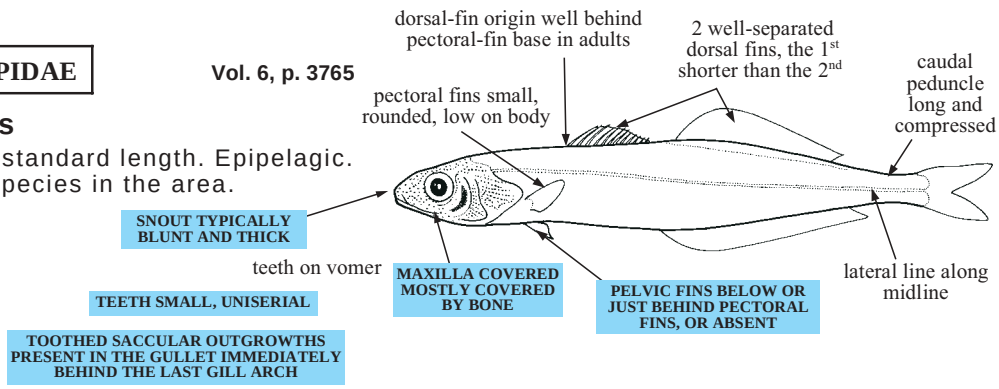

*Istiophorus*

# Order PERCIFORMES: STROMATEOIDEI - Butterfishes and allies

**AMARSIPIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3765**

## Amarsipas

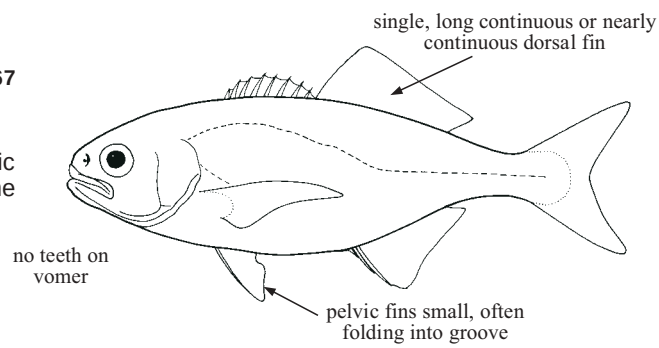
To 22 cm standard length. Epipelagic. A single species in the area.




**CENTROLOPHIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3767**

## Medusafishes

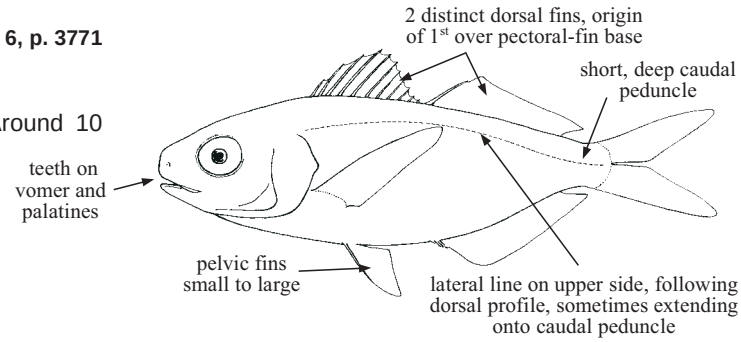
To 137 cm. Epi- and mesopelagic oceanic and nearshore demersal. Four species in the area.



**NOMEIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3771

## Driftfishes

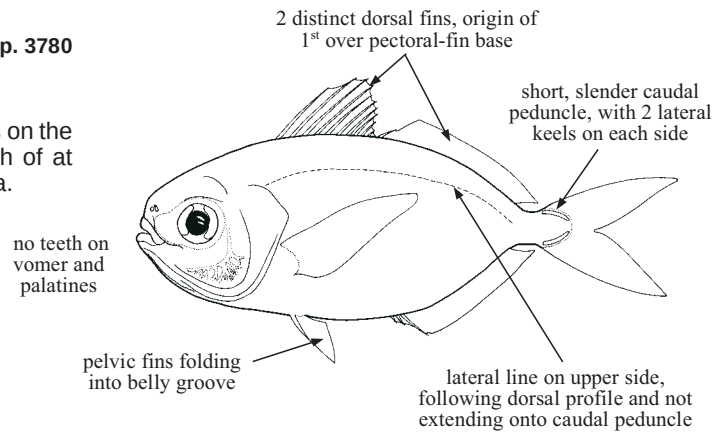
To 1 m. Epipelagic, oceanic. Around 10 species in the area.




**ARIOMMATIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3780

## Ariommas

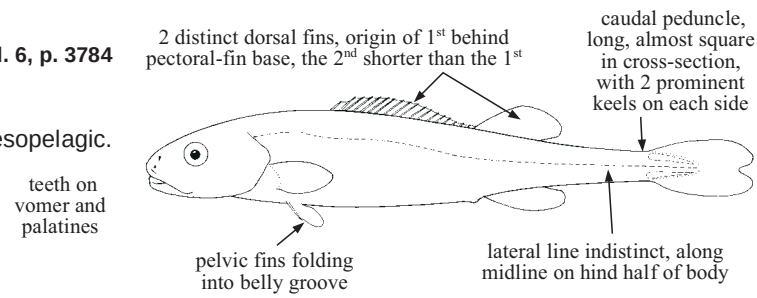
To 78 cm. Demersal over soft bottoms on the continental shelf and slope to a depth of at least 750 m. Three species in the area.




**TETRAGONURIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3784

## Squaretails

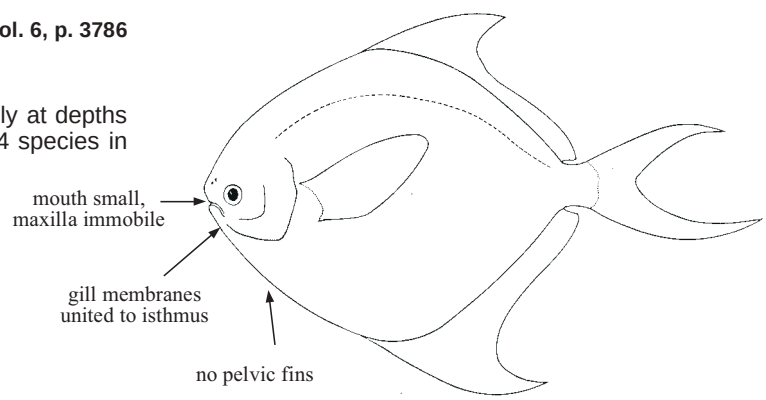
To 50 cm. Oceanic epi- and mesopelagic. Two species in the area.




**STROMATEIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3786

## Butterfishes

To about 60 cm. Coastal, usually at depths shallower than 100 m. Around 4 species in the area.

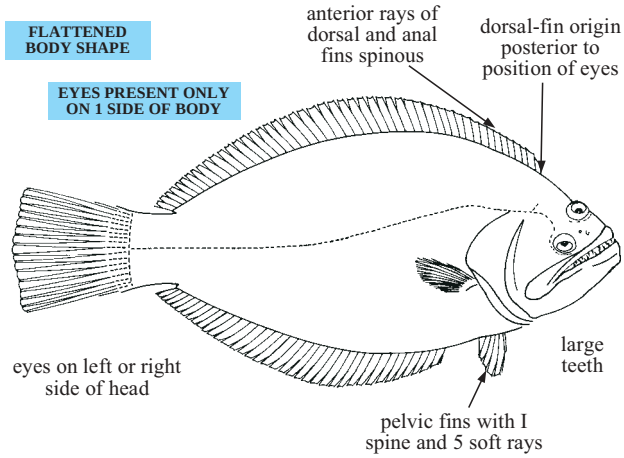


# Order PLEURONECTIFORMES - Flatfishes

**PSETTODIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3792

## Spiny turbot

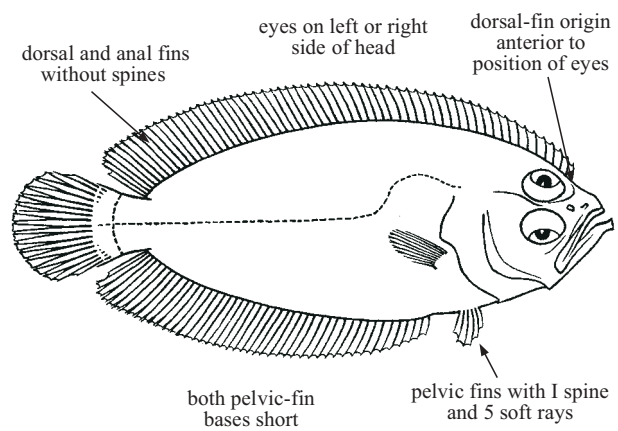
To 60 cm. Demersal on sand and mud bottoms from shallow depths down to around 100 m. A single species in the area.




**CITHARIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3794

## Largescale flounders

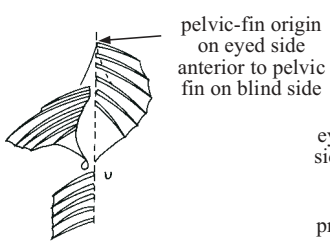
To 36 cm. Demersal, mostly on sandy bottoms. Three species in the area.



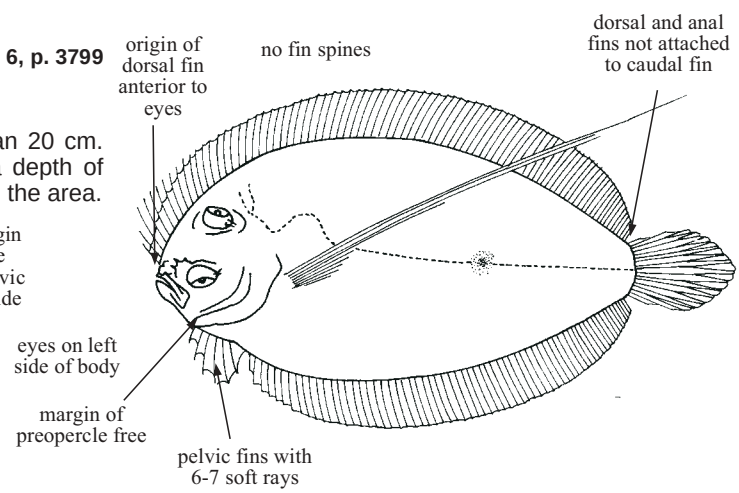

**BOTHIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3799

## Lefteye flounders

To about 42 cm, most smaller than 20 cm. Demersal, from the coastline to a depth of about 980 m. Around 59 species in the area.



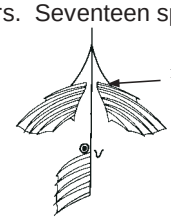

**ventral view of pelvic fins**



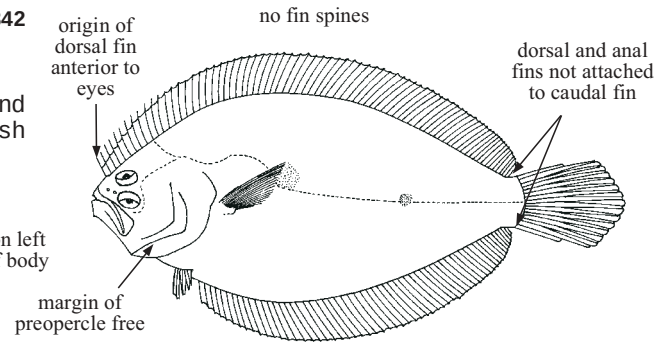
**PARALICHTHYIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3842**

## Sand flounders

To 40 cm. Demersal on shallow sandy and muddy bottoms; also entering brackish waters. Seventeen species in the area.



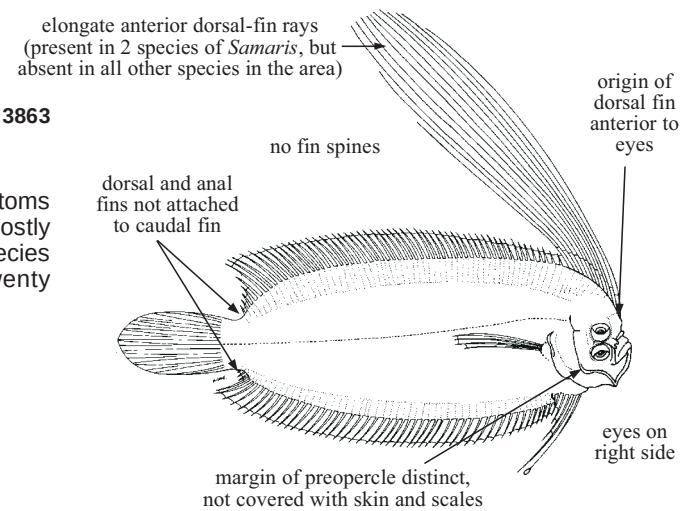

**ventral view of pelvic fins**




**PLEURONECTIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3863**

## Righteye flounders

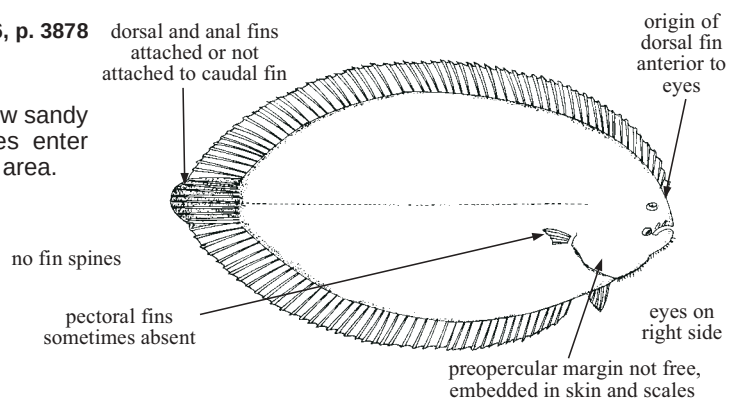
To about 22 cm. Demersal on mixed bottoms of mud, sand, silt, and crushed shells, mostly at depths of about 60 to 500 m; some species in shallow water on coral reefs. Twenty species in the area.




**SOLEIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3878**

## Soles

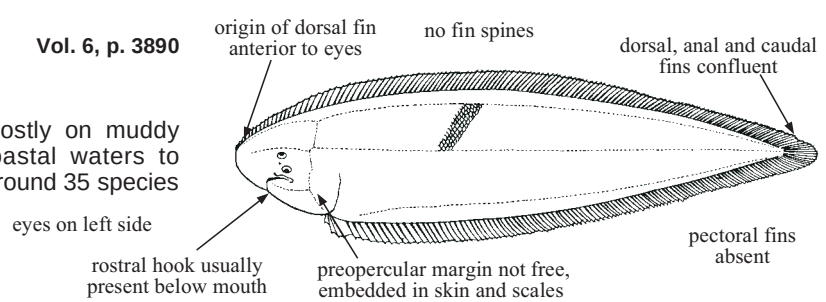
To about 32 cm. Demersal on shallow sandy and muddy bottoms; some species enter estuaries. Around 48 species in the area.




**CYNOGLOSSIDAE** **Vol. 6, p. 3890**

## Tonguesoles

To 40 cm. Demersal, mostly on muddy bottoms, from shallow coastal waters to depths of about 1 500 m. Around 35 species in the area.

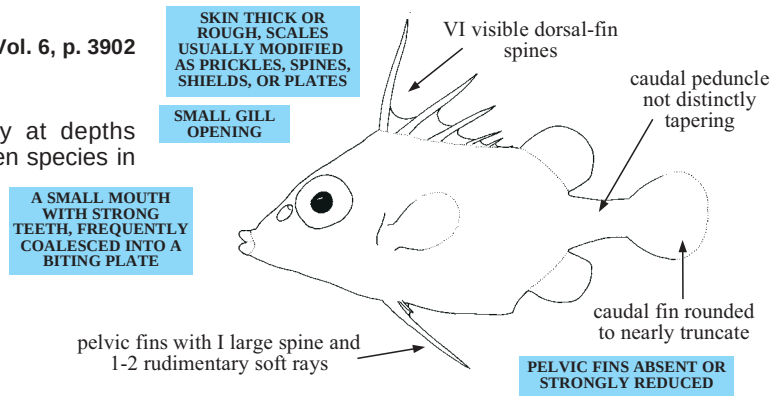


# Order TETRAODONTIFORMES - Pufferfishes and allies

**TRIACANTHODIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3902

## Spikefishes

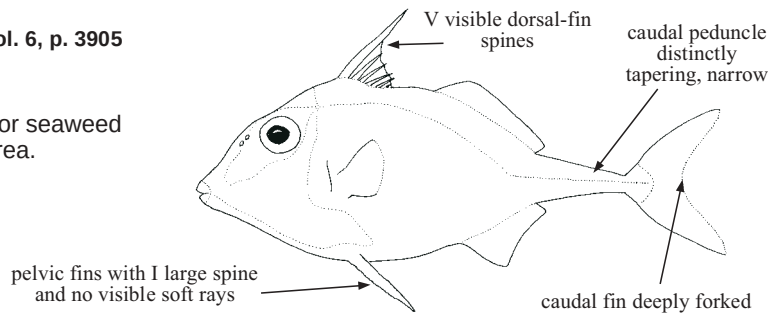
To 20 cm. Demersal, mostly at depths between 35 and 900 m. Thirteen species in the area.




**TRIACANTHIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3905

## Tripodfishes, triplespines

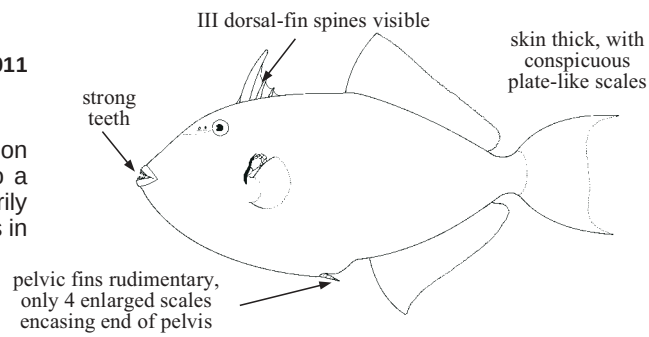
To 30 cm. Mostly on flat, sandy, or seaweed bottoms. Seven species in the area.




**BALISTIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3911

## Triggerfishes

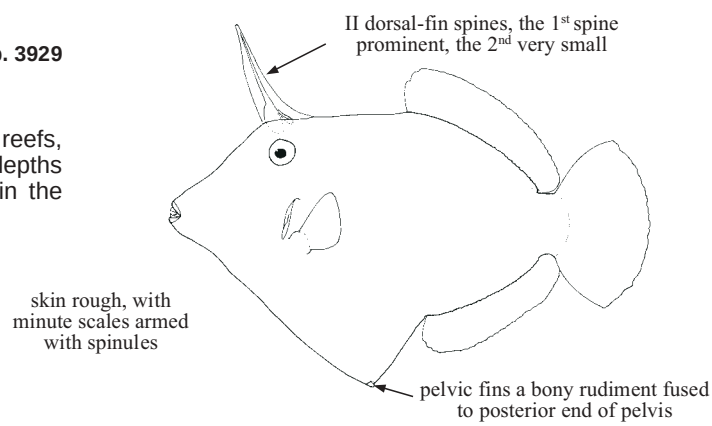
To about 80 cm. Mostly bottom dwelling on coral or rocky reefs from the coastline to a depth of about 100 m; some species primrily pelagic in open water. Twenty-two species in the area.




**MONACANTHIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3929

## Filefishes, leatherjackets

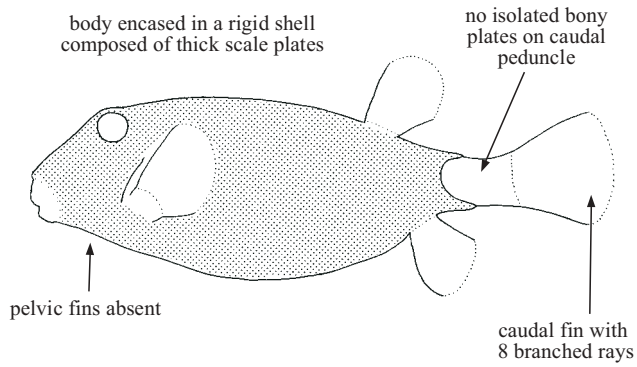
To 1 m. Mostly on coral and rocky reefs, seagrass beds, and sandy bottom at depths to over 200 m. Around 46 species in the area.



**OSTRACIIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3948

## Boxfishes

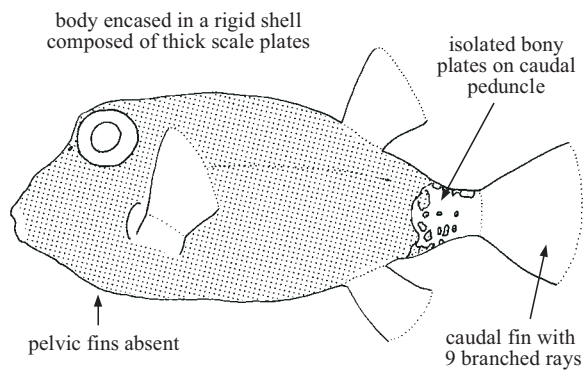
To 40 cm. Bottom dwelling on rocky and coral reefs, and sandy bottoms, from the coastline to a depth of 100 m. Ten species in the area.




**ARACANIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3952

## Trunkfishes

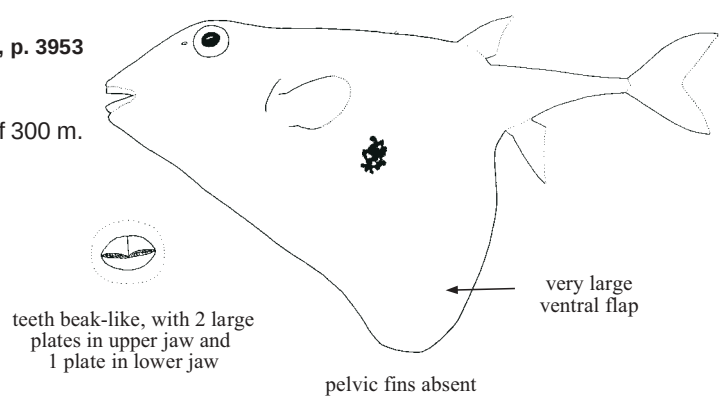
To about 40 cm. Bottom dwelling on rocky and coral reefs, and sandy bottom to a depth of about 200 m. A single species in the area.




**TRIODONTIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3953

## Threetooth puffers

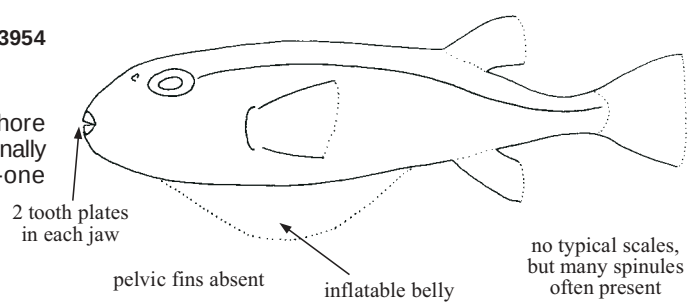
To 60 cm. In deep water to a depth of 300 m. A single species, also in the area.




**TETRAODONTIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3954

## Puffers

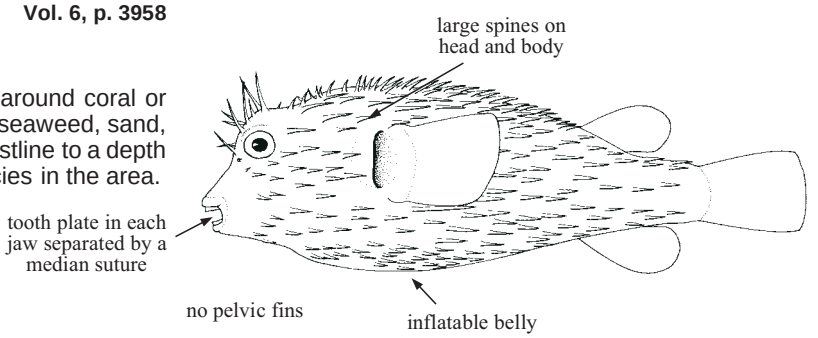
To about 80 cm. Most in shallow, inshore water, entering estuaries and occasionally freshwater; some species pelagic. Fifty-one species in the area.



**DIODONTIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3958

## Porcupinefishes

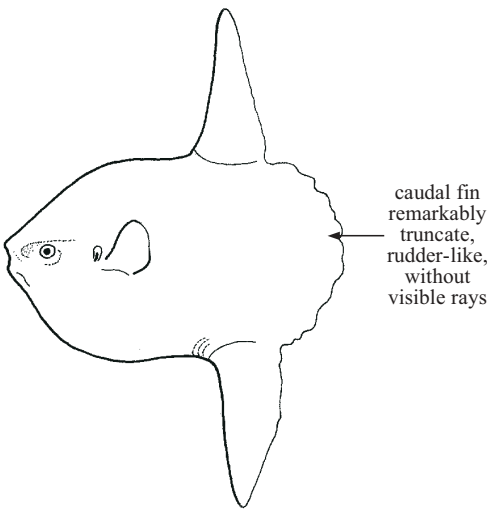
To 1 m. Mostly near bottom around coral or rocky reefs, sometimes over seaweed, sand, or mud bottoms, from the coastline to a depth of about 100 m. Eleven species in the area.




**MOLIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3966

## Molas

To 300 cm or more. Open ocean pelagic, from the surface to about a depth of 360 m. Four species in the area.



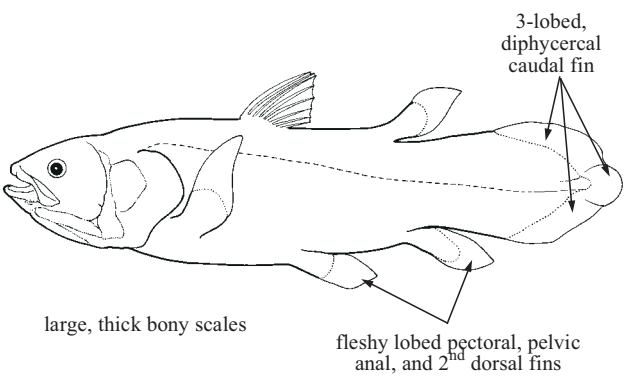

# Class SARCOPTERYGII

## Order COELACANTHIFORMES

**LATIMERIIDAE** Vol. 6, p. 3969

## Coelacanths

To at least 1.24 m. Around volcanic islands at depths between 100 and 150 m. Probably spends the day inside caves and comes out at night to forage. A single representative recently discovered in the area and described as a new species. Recognized in the Coelacanthidae by some authors.

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