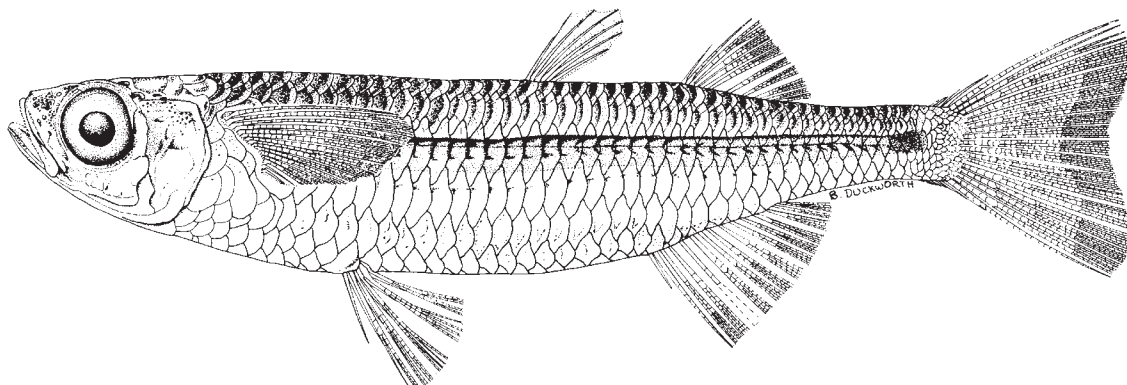


***Atherinomorus ogilbyi*** (Whitley, 1930)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Pranesus ogilbyi* Whitley, 1930 / *Pranesus endrachtensis* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1824); *Atherinomorus lacunosus* (Forster and Schneider, 1801); *Pranesus pinguis* (Lacepède, 1803).

**FAO names:** En - Ogilby's silverside.

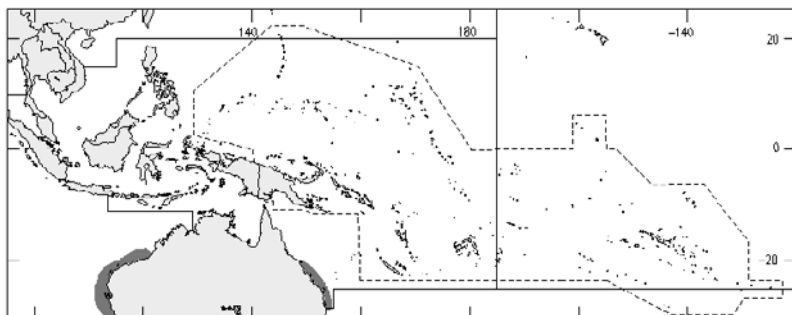


**Diagnostic characters:** Body large, robust, slightly compressed. **Free edge of premaxilla extending to just beyond anterior margin of orbit.** Mouth relatively large and oblique; lips thin, with teeth in both jaws small and barely visible; anterior surface of premaxilla covered by fine shagreen denticles, often extending onto surface of snout. Teeth always present on vomer and palatines, present or absent on ectopterygoids and forming strong ridge on mesopterygoids. Ascending process of premaxilla short, lateral process low and broad. Free edge of dentary flat but distal end slightly elevated. **Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 22 to 28 (usually 24 to 26)**, long, usually equal to or longer than diameter of pupil. First dorsal fin with IV to VII weak spines; second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 11 soft rays; anal fin with I spine and 11 to 16 soft rays; pectoral fins with 15 to 18 soft rays. Midlateral scales 38 to 43; 5 or 5 ½ scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 16 to 21; interdorsal scales 6 to 9. Anus 1/2 to 4 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** live specimens bluish green and translucent; **midlateral band narrow, restricted to third transverse scale;** abdomen, opercle, and preopercle usually with iridescent sheen; upper half of midlateral band bright blue; iris silvery and with black spot on its dorsal half; iris also frequently with red spots (superficial capillaries) on ventral half.

**Size:** Maximum standard length about 12.4 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Found mostly in marine or estuarine habitats and can survive in water with salinity as low as 3‰. The life history of this species has been extensively studied in its southern ranges. Its diet comprises amphipods, copepods, isopods, crab and barnacle larvae, gastropods, polychaetes, chironomid midges, hymenopterans ants, and plant matter, but the main diet appears to consist of crustaceans and polychaete worms. Gut content varies from season to season indicating that they are opportunistic feeders. Life span is 2 years with sexual maturity and breeding occurring during the second year during the southern hemisphere late winter and spring, from August to October. Breeding may take place both in marine and estuarine environments. They can be collected with seines and are taken by commercial fishermen in eastern Australia, probably for bait or fishmeal.

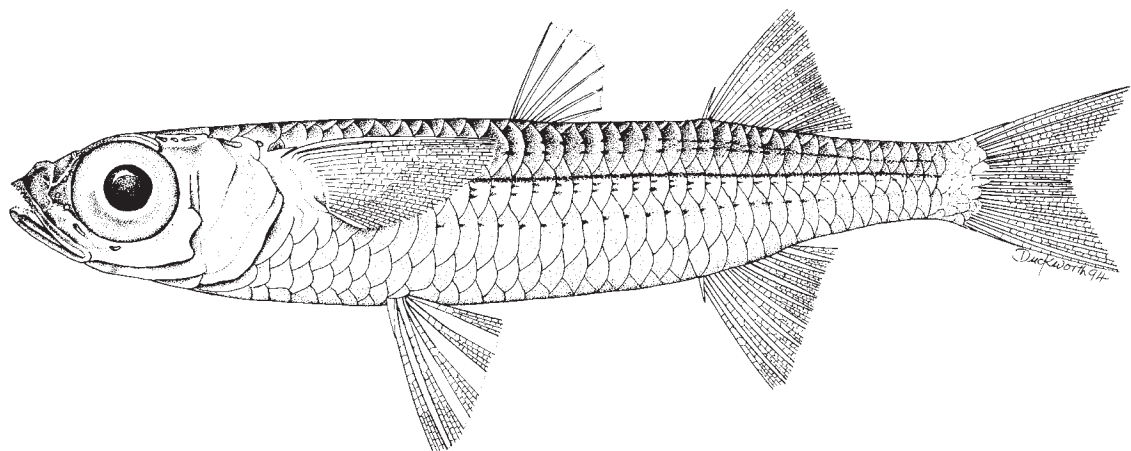
**Distribution:** Common silverside in southeastern and southwestern Australia, with range extending into the area to Rockhampton on the eastern coast.



*Atherinomorus reginae* (Seale, 1910)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherina regina* (Seale, 1910); *Allanetta regina* (Seale, 1910) / *Atherinomorus duodecimalis* (Valenciennes, 1835); *A. balabacensis* (Seale, 1910).

**FAO names:** En - Culion silverside.

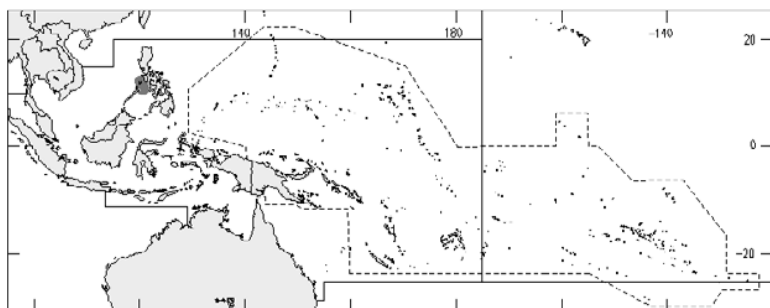


**Diagnostic characters:** Body slender. Preopercular notch present. Mouth small. Teeth in both jaws minute with shagreen denticles present on outside of mouth. Teeth on vomer also minute; **no teeth present on palatines**. Ascending process of premaxilla short and broad. Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch (22 to 24) long and slender, about 3/4 diameter of pupil. First dorsal fin with V to VII slender spines; **first dorsal-fin origin at, or up to 2 scales in front of, vertical through pelvic-fin tips**. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 9 or 10 soft rays, its origin behind vertical through origin of anal fin. Anal fin with I spine and 10 to 12 soft rays. Body scales large, posterior margin smooth; 36 to 38 midlateral scales; 5 or 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 14 to 18; interdorsal scales 6 to 8. Anus 1 ½ or 2 scales in front of pelvic-fin tips. **Colour:** preserved specimens yellowish with posterior margins of dorsal rows of scales; sides of dentary, snout, dorsal part of gill cover, and upper surface of eye with dark pigmentation; silvery midlateral band covering midlateral scale row; line of small dark dots above midlateral band and minute black dots on row of scales below silvery band; snout and lower jaw dusky; upper part of eye also dark; fins clear to yellowish, but caudal fin dusky, with 2 or more distinct blotches on base.

**Size:** Maximum length about 7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Like other atherinids, this species is usually found in close inshore habitats. Nothing is known of its biology and it has no known commercial value. Probably taken by commercial fish species as food.

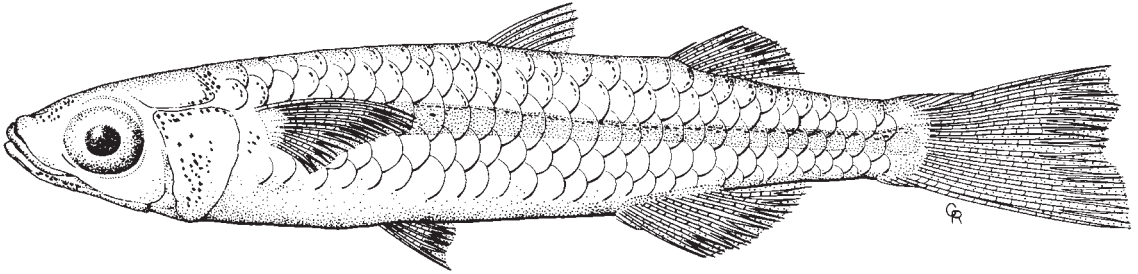
**Distribution:** Known from Culion and Busuanga islands in the Philippines.



***Craterocephalus capreoli*** Rendahl, 1922

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Craterocephalus anticanus* Whitley, 1955 / *Craterocephalus pauciradiatus* (Günther, 1861).

**FAO names:** En - Rendahl's hardyhead.

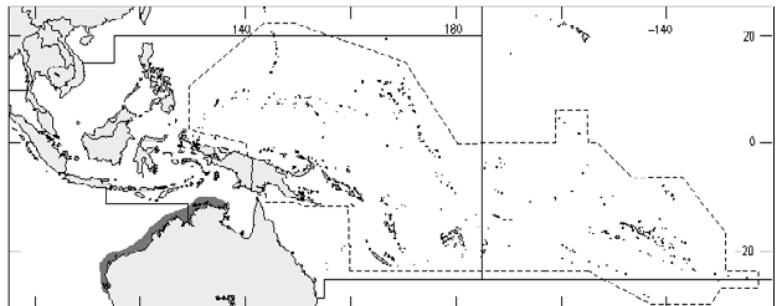


**Diagnostic characters:** Body small, robust, subcylindrical. Teeth in both jaws small and conspicuous, all other bones in mouth without teeth. Premaxilla with long ascending process, just reaching into interorbital space; lateral process strongly reduced. Free edge of premaxilla reaching vertical through anterior margin of orbit. Coronoid of dentary highly elevated. **Gill rakers short, with spinules, 10 to 13 on lower limb of first gill arch.** First dorsal fin with IV to VI spines, its origin 0 to 2 ½ scales in front of vertical through pelvic-fin tips. **Second dorsal fin with I spine and 6 to 8 soft rays; anal fin with I spine and 7 to 10 soft rays;** pectoral fins with I spine and 11 to 14 soft rays. Body scales dorsoventrally elongated, posterior edge irregular in larger fish; **29 to 33 midlateral scales;** 5 or 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 12 to 15; interdorsal scales 5 to 7. **Anus 3 to 5 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins, very close to pelvic-fin origin.** **Colour:** live specimens pale green or yellow, with silvery abdomen and midlateral band; opercles and preopercles iridescent; body often with silver iridescent sheen; dorsum of head dark; dorsal fins dusky, caudal fin dusky yellow, and pelvic fins creamy.

**Size:** Maximum length about 8.5 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Essentially an estuarine and coastal species, co-occurring with *Craterocephalus pauciradiatus*, *C. mugiloides*, and *Atherinomorus endrachtensis*. Nothing is known of its biology except that this species is capable of withstanding the very high salinities found in Shark Bay, Western Australia. Can be collected with seines but has no commercial value. It is possibly taken as food by larger commercial species.

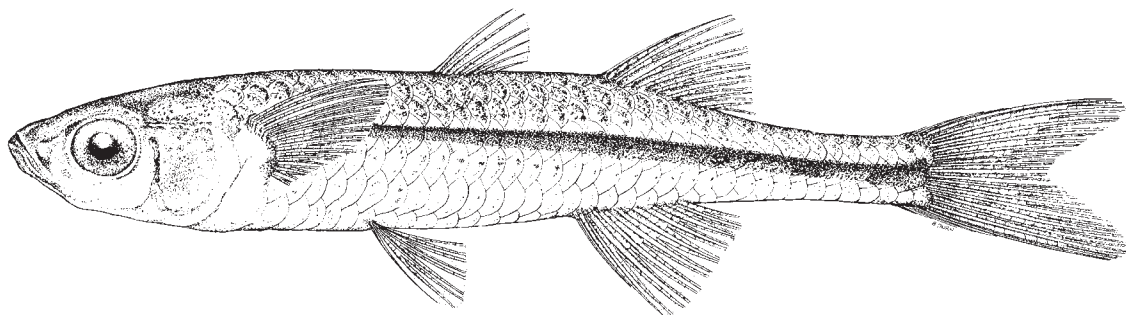
**Distribution:** From the Arolhos Islands in Western Australia northwards to the Gulf of Carpentaria (Northern Territory, Australia).



***Craterocephalus honoriae*** (Ogilby, 1912)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherina honoriae* Ogilby, 1912; *Stenatherina honoriae* (Ogilby, 1912) / *Atherinosoma microstoma* (Günther, 1861).

**FAO names:** En - Estuarine hardyhead.

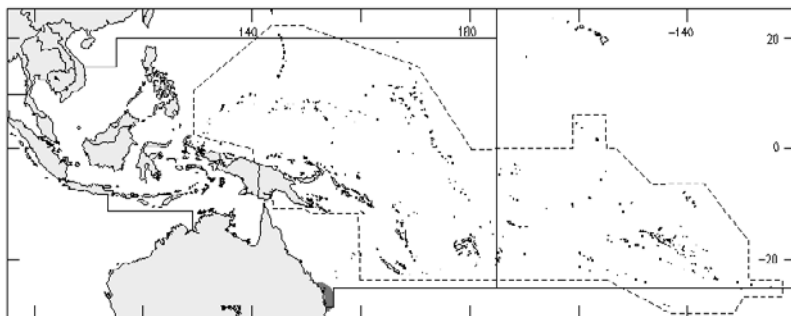


**Diagnostic characters:** Body slender, subcylindrical. Mouth small, with gape restricted by labial ligament. Teeth in both jaws well developed, always present on mesopterygoid and frequently on vomer; edentulous otherwise. Premaxilla with long ascending process, just reaching into interorbital space; lateral process reduced. Free edge of premaxilla reaching vertical through anterior edge of orbit. Coronoid of dentary highly elevated. **Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 12 to 15**, moderately long, but less than 1/2 diameter of pupil. First dorsal fin with V or VI spines; second dorsal fin with I spine and 7 or 8 soft rays, its origin 1 1/2 to 5 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins; anal fin with I spine and 9 to 12 soft rays; pectoral fins with I spine and 12 or 13 soft rays. Body scales ovate; **33 to 36 midlateral scales**; 4 1/2 to 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 12 to 15; interdorsal scales 6 to 8. Anus at or up to 2 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** live specimens dark yellow to greenish brown; edges of scales above midlateral band outlined by chromatophores; bases of unpaired fins dusky; opercle, eye, and abdomen often silvery; midlateral band silvery or gold; silvery peritoneum over abdominal cavity visible through skin; silvery sheen lost soon after death.

**Size:** Maximum about 7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Estuarine or enclosed marine habitat. *Craterocephalus honoriae* breeds in midsummer (January) in southeastern waters of Australia and has a 1 year life cycle. Like many other atherinids, it is predominantly carnivorous. Frequently caught in estuaries and enclosed coastal lakes, but of no known commercial value. Likely to be forage for larger juvenile commercial species which occur in estuarine nursery habitats.

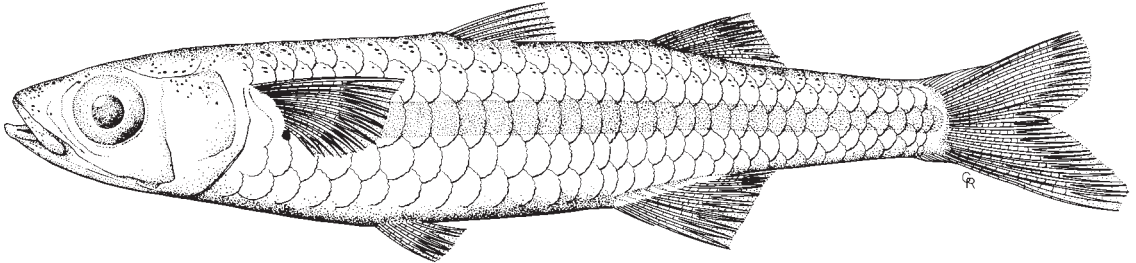
**Distribution:** Mostly south-eastern Australia as far north as Tewantin in southeastern Queensland.



***Craterocephalus mugiloides*** (McCulloch, 1913)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherinichthys punctatus* De Vis, 1885; *Allanetta mugiloides* (McCulloch, 1913) / *Craterocephalus honoriae* (Ogilby, 1912); *C. pauciradiatus* (Günther, 1861); *C. capreoli* Rendahl, 1922.

**FAO names:** En - Spotted hardyhead.

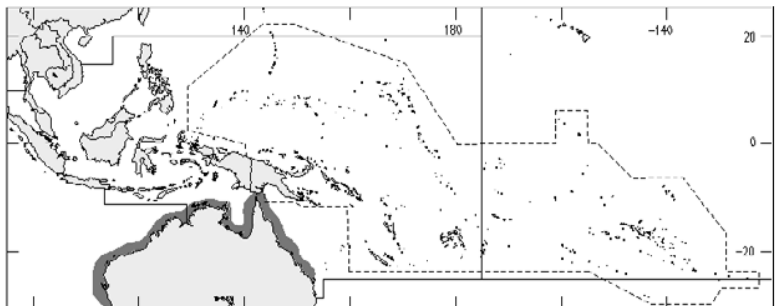


**Diagnostic characters:** Body robust, subcylindrical. Mouth moderately large, **labial ligament inserting adjacent to symphysis of dentary**. Teeth in both jaws of medium size, in 2 rows. Teeth usually present on mesopterygoid and vomer, otherwise edentulous. Premaxilla with long ascending process, just reaching into interorbital space; **lateral process pungent**. Free edge of premaxilla reaching vertical through anterior edge of orbit or just beyond. Coronoid of dentary highly elevated. **Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 13 to 17**, their length about 1/2 diameter of pupil, relatively longer than in other species of *Craterocephalus*. First dorsal fin with V to VII spines, its origin 1/2 to 5 scales in front of vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 7 to 10 soft rays; anal fin with I spine and 9 to 13 soft rays; pectoral fins with I spine and 12 to 15 soft rays. **Body scales on large specimens usually crenulated; 33 to 37 midlateral scales**; 4 1/2 to 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 11 to 13; interdorsal scales 6 to 9. Anus 1 to 4 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** live specimens almost translucent, dorsal surface dusky to greenish yellow with chromatophores at margins of scales; distinct concentration of pigment along middorsal line, from dorsum of head to caudal fin; snout, eye, opercle, preopercle, and abdomen iridescent or silvery; midlateral band wide, either silvery or olive to golden with narrow orange stripe above it, extending from origin of pectoral fin to base of caudal fin; **black spot often present at base of pectoral fins**.

**Size:** Maximum length about 7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** A mainly coastal and estuarine hardyhead, which often schools together with *Craterocephalus capreoli*, *Atherinomorus endrachtensis*, and *A. ogilbyi*. Diet includes crustaceans and diatoms. It has an extended breeding period throughout southern hemisphere summer months (December to March). Its life span appears to be 1 year. May be collected with seines but has no known commercial value. May be useful as food for larger commercially important fish.

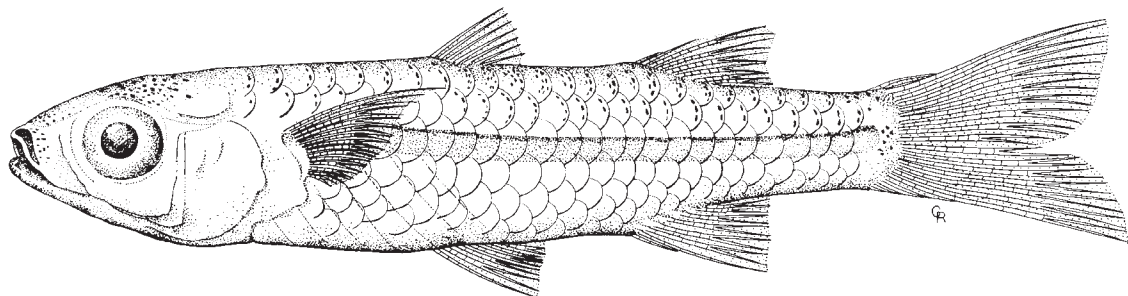
**Distribution:** The range of this species extends from the southwest of Western Australia to Fraser Island on the eastern coast. Also found around the islands in the Gulf of Carpentaria and northeastern Queensland.



*Craterocephalus munroi* Crowley and Ivantsoff, 1988

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / *Craterocephalus marjoriae* Whitley, 1948.

**FAO names:** En - Munro's hardyhead.

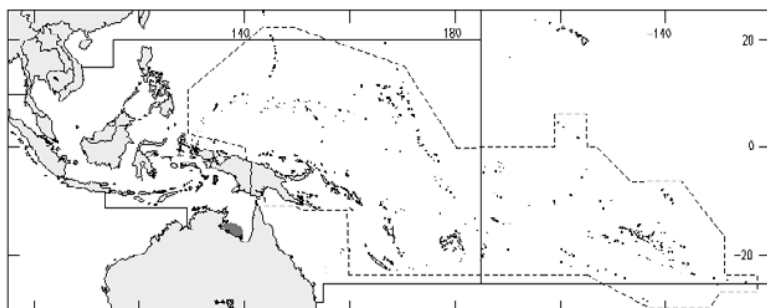


**Diagnostic characters:** Body robust. Mouth moderately large, protractile. Lips somewhat fleshy and gape restricted by ligament about half-way along free edge of premaxilla. Needle-like teeth in 2 rows in both jaws, otherwise edentulous. Ascending process of premaxilla moderately long but barely reaching interorbital space; lateral process small, conical, lying on posterior expansion of ramus. Coronoid of dentary highly elevated. **Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 10 to 12, with small spinules, short, stumpy, less than 1/2 diameter of pupil.** First dorsal fin with V to VII spines; **origin of first dorsal fin 4 to 6 scales in front of vertical through tips of pelvic fins.** **Second dorsal fin with I spine and 5 to 7 soft rays.** **Anal fin with I spine and 6 or 7 soft rays.** Pectoral fins with I spine and 13 to 15 soft rays. Body scales rounded, not crenulated; **26 to 29 midlateral scales**; 6 to 8 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 10 to 12; interdorsal scales 5 to 7. **Anus from 0 to 2 scales behind tips of pelvic fins.** **Colour:** variable in live specimens, with abdomen, opercle, and eye silvery to dull brown; midlateral band either distinct or merging with silvery abdomen; intensity of chromatophores over dorsal half of the body variable; fins clear.

**Size:** Maximum length about 5 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Found in fluvial and estuarine habitats, but nothing is known of the biology of this species. Unlike many of the marine and estuarine species of atherinids, it does not appear to school in large numbers nor does it seem to be abundant. Of no known commercial value.

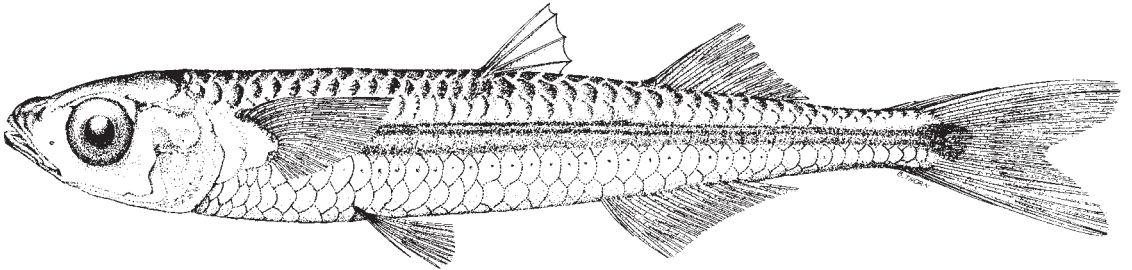
**Distribution:** Estuarine reaches of the Bynoe, Nicholson, and Norman rivers in the lower Gulf of Carpentaria.



***Hypoatherina barnesi*** Schultz, 1953

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Allanetta klunzingeri* Smith, 1965 / *Hypoatherina uislla* (Jordan and Seale, 1906); *H. temminckii* (Bleeker, 1853).

**FAO names:** **En** - Barnes' silverside; **Fr** - Atherine de Barnes; **Sp** - Pejerry de Barnes.

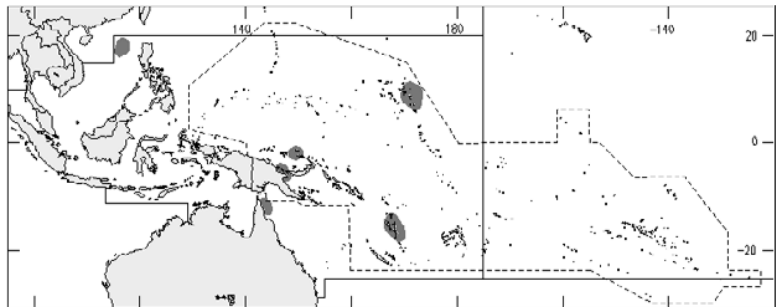


**Diagnostic characters:** Body small, slender, subcylindrical, and somewhat compressed. Preopercular notch present (as in all *Hypoatherina* species). No shagreen denticles on outer surfaces of jaws or other parts of the head. Fine teeth in both jaws; teeth usually also present on roof of mouth (palatine and pterygoids) and on tongue. Premaxilla extending backwards to, or just past, vertical through anterior margin of orbit, **its ascending process long and slender** (its length, at least twice width); lateral process well defined, although short and wide at base; second lateral process also present but not visible without dissection. **Ramus of dentary highly elevated posteriorly.** Gill rakers moderately long, but less than diameter of pupil, **15 to 19 on lower limb of first gill arch.** First dorsal fin with V to VII spines, its origin from 1/2 scales in front to 3 scales behind vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 12 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 12 to 17 soft rays. Pectoral fins with 12 to 15 soft rays. Body scales large; 40 to 45 midlateral scales; 5 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 16 to 19; interdorsal scales 6 to 9. Anus 1 1/2 to 3 scales behind pelvic-fin tips. **Colour:** live specimens green and translucent, midlateral band and abdomen silvery; preserved specimens brown, green-brown or grey; edges of scales above midlateral band usually outlined by chromatophores; black middorsal line running from head to end of caudal peduncle, **midlateral band wide, broadest between anus and anal fin** and extending onto caudal fin as triangular blotch on upper half of fin base; upper fifth of band distinctly darker than rest; rows of spots on lower sides occasionally present, usually merging with strip above origin of anal fin; bases of all fins pigmented; all fins dusky, especially caudal fin; upper surface of head dark; opercles and preopercles silvery or dark brown.

**Size:** Maximum length 6.5 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Commonly found in large numbers in lagoons. During daylight, schooling fish may be periodically seen to jump out of the water to avoid predators. They are also easily attracted to light. The fish are gravid at about 4 to 4.5 cm standard length by July in the northern hemisphere. Like other species of atherinids, they may be caught by seines but have no known commercial value. Because the species occurs in larger numbers, it is probably important as forage food for larger fishes.

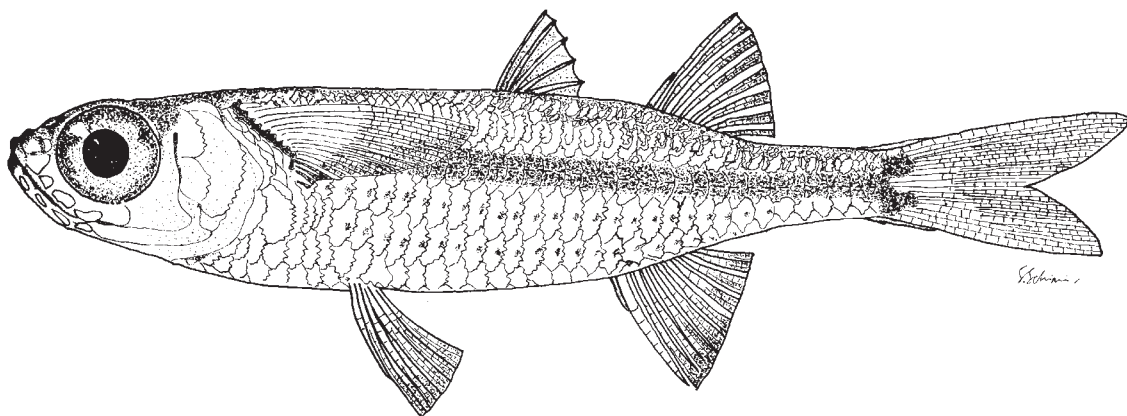
**Distribution:** This species has a very wide distribution throughout the Pacific Ocean: Praton Reef (west of Philippines), Marshall Islands, Tami Island (New Guinea), Lizard Island (Australia), Vila (Vanuatu), Emirau Island (St. Mathias Group). Outside the area, also known from the western Indian Ocean.



***Hypoatherina crenolepis*** (Schultz, 1953)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Allanetta crenolepis* Schultz, 1953 / *Hypoatherina valencienni* (Bleeker, 1851); *H. woodwardi* (Jordan and Starks, 1961).

**FAO names:** En - Crenulated silverside.

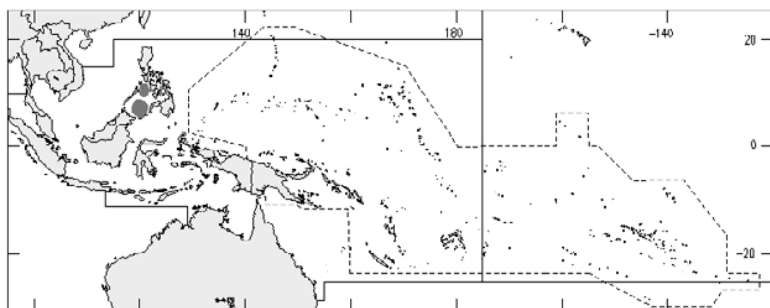


**Diagnostic characters:** Body small but more robust than in other members of *Hypoatherina*, slightly compressed. Eyes large. Mouth oblique to horizontal. Teeth in upper and lower jaws minute; shagreen denticles along narrow outer margin of premaxilla. **A few minute teeth present on vomer and mesopterygoid, but none on palatines. Ascending dorsal process of premaxilla short, broad and not entering interorbital space;** lateral process scarcely differentiated. Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 19 to 21, moderately long and slender, a little shorter than pupil of eye. First dorsal fin with V or VI spines; **origin of first dorsal fin 1/2 to 3 scales in front of vertical through tips of pelvic fins.** Second dorsal fin with I spine and 7 to 9 soft rays. **Anal fin with I spine and 9 or 10 soft rays. Pectoral fins longer than in other species of *Hypoatherina*, 3.4 to 3.9 times in standard length (c.f. 5 to 6), with I spine and 14 to 16 soft rays. Body scales with very crenulate posterior edge; 33 to 35 midlateral scales; 5 or 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 15 to 17; interdorsal scales 6 or 7. Anus 1/2 to 2 scales in front of pelvic-fin tips. Colour:** preserved specimens with darkish pigment at margins of dorsal scales; 2 distinct rows of spots below silvery lateral band; snout, lower jaw, and dorsal surface of head with dark pigmentation; eye, opercle, and preopercle silvery.

**Size:** Maximum length about 5.7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabit close inshore waters around islands. Nothing is known of their biology. They have no known commercial value but may be taken as forage fish by larger commercial species; they may also be used as dried pet food or as bait.

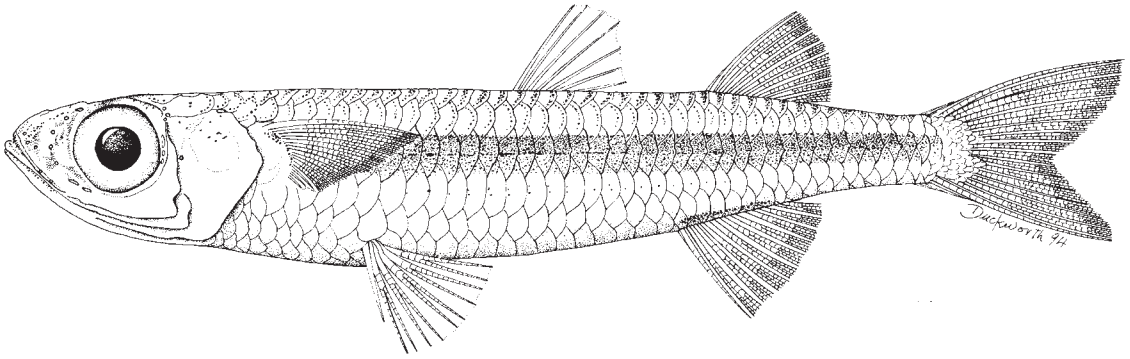
**Distribution:** Tara and Papatog islands (Philippines).



***Hypoatherina ovalaua*** (Herre, 1935)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Allanetta ovalaua* (Herre, 1935); *Pranesus ovalauus* (Herre, 1935) / None.

**FAO names:** En - Fijian silverside.

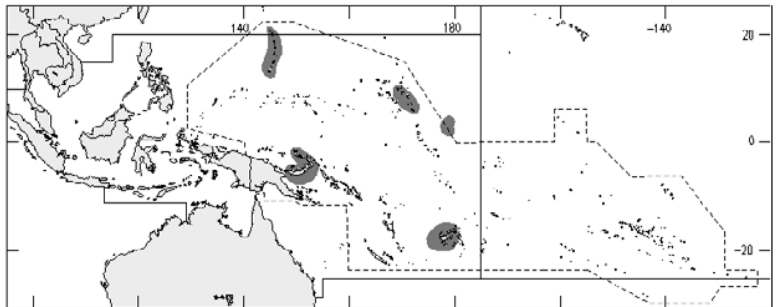


**Diagnostic characters:** Body slender, slightly compressed. Head large, conical. Mouth large, protractile, and oblique to horizontal. No shagreen denticle on outside of mouth. Lips thin with loose flap of skin lying along side of dentary. Teeth sparse in lower jaw in many specimens, free edge of premaxilla covered by fine teeth. Teeth present on vomer and may extend backwards along midline of roof of mouth. Palatine teeth large and prominent. Teeth always present on mesopterygoids, usually present on tongue present or absent on ectopterygoids. **Premaxilla with long ascending process and 2 lateral processes. Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 22 to 25.** First dorsal fin with IV to VIII spines, its origin 0 to 1 scales in front of vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 10 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 9 to 12 soft rays. Pectoral fins with I spine and 15 to 17 soft rays. Body scales dorsoventrally elongated and rounded posteriorly; 38 to 42 midlateral scales; 5 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 15 to 19; interdorsal scales 7 to 10. Anus from 0 to 2 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** brownish white with dark scales on back, a silvery midlateral band with dots below it; abdomen pale; dorsum of head very dark; large dark spot on opercle.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabits close inshore waters; nothing is known of its biology. Attracted to light at night in lagoons. Not found in the rougher waters over reefs. Can be collected with seines but has no commercial value.

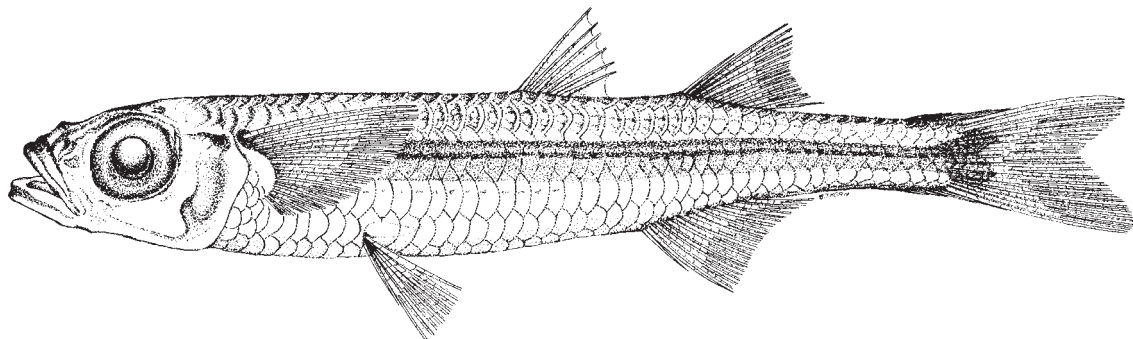
**Distribution:** Ovalau Island, Fiji, Canton, Hull, Phoenix, Gilbert, Marshall, Marianas, and Hermit islands; New Britain, and New Ireland.



*Hypoatherina temminckii* (Bleeker, 1853)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Stenatherina temminckii* (Bleeker, 1853); *Hypoatherina uisila* (Jordan and Seale, 1906); *H. gobio* (Klunzinger, 1884); *Allanetta afra* (Peter, 1855) / None.

**FAO names:** **En** - Samoan silverside; **Fr** - Athérine samoan; **Sp** - Pejerrey samoano.

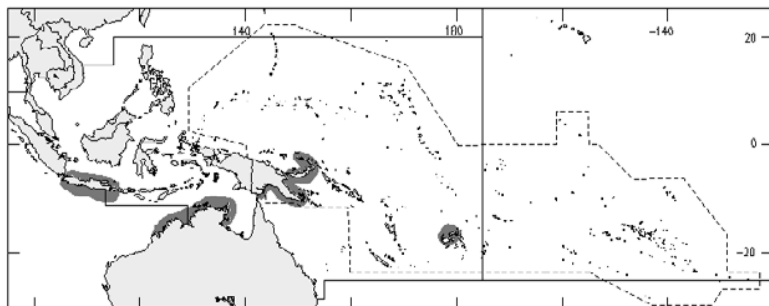


**Diagnostic characters:** Body fusiform. No shagreen denticles on external surfaces of jaws. Fine teeth on dentary and premaxilla. Teeth present on palatines and mesopterygoids; tongue sometimes covered with small tooth-like papillae. Premaxilla extending to vertical through anterior margin of orbit; **ascending process moderately long and narrow** (always longer than twice width); **lateral process short and wide. Ramus of dentary highly elevated posteriorly. Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 21 to 25**, moderately long, but usually less than diameter of pupil. First dorsal fin with V to VII spines, its origin from 2 scales in front to 3 scales behind tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 10 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 11 to 14 soft rays. **Pectoral fins with 15 to 18 soft rays.** Body scales large; 38 to 44 midlateral scales; 5 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 16 to 18, interdorsal scales 7 to 9. Anus from 1 scale in front to 3 scales behind pelvic-fin tips. **Colour:** live specimens blue-green and translucent; preserved specimens green-brown, brown, or yellow-green; scales above midlateral band heavily pigmented with edges outlined with chromatophores; chromatophores often forming pattern resembling incomplete circles along middorsal line; **midlateral band narrow**, extending onto caudal fin and forming triangular blotch on upper half of fin base; body below midlateral band pale; rows of spots often present along third and fourth scale rows along side of body; fin bases pigmented; fins clear or dusky, pectoral fins frequently with dark blotch.

**Size:** Maximum length 11 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Usually found in coastal waters and harbours within its range. Caught with seines. Could be of value at subsistence level although not known to be abundant. As with other silversides and small fishes in general, it can be dried before eating. Can be used as bait fish and is important as forage species for larger commercial fish.

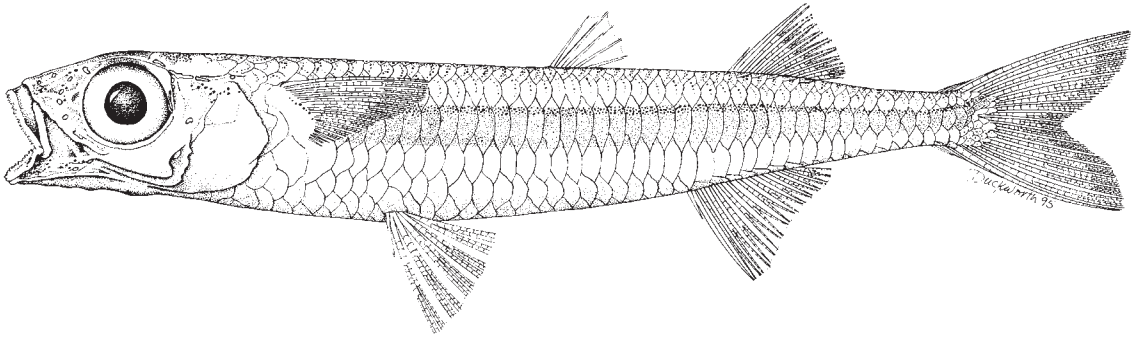
**Distribution:** A very widely distributed species occurring throughout the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and the South and Central Pacific Ocean.



***Hypoatherina tropicalis*** (Whitley, 1948)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherinosoma tropicalis* (Whitley, 1948); *Taeniomembras tropicalis* (Whitley, 1948) / *Atherinomorus lacunosus* (Forster, 1801).

**FAO names:** En - Whitley's silverside.

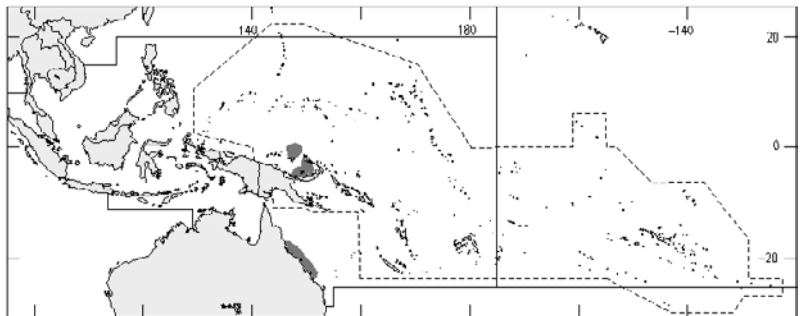


**Diagnostic characters:** Body slender, slightly compressed. Head almost conical. Mouth large, moderately oblique to horizontal. Loose flap of skin extending from anterolateral edge of dentary to corner of mouth; apart from flap of skin, **lips absent**. Fine teeth present in both jaws, no shagreen denticles on outer surface of jaws. Teeth usually present on palatines but frequently absent on ectopterygoids; vomerine teeth small but clearly visible; strong ridge of teeth on mesopterygoids. Tongue with teeth-like papillae in Australian specimens, those from Madang and Maron islands with distinct teeth; neither teeth nor papillae in specimens from Numa Numa. **Ascending process of premaxilla short and broad**, its length usually less than twice its width; lateral process not well defined. Rami of dentary highly elevated posteriorly, sloping obliquely towards symphysis. **Gill rakers on lower limb of first gill arch 18 to 22**, moderately long and slender, but always slightly shorter than diameter of pupil. First dorsal fin with V to VIII spines, its origin from 1 scale in front to 4 scales behind vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 11 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 11 to 14 soft rays. Pectoral fins with I spine and 15 to 18 soft rays. Body scales dorsoventrally elongated, rounded posteriorly; **39 to 46 midlateral scales**; 5 scales in transverse rows along side of body. **Predorsal scales 17 to 22**; interdorsal scales 7 to 9. Anus from 1/2 scale in front, to 3 scales behind, tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** live fish translucent with silvery blue sheen; scales above midlateral band frequently heavily pigmented with inverted C-shaped or diamond-shaped mark present on each predorsal scale; midlateral band series of large chromatophores with upper fifth darker continuous line; 2 rows of spots present below midlateral band; bases of fins pigmented, especially pectoral, anal, and second dorsal fins; fins either clear or dusky; caudal fin usually heavily pigmented.

**Size:** Maximum length about 12.5 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabits waters close inshore. Often seen to jump out the water, especially after sunset when they appear as fluorescent streaks. At night it appears to aggregate with *Atherinomorus capricornensis* around One Tree Island (eastern Australia). Probably eaten by larger commercial species.

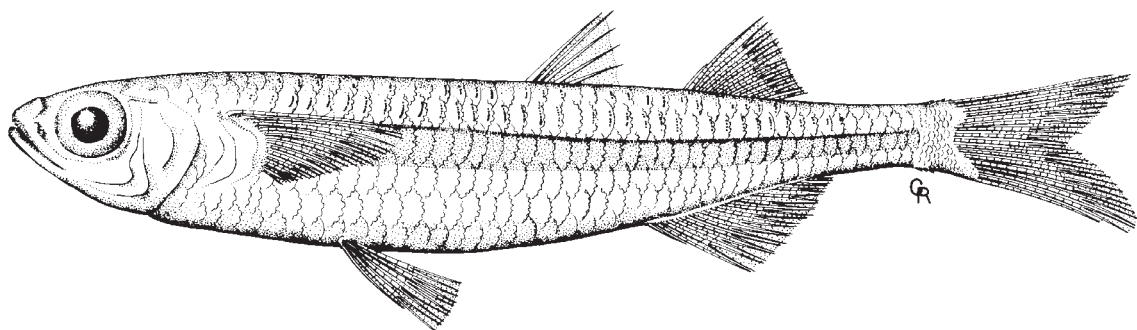
**Distribution:** New Guinea, northeastern Australia, Madang, Maron, and Bouganville islands. Possibly present over a wide range in Melanesian waters. Also found around Lord Howe Island.



***Hypoatherina valenciennei*** (Bleeker, 1853)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherina valenciennei* Bleeker, 1853; *A. bleekeri* Günther, 1861; *Allanetta valenciennei* (Bleeker, 1853); *Pranesus valenciennei* (Bleeker, 1853) / *Hypoatherina woodwardi* (Jordan and Starks, 1901); *Haplocheilus argyrotaenia* (Tirant, 1883).

**FAO names:** En - Sumatran silverside.

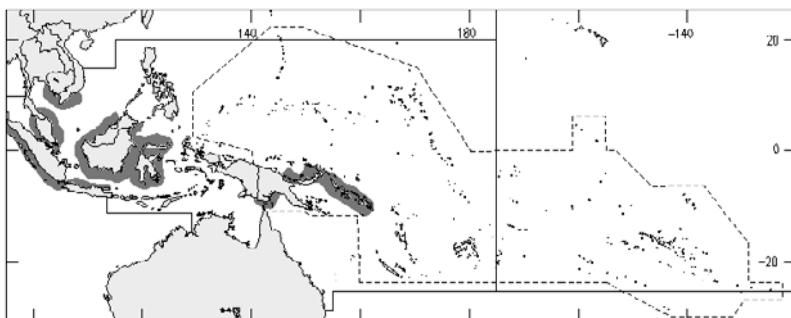


**Diagnostic characters:** Body moderately robust, subcylindrical, and slightly compressed. **Free edge of premaxilla densely covered with minute shagreen denticles;** teeth present on vomer, palatines, ectopterygoids; a strong ridge of teeth on mesopterygoids; tongue often with teeth around edge. Premaxilla long and obliquely directed, extending past vertical through anterior margin of orbit. Ascending process of premaxilla moderately wide and long, lateral process short and wide at base. **Coronoid process of dentary highly elevated but not rounded as in other *Hypoatherina* species.** Gill rakers long and slender, about diameter of pupil, 20 to 26 on lower limb of first gill arch. First dorsal fin with IV to VII spines, its origin 2 to 5 scales behind vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 10 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 10 to 13 soft rays. Pectoral fins with I small spine and 14 to 16 soft rays. Body scales large and dorsoventrally elongated; 40 to 46 midlateral scales; 5 or 6 scales in transverse rows along side of body. Predorsal scales 17 to 23; interdorsal scales 6 to 8. Anus 1 to 4 scales in front of tips of pelvic fins. **Colour:** live specimens blue-green above, whitish below, and with dark tip to snout; preserved specimens usually brown with golden sheen; scales probably covered with fine melanophores in life; scales above midlateral band edged with black; fins clear but with small traces of pigment; head, eye, opercle, and preopercle silvery gold.

**Size:** Maximum length about 12 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Probably important as forage fish. Nothing is known about the biology of this species.

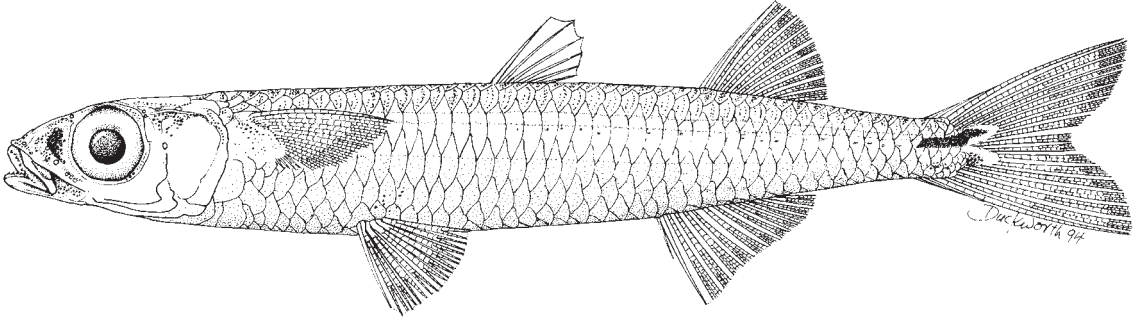
**Distribution:** Wide distribution throughout the southwestern Pacific including Java, Borneo, Sumatra, Sulawesi, Viet Nam, Singapore, New Britain, Hermit Island Group, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Hong Kong, and as far north as Japan.



***Stenatherina panatela*** (Jordan and Richardson, 1908)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Atherina panatela* (Jordan and Richardson, 1908); *Hypoatherina panatela* (Jordan and Richardson, 1908) / *Stenatherina temminckii* (Bleeker, 1853).

**FAO names:** En - Panatela silverside.



**Diagnostic characters:** Body slender, slightly compressed. Lips thin, mouth large and extremely protractile with lips fusing near corners of mouth. Teeth villiform; those on vomer forming **characteristic T-pattern**. Palatines and mesopterygoids also with teeth. Free edge of premaxilla convex anteriorly, becoming more or less straight towards angle of mouth. **Ascending process of premaxilla long, extending past orbit into interorbital space; lateral process very long and pungent. Gill rakers** on lower limb of first gill arch 21 to 25, **long and slender, longer than 1/2 diameter of pupil**. First dorsal fin with IV to VII spines, its origin from 1 scale behind to 2 scales in front of vertical through tips of pelvic fins. Second dorsal fin with I spine and 8 to 10 soft rays. Anal fin with I spine and 9 to 12 soft rays. Pectoral fins with I spine and 16 to 18 soft rays. Body scales dorsoventrally elongated with ridges restricted to anterior part of scale; 38 to 45 midlateral scales; 5 scales in transverse rows along side of body. **Interdorsal scales 8 to 10; predorsal scales 17 to 20. Colour:** live specimens blue-green above and silvery below; **distinct crescentic mark present on snout immediately in front of eye; upper part of midlateral band terminating as half crescent on upper lobe of caudal fin;** preserved specimens yellow below wide and dark midlateral band; upper edge of midlateral band edged by narrower bluish stripe; scales above midlateral band heavily pigmented, with C-shaped pattern at edge of each scale; middorsal scales with concentration of pigment forming narrow band from nape and extending through dorsal fins to caudal fin; bases of pectoral and anal fins dark; caudal fin dusky; opercle and dorsum of head almost black; distinct black ridge extending from lateral margin of snout to upper edge of orbit.

**Size:** Maximum length 11 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** One of the largest and most frequently encountered atherinids in the deeper lagoon waters of the Marshall Islands; also common in coastal waters, lagoons, atolls, and harbours. May gather in schools at night when attracted to light but generally not found in very large numbers. Preferred habitat appears to be deeper enclosed atoll lagoons, reefs, coastal waters, and harbours. May be taken as food by larger commercial species.

**Distribution:** Wide range throughout the tropical western Pacific Ocean. It is known from the Malaita, Malekula, and Calayan islands; also Marshall and Phoenix islands, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Guinea, and northwestern and northeastern Australia.

