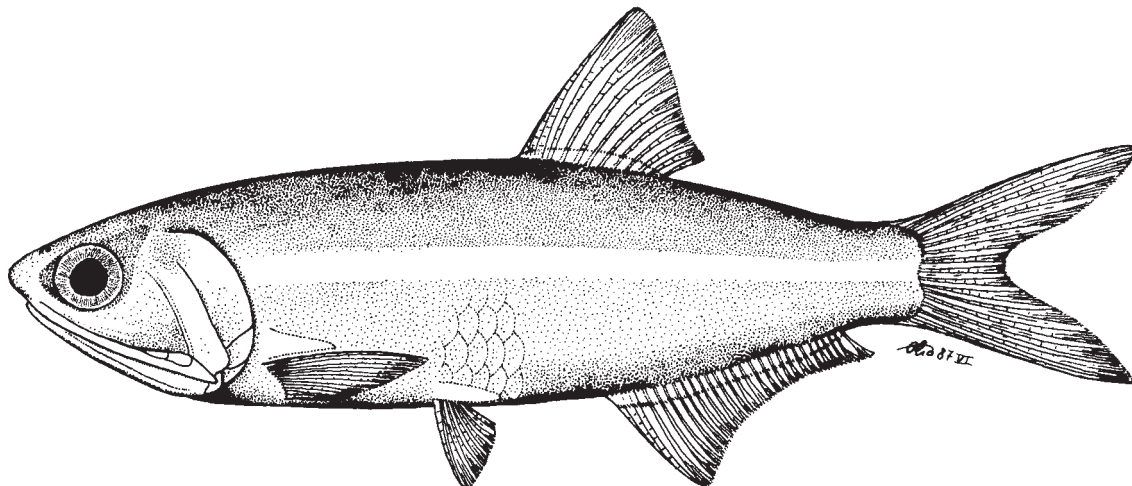


Anchoa trinitatis (Fowler, 1915)

EAK

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: **En** - Trinidad anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois machète; **Sp** - Anchoa machete.

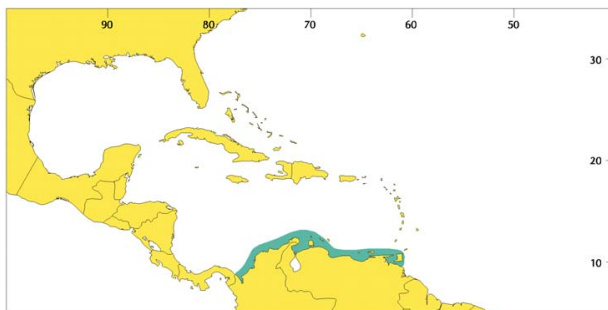


Diagnostic characters: Body fusiform, strongly compressed. Snout pointed; **posterior tip of maxilla pointed**, reaching beyond anterior margin of preoperculum, almost to gill opening; jaw teeth small. **Pseudobranch shorter than eye**. **Lower gill rakers 13 to 21**; gill cover canals of *panamensis*-type. Dorsal-fin origin slightly nearer to posterior margin of eye than to caudal-fin base; **anal fin with 26 to 30 branched rays, its origin about at vertical through midpoint of dorsal-fin base**. **Anus advanced, opening nearer to pelvic-fin tips than to anal-fin origin**. **Colour:** dorsum blue-green, with **distinct and fairly broad midlateral silver stripe**; fins hyaline, but dark pigmentation at bases of anal and caudal fins.

Size: Maximum 14 cm total length, commonly to 12 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Shallow coastal waters, especially abundant in mangrove-lined lagoons. Sometimes captured very close to the bottom over soft sediments. Often forms large schools. Caught with seine nets. Marketed fresh, but mainly used as bait. No special fishery; not very suitable as a foodfish because of its strongly compressed body. Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Distribution: Northern coasts of Colombia and Venezuela, and Trinidad.

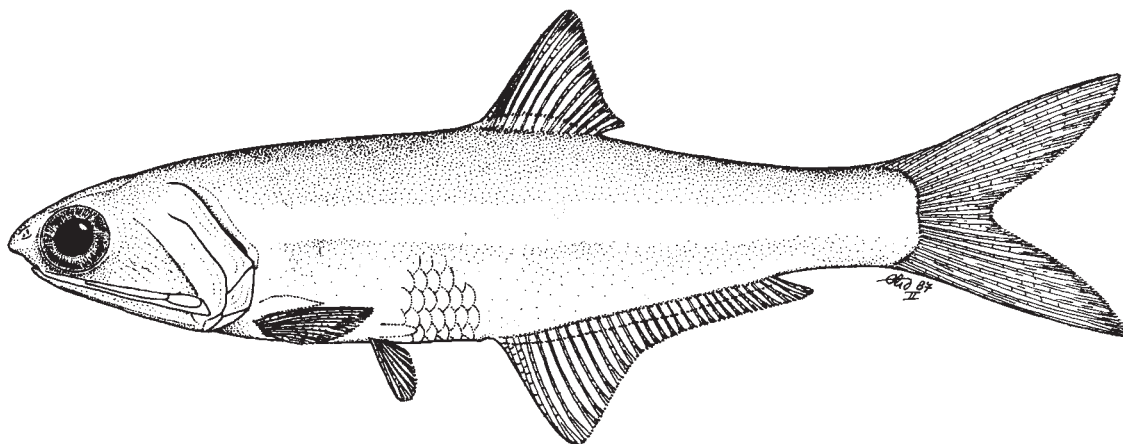


Anchovia clupeioides (Swainson, 1839)

AHU

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Engraulis productus* Poey, 1866; *Anchovia nigra* Schultz, 1949 / None.

FAO names: En - Zabaleta anchovy; Fr - Anchois hachude; Sp - Anchoa bocona.

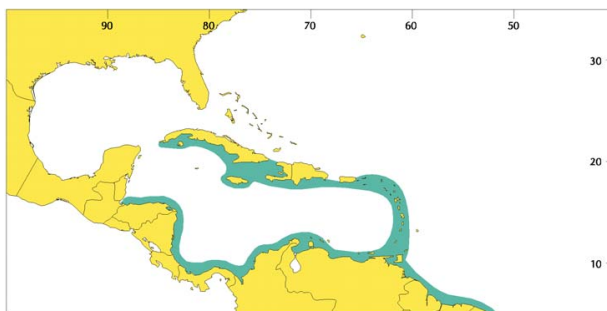


Diagnostic characters: Body fusiform, fairly compressed. Snout prominent and slightly pointed; **posterior tip of maxilla broad, but obliquely truncated, extending beyond end of second supramaxilla and reaching onto preoperculum**; minute denticulations in both jaws. Branchiostegal rays 13. **Branchiostegal membrane normal, not broadly joined across isthmus; upper limb of third gill arch without any gill rakers on inner face; gill rakers very fine and slender**, 100 or more on lower limb of anterior arch in larger fishes. **Anal fin long** with 28 to 35 branched rays, **its origin at vertical through anterior portion of dorsal-fin base**. **Colour:** dorsum blue-green, sides silvery, but with distinct midlateral silver stripe in fishes less than 5 cm; dorsal and caudal fins yellow with dark pigmentation along outer margins.

Size: Maximum 24 cm total length, commonly to 17 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Shallow coastal waters, mangrove-lined lagoons, and estuaries; demersal over shallow, soft, usually muddy bottoms, normally in vicinity of river mouths. Tolerates wide range of salinities; also found in brackish waters, hypersaline lagoons and occasionally fresh water. Average length at maturity for fishes off the Colombian coast was 15.1 to 16.2 cm total length. Batch fecundity relatively high; 3 500 to 28 050 eggs/female. Eggs are elliptical, translucent, 366 to 597 microns. Feeds on plankton, often forms large schools. Artisanal fishery. Caught mainly with seines and occasionally with bottom trawls. Marketed fresh; sometimes used as food (although flesh is of low quality), but mainly for bait. In view of its apparent abundance, this species might be suitable as a source for fish meal. Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

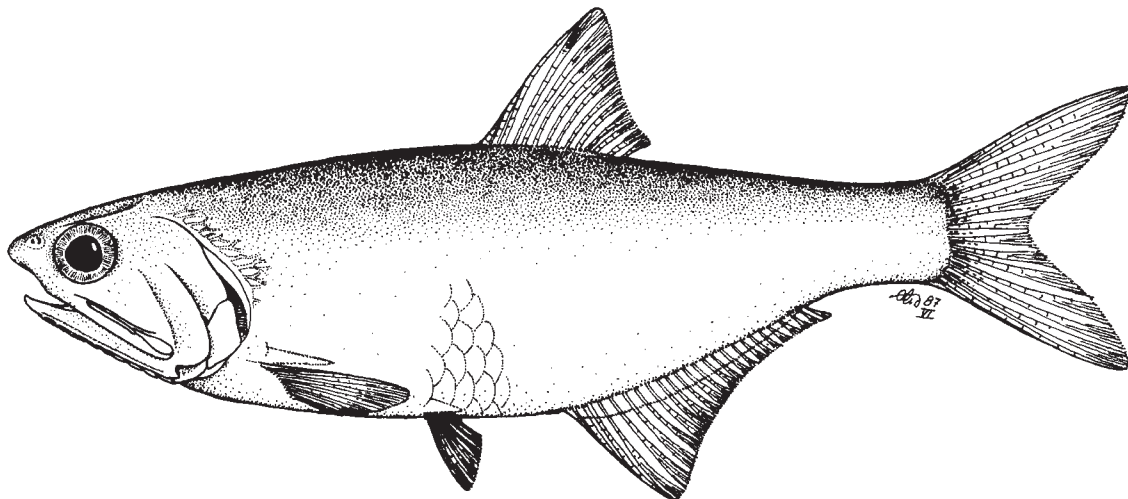
Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic (Antilles, from Cuba, and perhaps throughout; Guatemala south and east to Trinidad and southward to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).



Anchovia surinamensis (Bleeker, 1866)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Anchovia pallida* Starks, 1913; *Anchoviella venezuelae* Fowler, 1931 / None.

FAO names: **En** - Suriname anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois de Suriname; **Sp** - Anchoa de río.

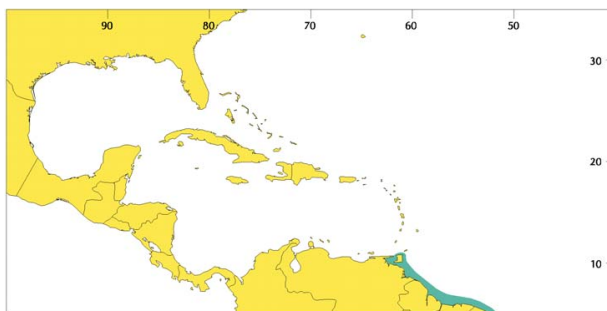


Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep and compressed, body depth 3.0 to 3.5 times in standard length. Snout moderate and pointed, its tip well above centre of eye; **maxilla short**, tip blunt, failing to reach articulation of lower jaw by about 1/3 eye diameter, **not extending posterior to second supramaxilla**; **suboperculum with angular posterior margin**, but not formed into a triangular projection; very fine denticulations on lower jaw. **Branchiostegal rays 10 to 13. Branchiostegal membrane normal, not broadly joined across isthmus**; lower gill rakers 51 to 62, fine and slender. **Anal fin moderate**, with 20 to 25 branched rays, its **origin about at vertical through midpoint of dorsal-fin base**. **Colour:** midlateral silver stripe, width up to 1.5 eye diameter at widest.

Size: Maximum 13 cm total length; commonly to 8 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Estuarine (no data on salinity tolerance) and riverine (to above Manaus and into Rio Janaperi at least 80 km above its junction with Rio Negro). Predominately demersal over soft bottoms. Exclusively an artisanal fishery. Caught with fine-meshed beach seines. Occasionally consumed in some areas.

Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic drainage (lower parts of rivers from Trinidad and eastern Venezuela south to Para, Brazil).

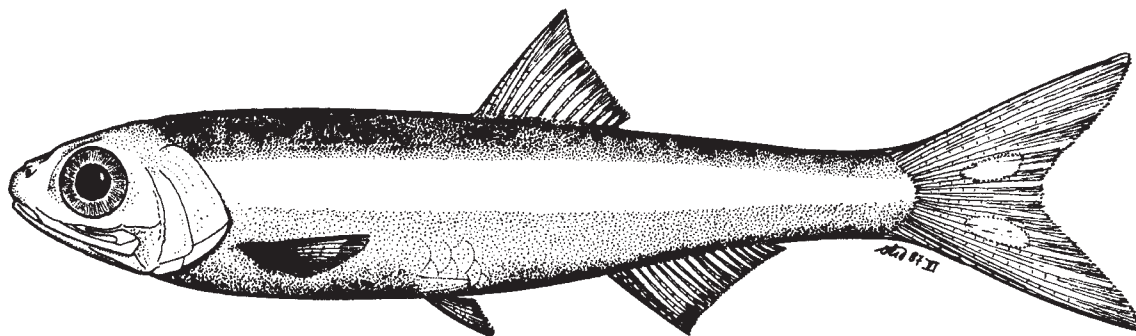


Anchoviella brevirostris (Günther, 1868)

EVB

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Anchoviella brasiliensis* Hildebrand, 1943; *Anchoviella hildebrandi* Carvalho, 1950 / None.

FAO names: **En** - Snubnose anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois nez court; **Sp** - Anchoveta chata.

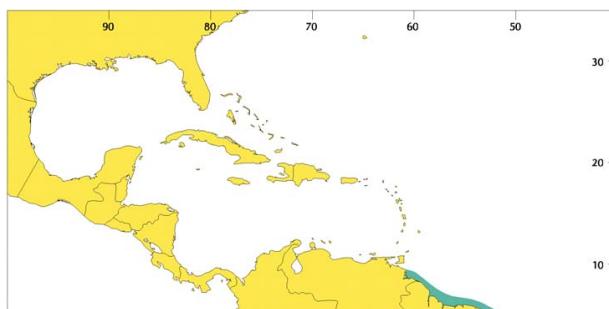


Diagnostic characters: Body fairly slender, somewhat compressed, body depth about 4 to 5 times in standard length. **Snout very short, about 1/2 eye diameter and projecting only slightly beyond lower jaw; maxilla short, tip bluntly rounded, failing to reach preoperculum by about 1/2 pupil diameter;** lower jaw longer than upper, its symphysis almost at tip of snout; fine teeth in lower jaw. Pseudobranch short, less than eye diameter. Lower gill rakers 23 to 27; gill cover canals of *panamensis*-type. **Anal fin short, with 15 to 17 (rarely 15) branched rays, its origin below posteriormost portion of dorsal-fin base (but not behind it).** **Colour:** midlateral silver stripe, width narrow anteriorly and about 3/4 eye diameter over anal fin.

Size: Maximum 9 cm total length; commonly to 7 cm total length.

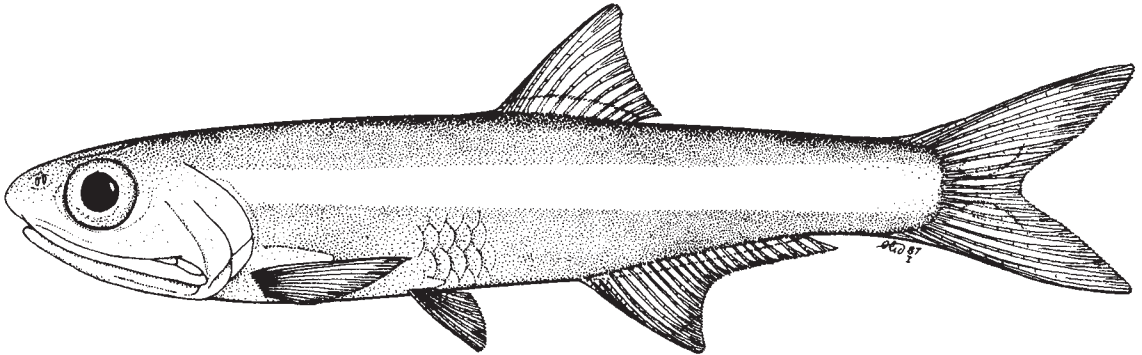
Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Coastal, pelagic to a depth of 50 m, but also found in estuaries, sometimes at very low salinities. Ripe or almost ripe individuals caught in March and May. One female (71.5 mm) contained 20 000 eggs of similar size. Occasionally caught in beach seines. Probably contributes to artisanal clupeoid catches in estuaries.

Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic (Orinoco mouth, the Guianas south to Rio Ribeiro do Iguape, São Paulo coast, Brazil).



Anchoviella elongata (Meek and Hildebrand, 1923)

EVE

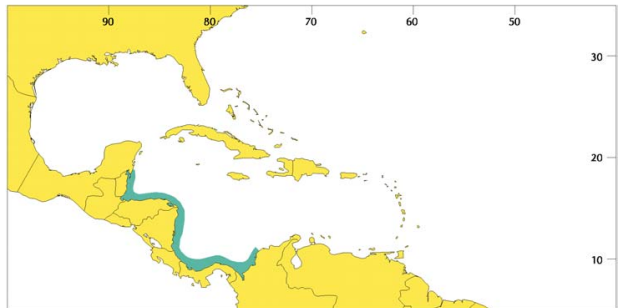
Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.**FAO names:** En - Elongate anchovy; Fr - Anchois allongé; Sp - Anchoveta alargada.

Diagnostic characters: Body slender, moderately compressed, body depth 5.0 to 5.5 times in standard length. Snout moderate, about 2/3 eye diameter; maxilla relatively long, tip bluntly rounded, reaching to or slightly posterior to the anterior margin of preoperculum; fine teeth in lower jaw. Pseudobranch short, less than eye diameter. Lower gill rakers 21 to 24; gill cover canals of *panamensis*-type. Anal fin fairly long, with 18 to 22 branched rays; its origin about equal to a vertical through middle of dorsal-fin base. **Axillary scale of pectoral fin about half as long as fin. Colour: midlateral silver stripe, width less than eye diameter.**

Size: Maximum 11 cm total length; commonly to 9 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Occurs in vicinity of sand beaches; also in estuaries, lagoons and other brackish-water habitats; apparently tolerates very wide range of salinities, but probably does not enter fresh water. Probably one component in anchovy catches of artisanal fisheries.

Distribution: Southwestern Caribbean (Belize south to Panama and northwestern part of Colombian coast).

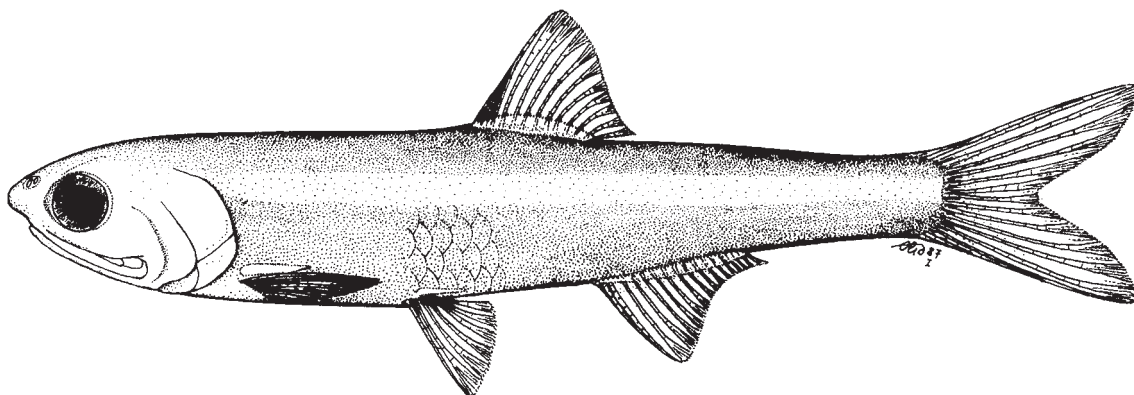


Anchoiella guianensis (Eigenmann, 1912)

EVG

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: **En** - Guiana anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois de Guiane; **Sp** - Anchoveta de río.

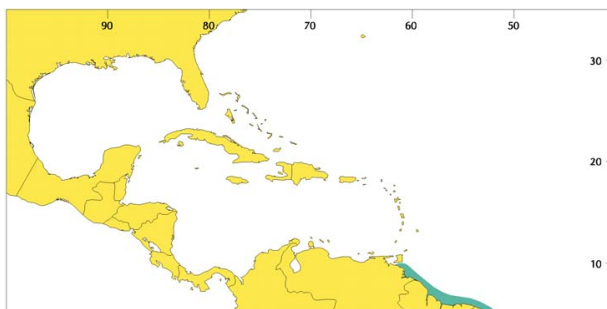


Diagnostic characters: Body fairly slender, moderately compressed, body depth 4 to 5 times in standard length. Snout short, slightly longer than 1/2 eye diameter; **lower jaw symphysis posterior to tip of snout; maxilla moderate, tip bluntly rounded, failing to reach preoperculum by 1/3 to 1/2 pupil diameter;** fine teeth in lower jaw. Pseudobranch short, less than eye diameter. Lower gill rakers 20 to 26; gill cover canals of *walkeri*-type. **Anal fin short, with 14 to 18 branched rays, its origin slightly posterior to vertical through posteriormost dorsal-fin ray. Axillary scale of pectoral fin reaching only to about midpoint of fin.** **Colour:** midlateral silver stripe, widening to about 1/2 eye diameter over anal-fin base.

Size: Maximum 9 cm total length; commonly to 6 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Occurs in low salinity brackish waters, but predominantly in fresh water. Breeding occurs in December, one female (58 mm standard length) contained 1 980 eggs. Probably contributes to landings of artisanal river fisheries.

Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic, Gulf of Paria to Brazil; also Orinoco system, as far up as Puerto Gaitan on Manacacias River in Colombia, certainly in delta; lower parts of rivers of Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana; lower part of Amazon (but lower limits within Amazon system not known).

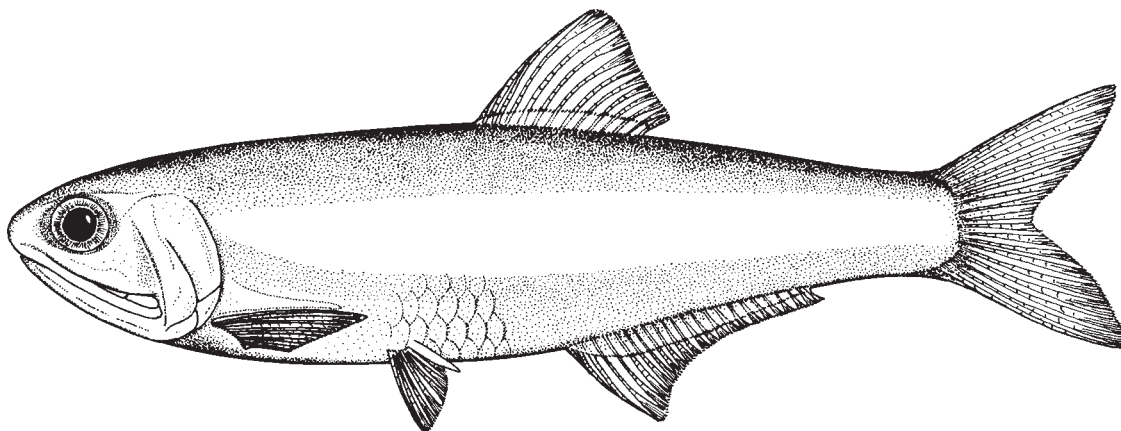


Anchoviella lepidentostole (Fowler, 1911)

EVL

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Anchoviella iheringi* Fowler, 1941; *Anchoviella hubbsi* Hildebrand, 1943; *Anchoviella nitida* Hildebrand and Carvalho, 1948 / None.

FAO names: **En** - Broadband anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois gras; **Sp** - Anchoa ñata.

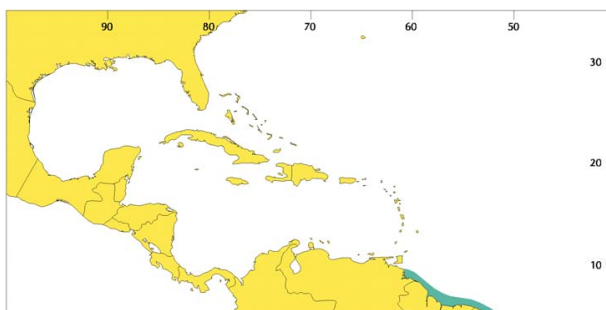


Diagnostic characters: Body fusiform, moderately compressed, **body depth about 4 to 5 times in standard length**. Snout prominent but bluntly rounded; **posterior tip of maxilla bluntly rounded, not reaching beyond anterior margin of preoperculum**; fine teeth in lower jaw. Pseudobranch short, less than eye diameter. Lower gill rakers 19 to 25 (higher numbers in specimens from southern portion of range); gill cover canals of the *walkeri*-type. Anal fin with 22 to 25 branched rays, its origin about at vertical through midpoint of dorsal-fin base; **pectoral fin** not reaching to pelvic-fin base, **axillary scale reaching beyond midpoint but failing to reach tip of fin**. **Colour:** dorsum translucent grey, **broad and very bright midlateral silver stripe**, its width equal to eye diameter but narrower at each end; fins transparent except caudal fin yellow with dusky outer edges and posterior margin.

Size: Maximum about 11 cm total length, commonly to 9 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Coastal waters and estuaries; occurs mainly in river mouths and estuaries, but also offshore down to 50 m. Found predominately in brackish waters, but also in the sea; most likely anadromous, entering estuaries and penetrating into fresh water. Apparently spawns in May in Orinoco delta, perhaps migrating into fresh water from the estuary. Males mature at 5 cm standard length, females 7 cm standard length, with about 20 202 eggs in specimen of 7.7 cm; both sexes have large amount of visceral and intermuscular fat at maturity. Plankton-feeding species occurring in schools. Caught with seines, also with trawls. Marketed mostly fresh (Guyana). Taken as bycatch in industrial trawl fisheries, mainly those for shrimps. No special fishery; a component of anchovy catches taken by artisanal fisheries. In view of its relatively large size and rounded body, this species is best suited for marketing purposes. Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic (Orinoco delta to Guyana and Suriname; reaches southward to Santos, Brazil).

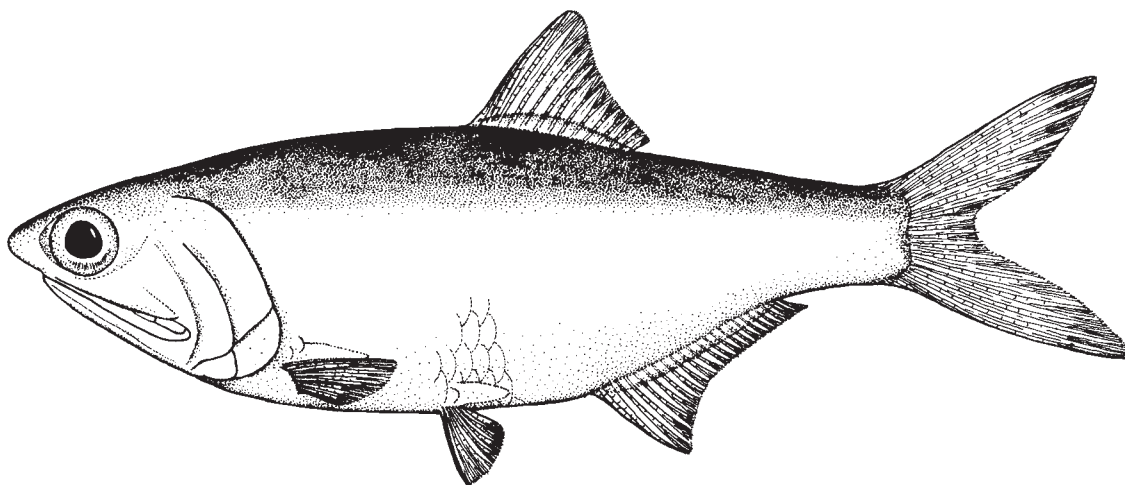


Cetengraulis edentulus (Cuvier, 1829)

AVA

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: **En** - Atlantic anchoveta; **Fr** - Anchois queue jaune; **Sp** - Anchoveta rabo amarillo.

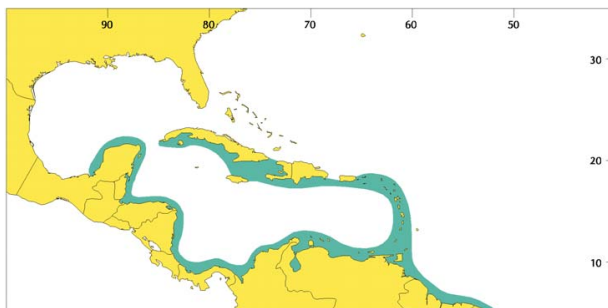


Diagnostic characters: Body moderately deep and compressed. **Snout sharply pointed and prominent;** posterior tip of maxilla rounded, not reaching to articulation of lower jaw; upper jaw teeth very small, lower jaw lacking teeth. **Branchiostegal membrane very broad, expanded posteriorly to cover isthmus; branchiostegal rays 8, long. Gill rakers fine and very numerous (45 or more), but absent on inner face of upper limb of third gill arch. Colour:** dorsum dark blue-green, sides silvery; small fishes with silver midlateral stripe (variously retained in adults); fins hyaline.

Size: Maximum about 17 cm total length, commonly to 16 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Pelagic in shallow coastal waters, often forming large schools; found along beaches and also down to depths of 25 m; also entering brackish waters of lagoons and estuaries and tolerating salinities of 10.3 to 31‰. Spawns off Araya Peninsula, Venezuela, between October and January with a distinct peak in mid-November. In Terminos Lagoon, Mexico, spawning occurs throughout the year, peaking in February; eggs are found in eastern and central portions of the lagoon, coincident with low temperatures and polyhaline and ultrahaline conditions. Relative fecundity and minimum size at maturity for females in Terminos Lagoon, Mexico, estimated to be 585.5 eggs/g and 97.5 mm, respectively. Eggs oval, small, ranging in volume from 0.18 to 0.34 mm³; eccentricity of eggs ranges from 0.74 to 0.94. Spawning occurs between 2400 and 0500 hours along shore-line out to about 1.5 km. Embryonic development is completed in about 20 to 24 hrs. Filter-feeds on minute planktonic organisms (presumably both animal and plant), especially diatoms. Caught with seines and cast nets May to November (Venezuela). Fresh fish little used for human consumption, but valued as a source of fish meal (Venezuela). The reported catch for this species between 1995 and 1999 ranged from 8 to 119 t.

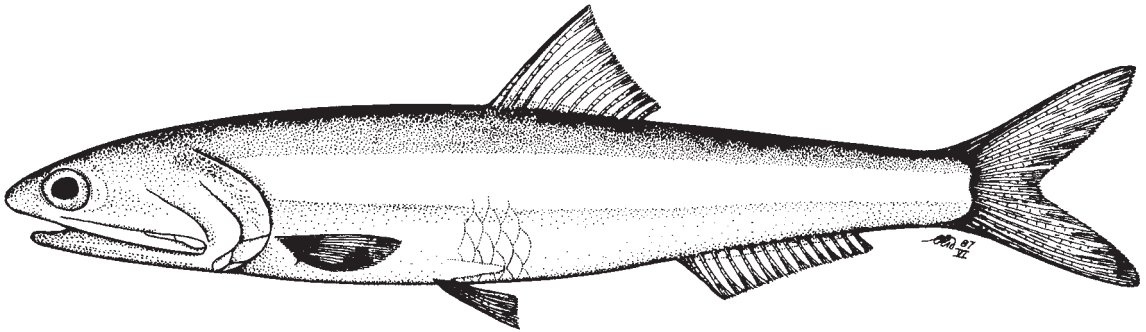
Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic (Antilles from Cuba southward; southern Gulf of Mexico (Terminos Lagoon) south and east to Colombia and Venezuela, Trinidad, to southern Brazil).



Engraulis eurystole (Swain and Meek, 1885)

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Anchoviella eurystole* (Swain and Meek, 1885); *Anchoviella estauquae* Hildebrand, 1943 / None.

FAO names: **En** - Silver anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois gris; **Sp** - Anchoita negra.

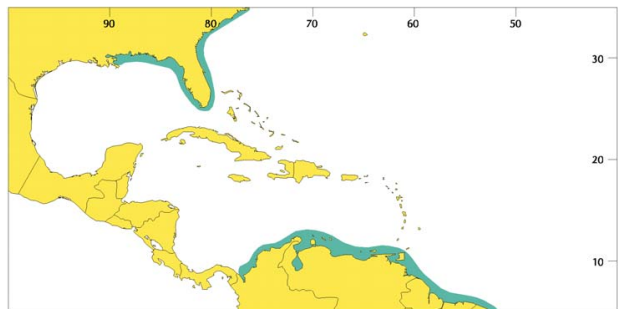


Diagnostic characters: Body fusiform, subcylindrical. Snout prominent and pointed; **posterior tip of maxilla truncate, bluntly tipped, not projecting beyond anterior margin of preoperculum; isthmus not reaching to posterior margin of branchiostegal membrane, leaving exposed a vertical bony urohyal plate;** jaw teeth small. **Pseudobranch longer than eye**, extending posteriorly onto operculum. **Lower gill rakers 27 to 43.** Anal-fin origin posterior to vertical through posteriormost dorsal-fin ray. **Colour:** dorsum blue-green, sides silvery, sometimes with broad silver midlateral stripe, with dark (or black in preserved specimens) upper edge.

Size: Maximum 12 cm total length, commonly to 8 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Pelagic in shallow coastal waters, especially in sheltered areas (harbours), but also taken at depths of 20 to 65 m. A plankton-feeding species that often forms dense, compact schools. Spawning occurs during summer. Caught with seines and with liftnets operating at night with lights; also with trawls. Marketed fresh in small quantities, apparently not common in markets. No special fishery, but enters artisanal fisheries in the southern part of its range. Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Distribution: Western north and central Atlantic (Massachusetts to Florida, northeastern Gulf of Mexico, at least to about Mississippi Sound); also, Caribbean coasts of Colombia and Venezuela, south to northern Brazil (2° 19'N).

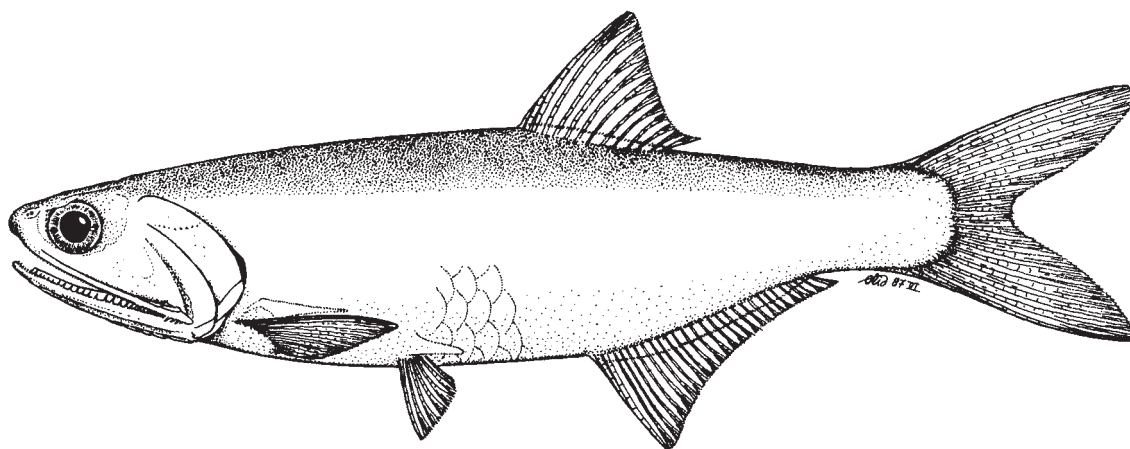


Lycengraulis batesii (Günther, 1868)

ELB

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Lycengraulis barbouri* Hildebrand, 1943 / *Lycengraulis grossidens* (Agassiz, 1829).

FAO names: En - Bates' sabretooth anchovy; Fr - Anchois-tigre; Sp - Anchoa tigre.

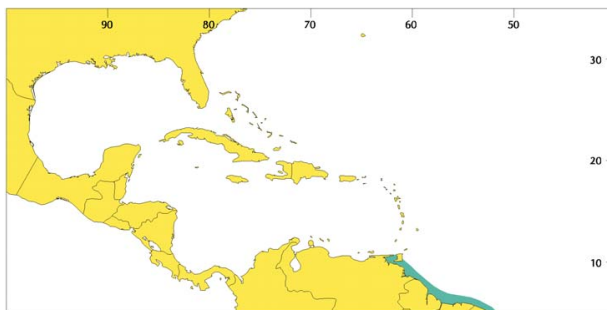


Diagnostic characters: Body fairly elongate and compressed, body depth about 4 to 5 times in standard length (small fish more slender). Snout moderate, about 3/4 eye diameter, maxilla moderate, tip pointed, reaching almost to or just posterior to anterior margin of preoperculum; **teeth becoming larger toward tip of jaw; lower jaw with small teeth at front, followed by larger canine-like teeth, especially around midpoint of jaw. Lower gill rakers 12 to 15, short and stumpy, anterior 1 to 3 rakers rudimentary in fish larger than 10 cm standard length.** Dorsal-fin origin well behind midpoint of body; anal fin long, with 26 to 30 branched rays, its origin equal to vertical through first to fourth branched dorsal-fin ray. **Colour:** broad midlateral silver stripe, twice eye diameter at widest point, but disappearing in fish larger than 10 to 12 cm standard length; with curve of black dots on upper part of operculum.

Size: Maximum 30 cm total length; commonly to 15 to 20 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found in low salinity estuarine waters and fresh water. A ripe female of 17.2 cm standard length was recorded at Tucupita, Orinoco delta. A carnivorous predator feeding on small fishes and probably crustaceans; not occurring in large schools. Caught in beach seines. Marketed locally in small quantities.

Distribution: Gulf of Paria to Brazil; and west central and south Atlantic drainages (Orinoco, as far up as the Río Manacacias in Colombia, rivers of the Guianas, and Amazon at least as far up as Teffe and the Jutahi River).

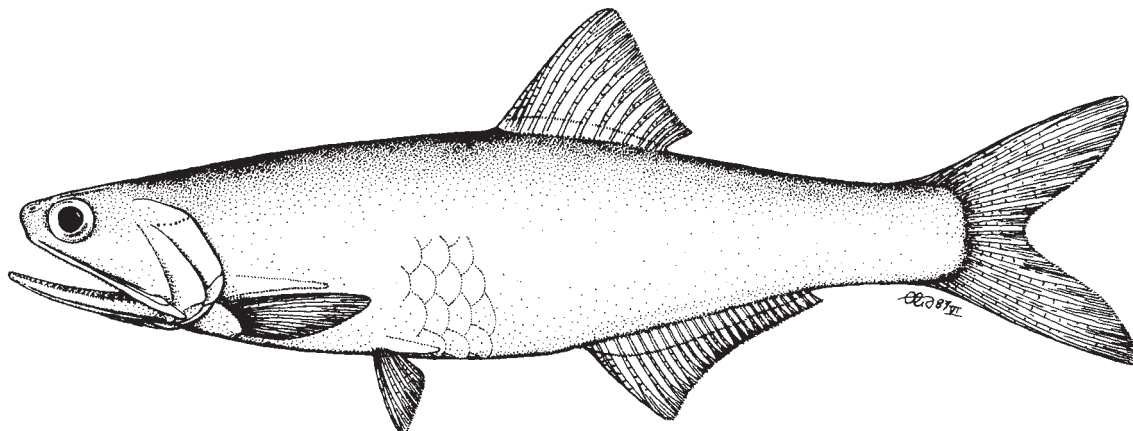


Lycengraulis grossidens (Agassiz, 1829)

ANR

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: *Lycengraulis olidus* (Eigenmann, 1907); *Anchovia abbotti* Fowler, 1915; *Lycengraulis schroederi* Hildebrand, 1943; *Lycengraulis limnichthys* Schultz, 1949 / *Lycengraulis batesii* (Günther, 1868).

FAO names: **En** - Atlantic sabretooth anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois goulard; **Sp** - Anchoa dentona.

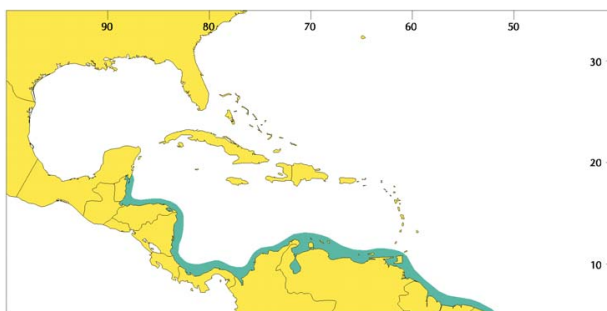


Diagnostic characters: Body fusiform, elongate, moderately compressed; **body depth 23 to 24.5% standard length**. Snout prominent but bluntly rounded, about **2/3 eye diameter**, eye far forward; **posterior tip of maxilla sharply pointed, reaching posteriorly beyond articulation of lower jaw to margin of operculum**; **teeth in lower jaw enlarged, widely spaced, canine-like** (especially in larger fishes). **Lower gill rakers 16 to 26** (young fishes with more than adults); total gill rakers on first arch 30 to 36. Dorsal-fin origin posterior to midpoint of body; anal fin with 26 to 28 branched rays, its origin below middle of dorsal-fin base. **Pelvic fin usually inserted nearer to anal-fin origin than to pectoral-fin base**, occasionally equidistant between these points. **Colour:** dorsum grey-blue, sides silver; with short arc of dark spots on upper part of operculum; fins colourless.

Size: Maximum about 26 cm total length, commonly to 20 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Shallow coastal waters down to about 40 m, over soft, usually muddy, sediments; also estuaries, lagoons, river mouths, and fresh water. A carnivorous predator, feeding on small fishes and crustaceans. Caught with seines, beach nets, and trawls; also taken as bycatch in industrial trawl fisheries for shrimps. Marketed mostly fresh; of little commercial importance. No special fishery. Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Distribution: Central and southern Atlantic (Belize to Panama east to Venezuela, Trinidad, and the Guyanas; south to southern Brazil).

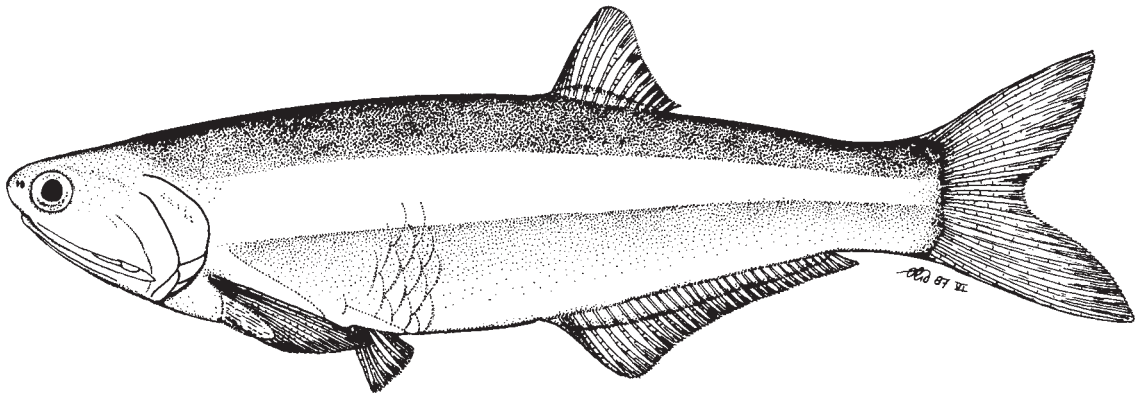


Pterengraulis atherinoides (Linnaeus, 1766)

EPH

Frequent synonyms / misidentifications: None / None.

FAO names: **En** - Wingfin anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois grande aîle; **Sp** - Anchoa aletona.

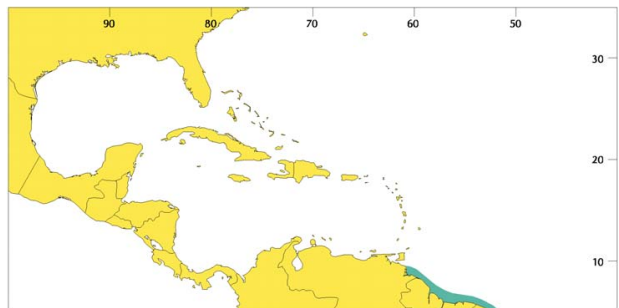


Diagnostic characters: **Fairly large in size;** body strongly compressed, fairly elongate, body depth about 3.5 to 4.5 times in standard length. Snout short, about 2/3 eye diameter; maxilla moderate; tip bluntly rounded, not quite or just reaching lower jaw articulation. Teeth in jaws short and even; **small patches of teeth on upper edge of hyoid bones.** Pseudobranch small, covered by skin. Lower gill rakers 12 to 14, short, often with single rudimentary raker in front. **Dorsal fin short, far back on body; anal fin long, with 28 to 32 branched rays, its origin anterior to vertical through dorsal-fin origin; pectoral fins large, reaching beyond pelvic-fin base.** **Colour:** silver lateral stripe, broadest anteriorly, narrowing over anal fin.

Size: Maximum size to 30 cm total length; commonly to 20 cm total length.

Habitat, biology, and fisheries: Found in low salinity estuarine waters and in fresh water, reaching some distance inland (at least 17 km up the Suriname River; to above Santarem on the Amazon). A carnivorous predator, feeding mainly on shrimp and small fishes (particularly other engraulids). Of local importance in artisanal fisheries. Caught with beach seines. Marketed locally.

Distribution: Western central and south Atlantic coasts and drainage (Orinoco delta, the Guyanas, south to Ceará, Brazil).

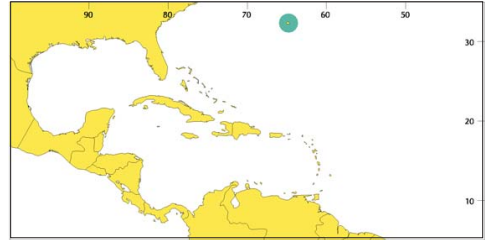
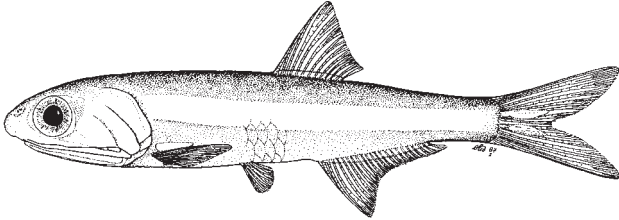


***Anchoa choerostoma* (Goode, 1874)**

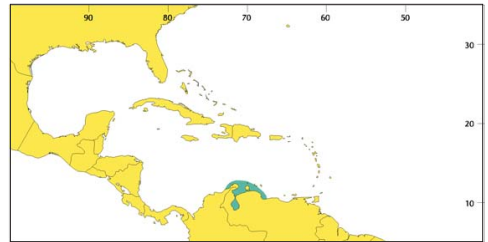
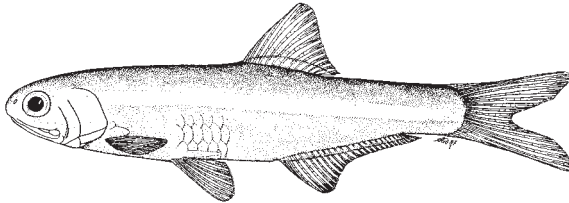
EAC

En - Bermuda anchovy.

Maximum size to about 8 cm standard length. Marine, pelagic, coastal, schooling; common. Specimens with well-developed eggs taken in June, suggesting summer spawning period. Probably of little interest to fisheries, but will school under a light and are of great value as a baitfish. Found only in Bermuda.

***Anchoviella blackburni* Hildebrand, 1943****En** - Blackburn's anchovy.

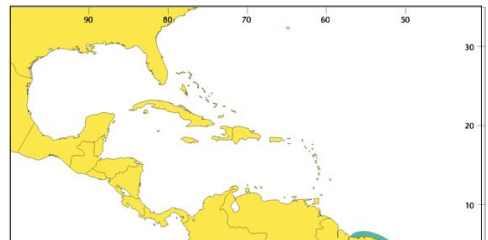
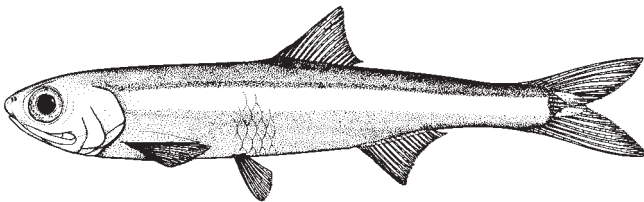
Size to at least 4 cm total length (type material is probably a juvenile). Marine, pelagic, coastal, but also in small lagoons and in Lake Maracaibo. Probably of no interest to fisheries, considering its apparent rarity. Although some authors question the validity of this species, it is recognized here until a family revision is conducted. Southern Caribbean (north coast of Venezuela), possibly also Suriname.

***Anchoviella cayennensis* (Puyo, 1946)**

EVN

En - Cayenne anchovy; **Fr** - Anchois de Cayennes; **Sp** - Anchoveta de Cayena.

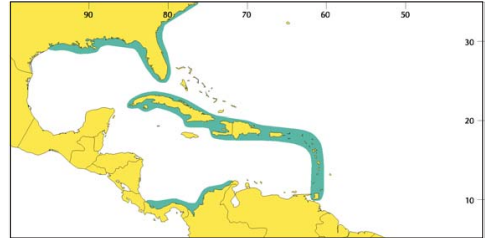
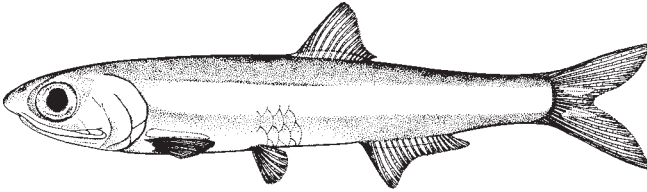
Maximum size to 12 cm standard length; commonly to 9 cm standard length. Occurs in estuaries but whether it also occurs in marine waters or in fresh water is unknown. Probably a component of anchovy catches in artisanal fisheries, but apparently not abundant. Western, central, and south Atlantic from the Guyanas to Brazil.



***Anchoviella perfasciata* (Poey, 1860)**

En - Poey's anchovy (AFS: Flat anchovy); **Sp** - Anchoveta cubana.

Maximum size to 11 cm total length; commonly to 9 cm total length. Coastal, pelagic in marine waters; its presence in brackish waters is not confirmed. Probably an occasional component of artisanal fisheries landings. Apparently not very abundant. Western central Atlantic (Beaufort, North Carolina, south to Florida; Antilles from Cuba to St. Lucia, also Trinidad and Tobago and Panama, probably the northern coast of Colombia).



***Lycengraulis limnichthys* Schultz, 1949**

En - Schultz's sabretooth anchovy.

Maximum size to about 15 cm standard length. In fresh to slightly brackish water. Several females with large eggs were taken in Lake Maracaibo in May indicating that at least some spawning takes place in the spring of the year. From Colombia (Cartagena Bay) to western Venezuela (including Lake Maracaibo).

