

Lycothrissa Güther, 1868

ENGR Lyco

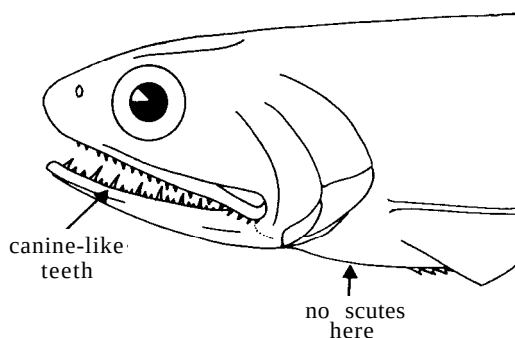
Lycothrissa Günther, 1868, Cat.Fish.Brit.Mus., 7:399 (type: Engraulis crocodilus Bleeker, 1851). In a list of specimens sent to Günther in late 1867, Bleeker used the subgeneric name Odontengraulis (Whitehead, Boeseman & Wheeler, 1966:12; see also Norman & Whitehead, 1984:307).

Diagnostic Features : Rather elongate, not strongly compressed anchovies (to about 25 cm standard length), the belly without scutes before the pectoral fin base; a small spine-like scute just before the dorsal fin origin. Maxilla short, its tip just reaching to edge of pre-operculum; enlarged canine-like teeth among smaller ones in each jaw. Gillrakers few (10 or less). Anal fin long, with up to 48 branched finrays, its origin in advance of dorsal fin origin. Scales moderate, 45 to 49 in lateral series.

Biology, Habitat and Distribution : Recorded from rivers and lakes, but perhaps also found in the sea. Known only from Indonesia north to Thailand and Cambodia.

Species : Since Bleeker's discovery of this anchovy, only a single species has ever been recognized:

L. crocodilus (Bleeker, 1851) Western central Pacific.



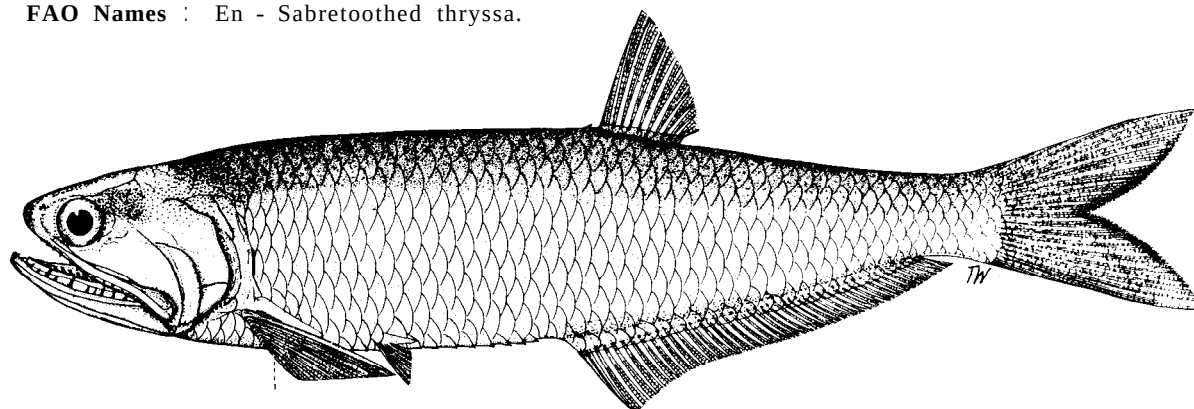
Lycothrissa crocodilus (Bleeker, 1851)

ENGR Lyco 1

Engraulis crocodilus Bleeker, 1851, Natuurk.Tijdschr.Ned.-Indië, 1:15 (Banjermasin, southern Kalimantan).

Synonyms : Lycothrissa crocodilus - Weber & de Beaufort, 1913:31, fig.16 (Sumatra); Fowler, 1941d:667 ("Cochin-China"); Smith, 1945:54 (Menam Chao Phya up to Koh Yai, Thailand); Whitehead, Boeseman & Wheeler, 1966:134, p1.17, fig.3 (Bleeker's figure) (type of crocodilus); Wongratana, 1980:298, pls 265,266 (revision).

FAO Names : En - Sabretoothed thryssa.



Diagnostic Features : Body elongate, not strongly compressed, belly with scutes absent from isthmus to below pectoral fin base, 7 or 8 (rarely 9) plus 9 or 10 (rarely 8 or 11) = 16 to 19 keeled scutes from pectoral base to anus. Maxilla short, reaching only to anterior margin of pre-operculum, tip blunt; first supra-maxilla absent; teeth in jaws moderate, but interspersed with large canine-like teeth. Lower gillrakers 8 to 10 (usually 9), short, with large tooth-like serrae. Anal fin with iii (rarely iv) 44 to 48 finrays, its origin before origin of dorsal fin by about an eye diameter; pelvic fins very small. Pectoral fins wholly or partly black, caudal yellow with a black edge. The enlarged jaw teeth distinguish it from any other Indo-West Pacific anchovy; bears a superficial resemblance to Thryssa baelama and T. encrasicholoides, which have the anal fin origin behind the dorsal fin base (also smaller teeth, etc.).

Geographical Distribution : Rivers, lakes and estuaries of western central Pacific area (Banjermasin, Pontianak, Sinkawang, middle part of Kapuas River, Kalimantan; Banjuasin, Palembang, Djambi, Sumatra; Chao Phya River as far up as Lake Bueng-borapet or 210 km from the sea, Thailand; Tonle Sap, Cambodia).

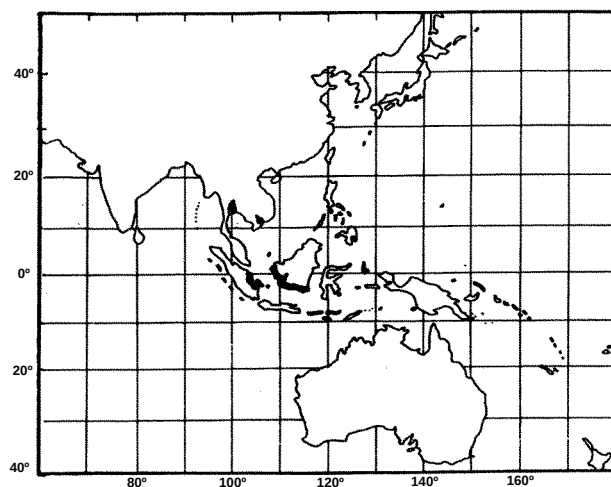
Habitat and Biology : Riverine and lacustrine, but perhaps passing from estuaries into the sea. The large teeth suggest a diet of fishes or shrimps. More data needed; rather few specimens are in museum collections.

Size : To 23 cm standard length, perhaps to 25 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : Unknown, but perhaps slight considering the few specimens recorded.

Local Names : THAILAND: Pla meo = Cat fish (Smith, 1945:55).

Literature : Chevey (1932), Chevey & Poulain (1940), Hardenberg (1936), Smith (1945).



Papuengraulis Munro, 1964

ENGR Papu

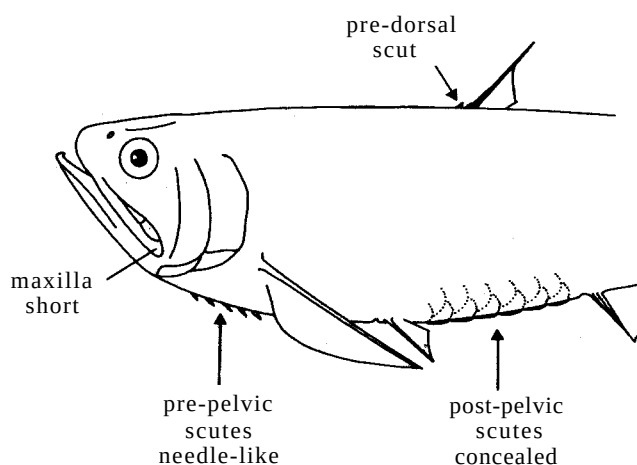
Papuengraulis Munro, 1964, Papua New Guin.agric.J., 16(4):150 (type: Papuengraulis micropinna Munro, 1964).

Diagnostic Features : Moderate-sized, strongly compressed anchovies (to about 12 cm standard length), the pre-pelvic scutes reduced to 5 or 6 needle-like scutes from isthmus to pectoral fin base only, the post-pelvic scutes reduced to thin plates hidden by scales; a small spine-like scute just before the dorsal fin origin. Maxilla short, its tip just reaching to edge of pre-operculum; jaw teeth small. Pectoral fins large, pelvic fins small, dorsal fin minute, second finray filamentous, anal fin long. Scales moderate, 50 or 51 in lateral series.

Biology, Habitat and Distribution : Estuarine, perhaps entering rivers. Known from the Gulf of Papua and Arafura Sea.

Species : A single species known:

P. micropinna Munro, 1964 Gulf of Papua.



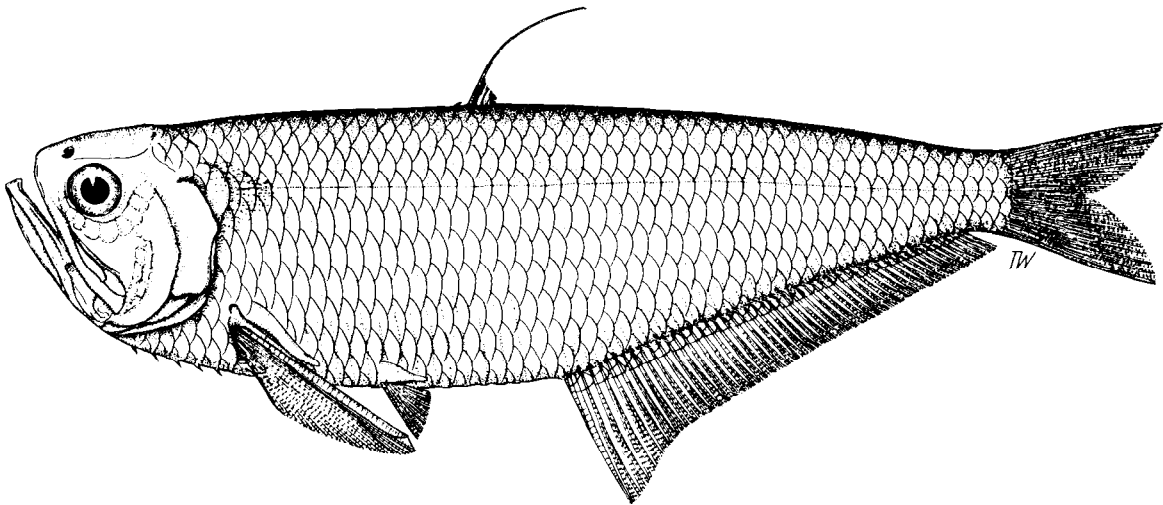
Papuengraulis micropinna Munro, 1964

ENGR Papu 1

Papuengraulis micropinna Munro, 1964, Papua New Guin.agric.J., 16(4):151, fig.2 (off Port Romilly, Gulf of Papua).

Synonyms : Papuengraulis micropinna-Munro, 1967:45, p1.3, fig.35 (repeat); Wongratana, 1980:296, pls 263,264 (revision); Sainsbury, Kailola & Leyland, 1985:66,67 (colour plate), 332 (Arafura Sea).

FAO Names : En - Littlefin anchovy.



Diagnostic Features : Body somewhat elongate, but strongly compressed, belly with 5 or 6 needle-like scutes in front of pectoral fin base, none behind, and a series of membrane-like post-pelvic scutes more or less concealed by the scales. Maxilla short, just reaching to anterior margin of pre-operculum, tip blunt; first supra-maxilla large, elongate, more than twice length of second. Lower gillrakers 25 to 27. Pectoral fins wing-like, pelvic fins small, dorsal fin minute (only ii 3 or 4 finrays, the second unbranched finray a long filament, about equal to head length, but often broken), anal fin long and broad (iii 51 to 57 finrays). A distinct dark blotch behind upper part of gill opening. The minute dorsal fin distinguishes it from any other Indo-West Pacific anchovy and the absence of a fully keeled belly also separates it from superficially similar species of Thryssa or Setipinna.

Geographical Distribution : Gulf of Papua (off Port Romilly; in mouths of rivers flowing into the Gulf vide Munro, 1967); Arafura Sea (Sainsbury et al., but no indication if Australian or Irian Jaya coasts).

Habitat and Biology : Only four specimens appear to be preserved (Wongratana, 1980:296), so that the species is probably uncommon. Presumed to be estuarine, but perhaps ascends rivers or migrates into coastal waters. The minute teeth and rather numerous gillrakers suggest a diet of small planktonic animals.

Size : To 12 cm standard length, perhaps more.

Interest to Fisheries : Probably little, considering its rarity.

Local Names : PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Bare-back anchovy (Munro, 1967).

Literature :

