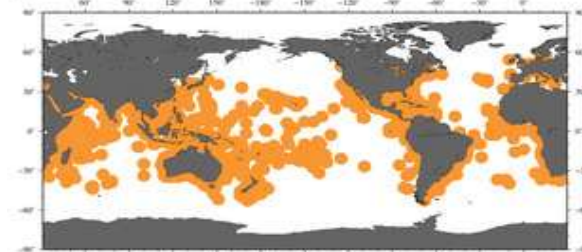


## Centrarchiformes

Centrarchiformes is an order of ray-finned fish, before 2018 included amongst the Perciformes, with 21 families. Many Centrarchiformes look essentially perch-like, featuring a stocky build and a spine-bearing dorsal fin, and range in size from 2.5 cm in length, to 1.8 meters. The only known common morphological feature is a pattern of the distribution of the nerves of the head, which is called the "ramus lateralis accessories pattern 10".

### Centrarchiformes



COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5026843>

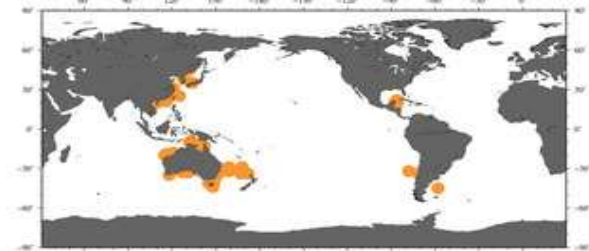
click on family name on map (Copepedia) to get access to higher resolution version and to maps at genus level  
shift + click on fish to get access to photos on Fishbase page

basses

## Percichthyidae

These live in Australia, Chile and Argentina mostly in fresh water. Perciliidae, Howellidae and East-Asian Lateolabracidae were separated in 2008 (the latter two moved in 2018 to Acropomatiformes instead of Centrarchiformes). Sinipercaidae was separated in 2017. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei. Click on family name on map to get access to ongoing Copepedia map.

### Percichthyidae



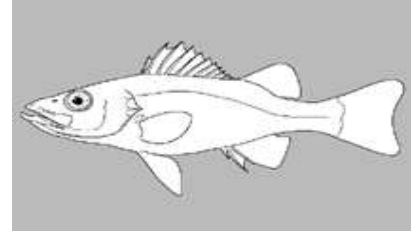
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5002196>

click here for locations in rivers/lakes (BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System)

3.9 cm

temperate perches  
brackish fresh

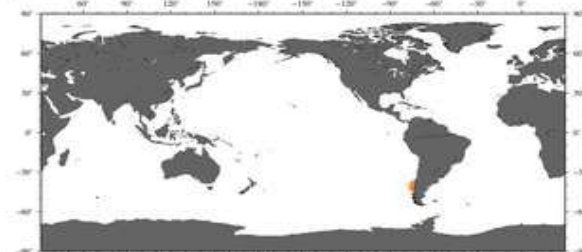


180 cm

## Perciliidae

The southern bass (*Percilia*) is found in southern and central Chile, in the cool temperatures, high oxygen levels, and fast, turbulent, swift flows of the rithron zone where it feeds on benthic invertebrates. In 2008, the genus was separated from Percichthyidae and placed in the new family Perciliidae.

### Perciliidae

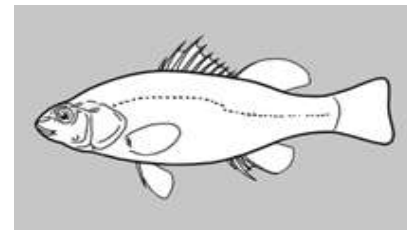


COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015368>

9 cm

southern basses  
fresh

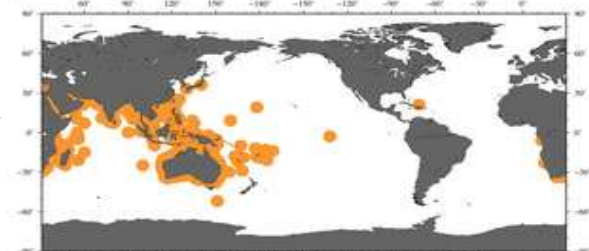


9.6 cm

## Terapontidae

These fish with dull or silvery colours or with horizontal dark stripes are characterised by a single long-based dorsal fin which has a notch marking the boundary between the spiny and soft-rayed portions. Some species make grunting sounds. The young tigerfish protects a restricted area around a small hole dug by using its body. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei.

### Terapontidae



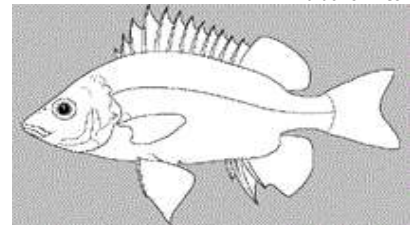
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015297>

click here for locations in rivers/lakes (BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System)

FAO  
8.5 cm

grunters or tigerperches  
marine  
brackish fresh



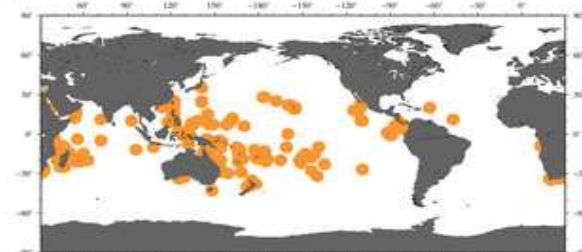
54 cm

[WCP](#)

## Kuhliidae

The dorsal fin of the flagtails has a deep indentation in the middle, in front of the soft-rayed part. The schooling fish often stay in mangroves or in the tidal area. Juvenile fish often stay behind in small residual waters at low tide. Many species also go into river mouths and brackish water and *Kuhlia rupestris* is a pure freshwater inhabitant. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei.

### Kuhliidae



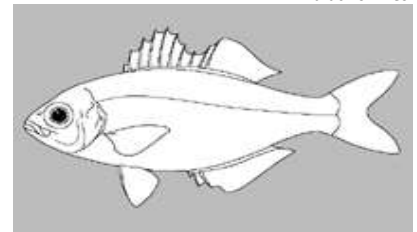
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015323>

click here for locations in rivers/lakes (BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System)

WCP  
11.4 cm

flagtails or aholeholes  
marine  
brackish fresh

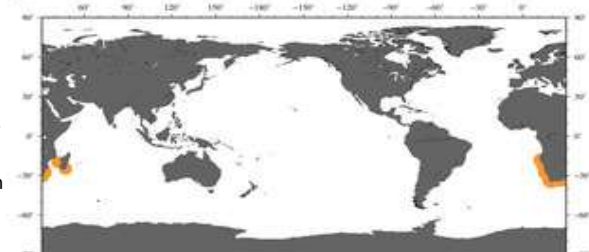


45 cm

## Dichistiidae

The galjoen is indigenous to the coasts of southern Africa from Angola to South Africa. Galjoen (Afrikaans for galleon, a historic high-boarded sailing ship from the 16th/17th century) is the national fish of South Africa. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei. Before 1998 called Coracinidae.

### Dichistiidae

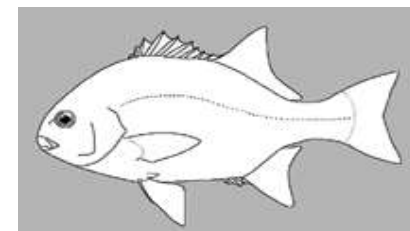


COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015336>

video  
20 cm

galjoen fishes  
marine



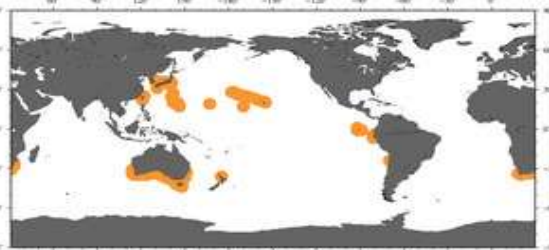
80 cm

### [Oplegnathidae](#)

The teeth of the knifejaws are fused together to form a parrot-like beak, similar to that of parrotfish, which they use to bite into their main food, mussels and sea urchins. They can easily be distinguished from the large-scaled parrotfish by their very small scales. They are native to the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei.

[FAO](#)

### [Oplegnathidae](#)

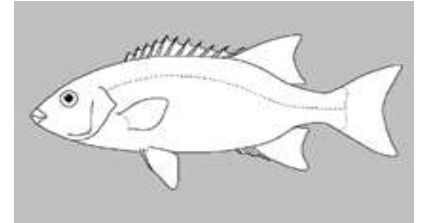


COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015342>

30 cm

knifejaws  
marine

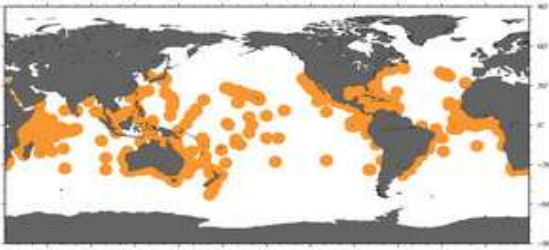


90 cm

### [Kyphosidae](#)

These have an oval, elongated, and sometimes relatively tall body. The fish are green to silvery, sometimes olive green, bluish or bronze. They live mostly in temperate zones, such as the coasts of South Australia, but also in tropical regions. They like to follow ships in schools. In 2019, Girellidae, Scorpididae and Microcanthidae were separated. Before 2021 in Percoidei.

### [Kyphosidae](#)



COPEPEDIA

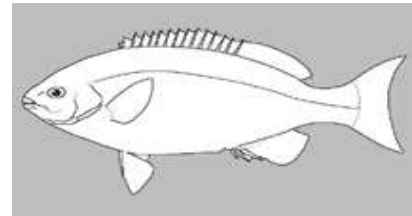
<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5000744>

[WCA](#)

18 cm

[WCP](#)

sea chubs  
marine brackish

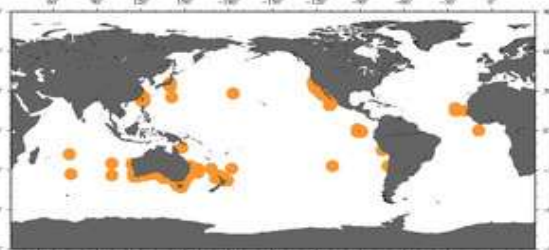


90 cm

### [Girellidae](#)

These fish are primarily algae eaters and have numerous adaptations in their jaw anatomy to nibble the algae off the rocks. They are found mainly in the central Pacific from the Philippines to Australia, with some species off the coast of California and off the coast of Chile, and one in the Atlantic. Separated from Kyphosidae in 2019, but recognized in the 1980s.

### [Girellinae](#)



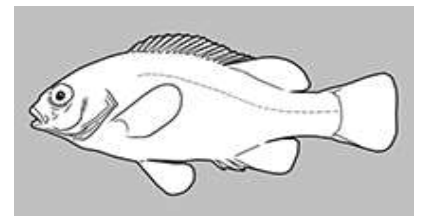
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5002323>

[WCP](#)

6.3 cm

nibblers  
marine brackish

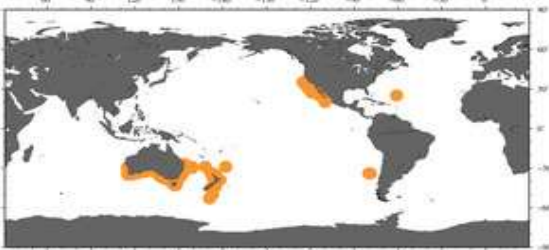


71 cm

### [Scorpididae](#)

These have a laterally flattened body that is 1.8 to 2 times as long as it is high and have a continuous dorsal fin. The symmetry between the dorsal and anal fins is striking. In contrast to the nibblers, halfmoons do not have incisor-like teeth. They are found mainly in the central western Pacific, while three species occur in the eastern Pacific. Separated from Kyphosidae in 2019.

### [Scorpidinae](#)



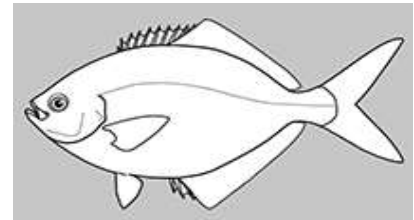
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5002325>

[WCP](#)

15 cm

halfmoons  
marine brackish

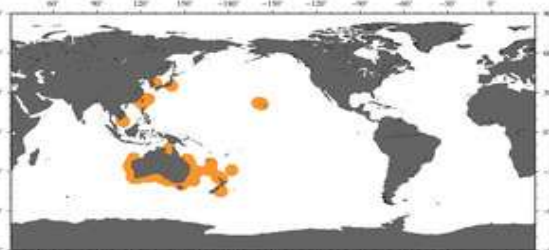


82.5 cm

### [Microcanthidae](#)

These have an oval body, hence the common names western and eastern footballer for some of the species around Australia and New Zealand. They have a small terminal mouth which does not extend as far as the front of the eye. They are normally yellowish or whitish in colour, marked with dark brown or blackish almost horizontal or oblique stripes. They prefer subtropical and warm temperate seas. Separated from Kyphosidae in 2019.

### [Microcanthinae](#)



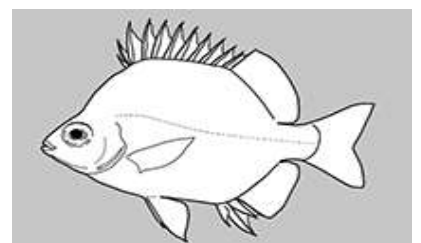
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015384>

[WCP](#)

11.2 cm

stripeys  
marine brackish

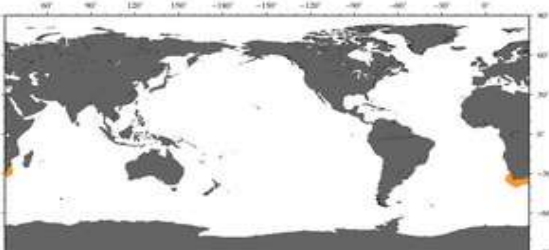


40 cm

### [Parascorpididae](#)

The fish have a high-backed, oval body and a pointed head. The standard length is 2 to 2.2 times the body height. This fish, called jutjaw is native to the Indian Ocean coast of Africa where it is known to occur along the coasts of Mozambique and South Africa. It is found at depths of from 20 to 200 m. Before 2021 in Percoidei.

### [Parascorpididae](#)

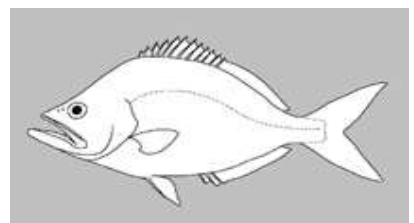


COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015337>

60 cm

jutjaws  
marine



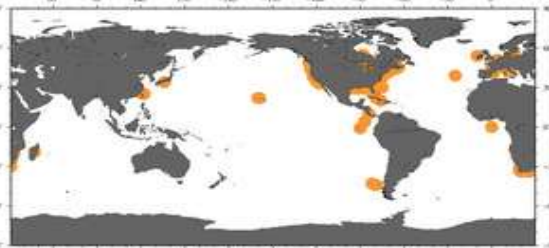
60 cm

WCA West Central Atlantic  
WCP West Central Pacific

### Centrarchidae

Sunfishes are native only to North America, they can be found worldwide due to introductions for fishing. The pumpkinseed is blamed as an unwanted species in Europe. In its natural habitat the fish grows up to 25 cm, but in Europe it stays small. Indigenous North American populations of the pumpkinseed serve as food fish for many predators. The strategy of the pumpkinseed is a very high reproduction rate. In Europe these predators are missing what leads to a mass-reproduction and the fish stay dwarfish. Before 2021 in Percoidei.

### **Centrarchidae**



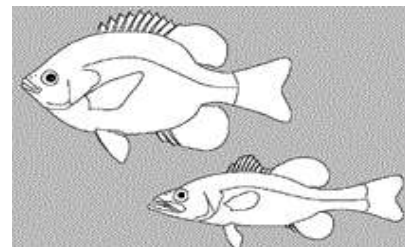
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015300>

[click here for locations in rivers/lakes \(BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System\)](#)

3.7 cm

sunfishes  
brackish fresh



97 cm

### Elassomatidae

They occur mostly in temperate and subtropical swamps, marshes, and other shallow, slow-moving, and heavily vegetated waters, across an area of the American South stretching from North Carolina to central Florida, west along the Gulf Coast to eastern Texas, and north up to southern Illinois. Before 1990 in Centrarchidae, until 2017 incertae sedis.

### **Elassomatidae**



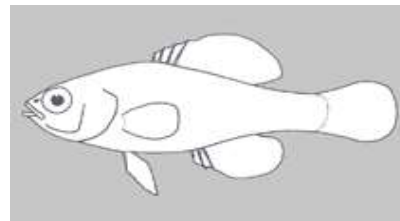
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015356>

[click here for locations in rivers/lakes \(BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System\)](#)

2.1 cm

pygmy sunfishes  
fresh

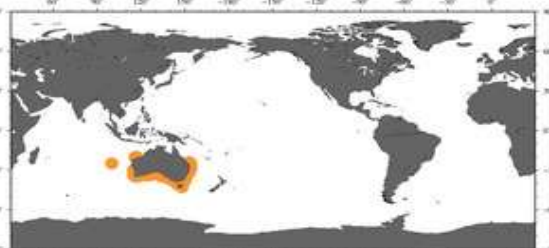


4.7 cm

### Enoplosidae

The old wife is easily distinguished by its silver-and-black, vertical, zebra-striped coloration, and by its two prominent dorsal fins. The name "old wife" refers to the sound it makes when caught, caused by it grinding its teeth. The second dorsal fin is very long and sickle-shaped. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei.

### **Enoplosidae**



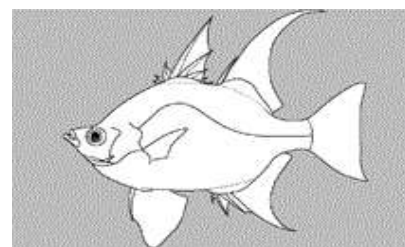
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015339>

WCP

50 cm

oldwife  
marine brackish

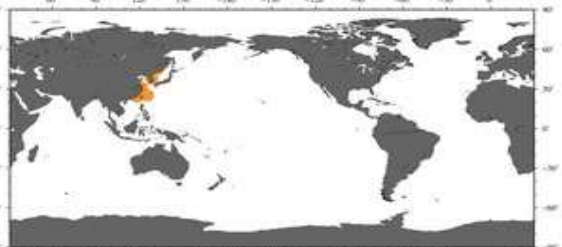


50 cm

### Sinipercaidae

The Sinipercaidae are found in China, Vietnam, Japan and Korea. Also called mandarin fish some species are pure living juvenile fish-eaters – also of their own species. Separated from Percichthyidae in 2017. Before 1990 thought to belong to Serranidae (Perciformes), later as incertae sedis.

### **Siniperca spp.**



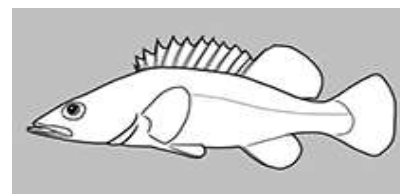
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015129>

[click here for locations in rivers/lakes \(BOLD, Barcode of Life Data System\)](#)

11 cm

Chinese perches  
brackish fresh

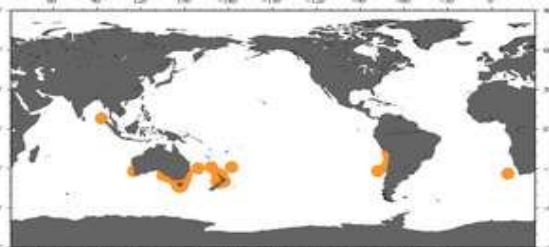


70 cm

### Aplodactylidae

*Aplodactylus* species are characterised by a relatively long, deep and compressed body ending in a small, blunt head. They have a small mouth, which is placed just below the short snout, with a thick upper lip. *Aplodactylus* is found in the south eastern Indian Ocean and in the southern Pacific Ocean. These are fishes of shallow inshore waters, typically on rocky coastlines.

### **Aplodactylidae**

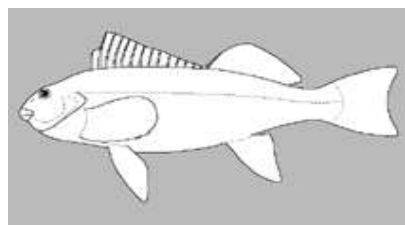


COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015343>

43.7 cm

marblefishes  
marine

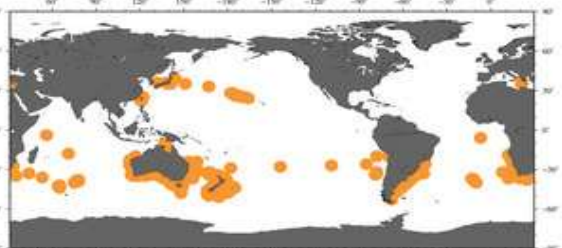


65 cm

### Cheilodactylidae

Cheilodactylids are fishes of near-shore rocky reefs to depths of about 300 m. Since 2019, two species of *Cheilodactylus* are left (restricted from Namibia to South Africa), the remainder went to Latridae. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei. *Click on family name on map to get access to ongoing Copepedia map.*

### **Cheilodactylidae**



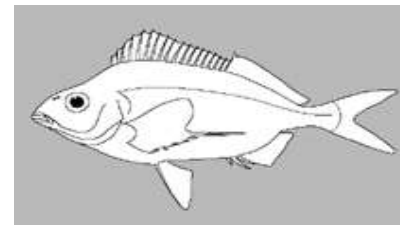
COPEPEDIA

<https://copepedia.org/?id=T5015344>

WCP

18 cm

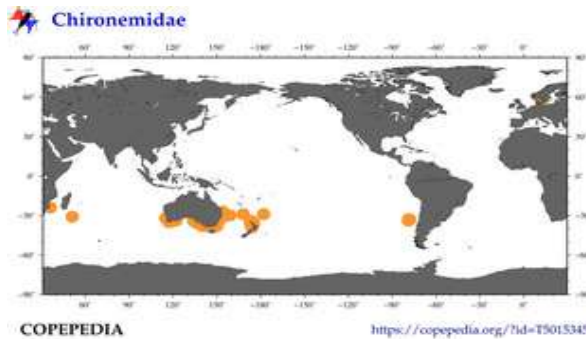
morwongs  
marine brackish



30 cm

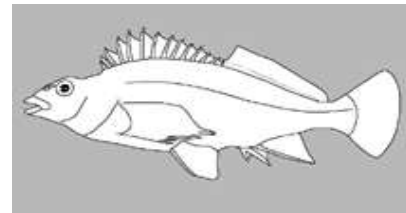
Chironemidae

*Chironemus* kelpfishes are found in the southern Pacific Ocean. They are coastal fishes adapted to living in shallow waters where they are exposed to waves. They lodge themselves into small niches or interstices in rocks holding their bodies in place with their large pectoral fins. Before 2021 in Percoidei.



20 cm

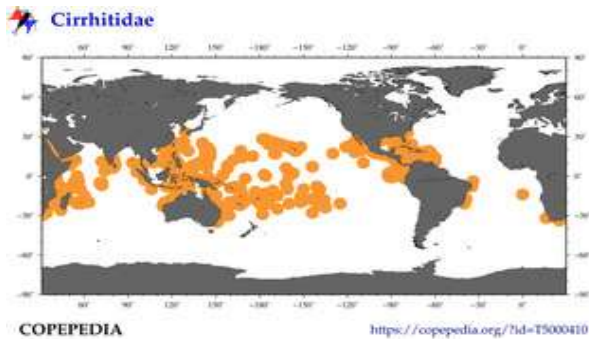
kelpfishes  
marine



40 cm

Cirrhitidae

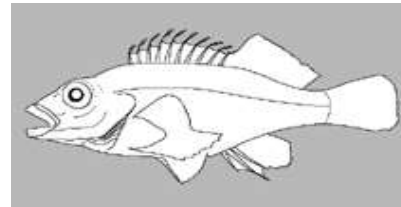
The common length is around 30 cm. Most species are colourfully patterned. Distinctive features include thickened lower pectoral-fin rays and tassels at the tip of each dorsal-fin spine. They are benthic fishes which are found on coral reefs or rocky substrates, mostly inhabiting shallow water. Before 2021 in Perciformes/Percoidei.



WCP

5.2 cm

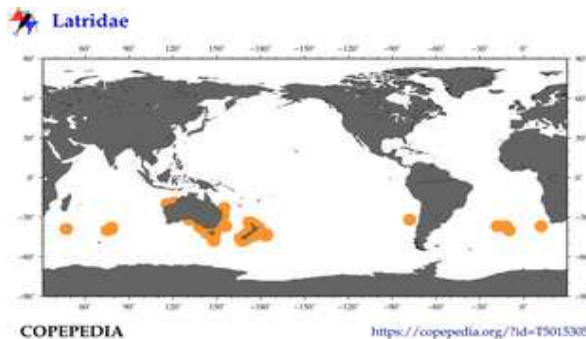
hawkfishes  
marine  
brackish



60 cm

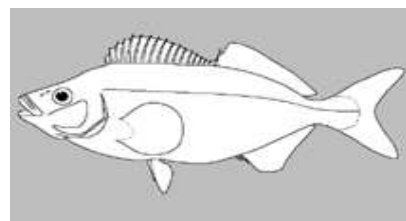
Latridae

Latridae fishes have somewhat elongate bodies, small mouths and sharp teeth. They are found in the temperate southern oceans where they tend to be associated with reefs and rock substrates. Numerous species that previously belonged to the Cheilodactylidae were placed in Latridae in 2019. Before 2021 in Percoidei. *Click on family name on map to get access to ongoing Copepedia map.*



trumpeters  
marine

20 cm



180 cm

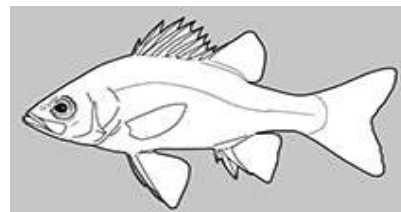
Percalatidae

*Percalates* species occur in rivers, streams, lakes and in slightly brackish estuaries. The species prefers to stay between aquatic plants or rocks and feeds on small fish, mollusks, crustaceans and other invertebrates. The two species of the genus were placed in the genus *Macquaria* in the family Percichthyidae before 2021.

no map

Australian basses  
brackish

40 cm



75 cm