

Order GOBIIFORMES

Butid Sleepers

Family **BUTIDAE**

Bleeker 1874



Butis abdoui, paratype, male, 83.2 mm SL. Photo by Philippe Keith. From: Keith, P. and M. I. Mennesson. 2023. Review of *Butis* (Teleostei: Butidae) from Indo-Pacific islands with description of three new species. *Cybium* 47 (4): 431–466.

Bostrychus

Lacepède 1801

bōstrychos (βόστρυχος), curl or lock of hair, referring to long, tubular anterior nostrils of *B. sinensis*, which Lacepède apparently believed were barbels

***Bostrychus africanus* (Steindachner 1879) -anus** (belonging to:) Africa, described from Sierra Leone

***Bostrychus aruensis* Weber 1911 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Aru Island, Aru Islands, Maluku, Indonesia, type locality

***Bostrychus donghaiensis* Zhang, Yang, Luo & Ding 2024 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Donghai, Chinese name of the East China Sea, where it occurs

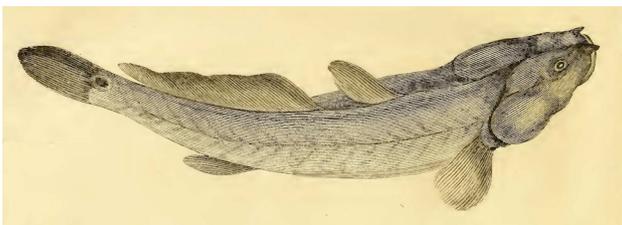
***Bostrychus microphthalmus* Hoesé & Kottelat 2005 micro-**, from *mikrós* (μικρός), small; *ophthalmós* (ὀφθαλμός), eye, referring to its small, reduced eyes, covered with skin

***Bostrychus scalaris* Larson 200** Latin for of or belonging to a flight of steps or a ladder, referring to step-ladder-like banded pattern on body

***Bostrychus sinensis* Lacepède 1801 -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Sinica (China), described from a Chinese drawing (no types known)

***Bostrychus strigogenys* Nichols 1937 stria** (L), furrow or channel (i.e., stripe); *génys* (γένυς), jaw (usually the cheek or lower jaw in ichthyology), referring to conspicuous dark stripes on white lower part of face behind eye

***Bostrychus zonatus* Weber 1907** Latin for banded, referring to 8-9 dark bars or bands on body



First-published image of *Bostrychus sinensis*, as “Bostryche Chinois.” Illustration by Jacques E. Desève. From: Lacepède, B. G. E. 1800. *Histoire naturelle des poissons*. 2: i–xiv + 1–632, Pls. 1–20.

Butis

Bleeker 1856

tautonymous with *Cheilodipterus butis* Hamilton 1822

***Butis abdoui* Keith & Mennesson 2023** in honor of colleague Ahmed Abdou, Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle (Paris), for his “work and passion for the freshwater fauna of Comoros and of the Indian Ocean”

***Butis amboinensis* (Bleeker 1853) -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Ambon (Latinized as Amboina) Island, Molucca Islands, Indonesia, type locality

***Butis audebertae* Keith & Mennesson 2023** in honor of colleague Fabienne Audebert, Sorbonne University (Paris), for her work to “improve our knowledge on fish parasites”

***Butis butis* (Hamilton 1822)** derived from *Bhuti bele*, its local name near Calcutta, per Hora (1934¹); per Gill & Hoesé (2011²), possibly derived from the Indian word *buti*, a decorative, circular design woven, embroidered or printed on cloth, particularly common in sari fabric, that usually contrasts vividly with the background fabric (e.g., orange, gold, yellow, red or white over a dark field color), an interpretation consistent with Hamilton’s description of its live coloration: “of a blackish colour, with the hinder fins spotted with red, and ventrals with black. There are two red spots at the roots of the pectoral fins.”

***Butis delagoensis* (Barnard 1927) -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Delagoa Bay, Mozambique, type locality

***Butis gymnopomus* (Bleeker 1853) gymnós** (γυμνός), bare or naked; *pōma* (πῶμα), lid or cover, i.e., opercle, referring to lack of preopercular spine, compared with *Eleotris acanthopoma* (Eleotridae), its presumed congener at the time

***Butis huberti* Keith & Mennesson 2023** in honor of colleague Nicolas Hubert, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), for his work on the freshwater fauna of South Asia and Indonesia

***Butis humeralis* (Valenciennes 1837)** Latin for humeral (of the shoulder), presumably referring to black spot of base of pectoral fin

***Butis koilomatodon* (Bleeker 1849)** etymology not explained, probably

¹ Hora, S. L. 1934. The systematic position of Hamilton’s species of gobioid fishes from the Ganges. *Records of the Indian Museum* 36 (4): 483–490.

² Gill, A. C. and D. F. Hoesé. 2011. On the formation of family-group names and gender of genera based on the stem — *butis* (Teleostei: Perciformes: Gobioidel). *Zootaxa* 2741: 66–68.

koīlos (κοῖλος), hollow or cavity; *mátaios* (μάταιος), empty or lacking; *odon*, from *odoús* (ὀδοῦς), tooth, i.e., an oral cavity lacking teeth, referring to absence of canines compared with related species

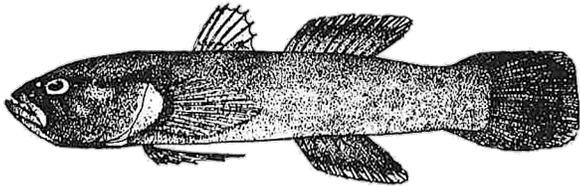
***Butis prismaticus* (Bleeker 1849)** Neo-Latin for variably or brilliantly colored, presumably referring to any or all of the following: dusky green body above, lighter below; yellow transverse streak on scales; blackish first dorsal fin; membrane of other fins violet with orange rays; spotted ventral, anal and caudal fins; pectoral fin with black spot at base

Incara

Rao 1971

combination of letters taken from the name
Indian Council of Agricultural Research

***Incara multisquamatus* Rao 1971** *multi-* (L.), many; *squamatus* (L.), scaled, referring to unique arrangement of ctenoid and cycloid scales on head and body and oval cycloid scales on caudal fin



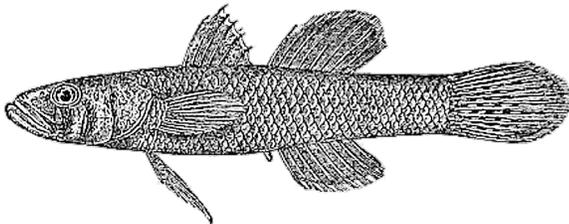
Incara multisquamatus, holotype, 62 mm TL. From: Rao, V. V. 1971. *Incara multisquamatus* gen. et sp. nov. (family: Eleotridae) from Godavari Estuary. Journal of the Marine Biological Association of India 11 (1–2) [for 1969]: 329–332.

Kribia

Herre 1946

-ia (L. suffix), belonging to: Kribi River, southern
Cameroon, type locality of *K. kribensis*

***Kribia kribensis* (Boulenger 1907)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place:
Kribi River, southern Cameroon, type locality



Probably first-published image of *Kribia kribensis*, holotype, 50 mm TL. From: Boulenger, G. A. 1916. Catalogue of the fresh-water fishes of Africa in the British Museum (Natural History). London. 4: i–xxvii + 1–392.

***Kribia leonensis* (Boulenger 1916)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place:
Sierra Leone, only known area of occurrence

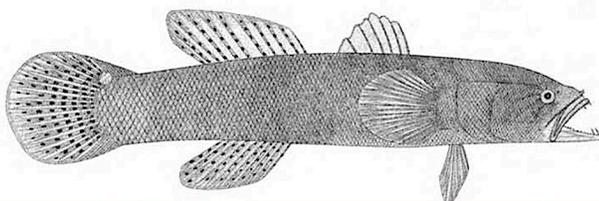
***Kribia nana* (Boulenger 1901)** *nanus* (L.), dwarf (adjective), referring to
small size, described at 38 mm TL

***Kribia uellensis* (Boulenger 1913)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place:
upper Uelé River, Democratic Republic of the Congo, type locality

Odonteleotris

Gill 1863

odonto, Neo-Latin combining form of *odoús* (ὀδοῦς), tooth, referring
to canine teeth on upper and lower jaws; *Eleotris* (Eleotridae), its
presumed closest relative at the time and original genus of type species



First-published image of *Odonteleotris macrodon*. From: Bleeker, P. 1857. Zes platen behorende bij de Nalezingen op de ichthyologie van Bengalen en Hindostan (25e deel der Verhandelingen). Verhandelingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen 25 (5) : pls 1–6.

***Odonteleotris canina* (Bleeker 1849)** Latin for canine or like a dog,
referring to canine teeth on upper and lower jaws

***Odonteleotris macrodon* (Bleeker 1853)** *macro-*, from *makrós* (μακρός),
long or large; *odon*, from *odoús* (ὀδοῦς), tooth, referring to large canine
teeth on upper and lower jaws

Ophiocara

Gill 1863

óphis (ὄφις), serpent; *cara*, from *kára* (κάρα), head, referring
to large scales and flattened head of *O. ophicephalus*, similar to that
of snakeheads (*Ophiocephalus*, junior synonym of *Channa*,
Anabantiformes: Channidae)

***Ophiocara cantoris* (Günther 1861)** *-is* (L.), genitive singular of: Danish
naturalist Theodor Edvard Cantor (1809-1860), who reported this spe-
cies as *Eleotris porocephalus* (= *O. porocephalum*) in 1849

***Ophiocara gigas* Kobayashi & Sato 2023** *gígas* (γίγας), giant, its adult
maximum size greater than those of its congeners



Ophiocara gigas, paratype, male, 254.6 mm SL. From: Kobayashi, H. and M. Sato. 2023. The genus *Ophiocara* (Teleostei: Butidae) in Japan, with descriptions of two new species. Ichthyological Research 71 (1): 119–153.

***Ophiocara macrolepidotum* (Bloch 1792)** large-scaled, from *makrós*
(μακρός), long or large, and *lepidōtós* (λεπιδωτός), scaly, referring to its
“distinctive” (translation) large scales [possibly a species of *Dormitator*
in Eleotridae]

***Ophiocara macrostoma* Kobayashi & Sato 2023** *macro-*, from *makrós*
(μακρός), long or large; *stóma* (στόμα), mouth, referring to large mouth
and elongated upper jaw in adults

***Ophiocara ophicephalus* (Valenciennes 1837)** named for the snake-
head genus *Ophicephalus* (= *Channa*, Anabantiformes: Channidae), from
óphis (ὄφις), serpent, and *kephalé* (κεφαλή), head, referring to large
scales and flattened head, similar to that of snakeheads

***Ophiocara porocephalum* (Valenciennes 1837)** pore-headed, from
póros (πόρος), hole or passage, and *kephalé* (κεφαλή), head, referring
to four large pores along upper edge of preopercle

Oxyeleotris

Bleeker 1874

oxýs (ὀξύς), sharp or pointed, allusion not explained, perhaps
referring to head of type species, *O. marmorata*, which Bleeker
described as pointed and depressed (“*acuto, depresso*”) in his 1852
description of the species; *Eleotris* (Eleotridae) its presumed closest
relative at the time and original genus of type species

***Oxyeleotris albooculata* (Herre 1927)** *albus* (L.), white; *oculata* (L.),
eyed or having eyes, the pupils of its eyes “noticeably white”

***Oxyeleotris altipinna* Allen & Renyaan 1996** *altus* (L.), high; *pinna* (L.),
fin, referring to its higher dorsal fin compared with *O. nullipora*, its
nearest relative

***Oxyeleotris aruensis* (Weber 1911)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place:
Aru Island, Aru Islands, Maluku, Indonesia, type locality

***Oxyeleotris caeca* Allen 1996** Latin for blind, referring to its vestigial
eyes, not externally visible but still pigmented in orbit; name also reflects
its common name in the Yagi (Agi?) language of Papua New Guinea,
haaribi, also meaning blind

***Oxyeleotris colasi* Pouyaud, Kadarusman & Hadiaty 2013** in honor of
the COLAS Companies in Indonesia, which co-sponsored the Lengguru-



Oxyeleotris colasi, holotype, male, 40.6 mm SL. From: Pouyaud, L., [no initials] Kadarusman, R. K. Hadiaty, J. Siembrouck, N. Lemauk, R. V. Kusumah and P. Keith. 2013. *Oxyeleotris colasi* (Teleostei: Eleotridae), a new blind cave fish from Lengguru in West Papua, Indonesia. *Cybiium* 36 (4) [for 2012]: 521–529.

Kaimana expedition (2010), during which holotype was collected

***Oxyeleotris fimbriata* (Weber 1907)** Latin for fringed (fimbriate), referring to a fringe or border of hair- or fringe-like projections on its fins except the first dorsal

***Oxyeleotris herwerdenii* (Weber 1910)** in honor of Capt. J. H. Hondius van Herwerden, Dutch Government Navy, for his knowledge of the coast and rivers of New Guinea, where holotype was collected

***Oxyeleotris heterodon* (Weber 1907)** *héteros* (ἕτερος), different; *odon*, from *odoús* (ὀδοός), tooth, referring to different placement (anterior vs. posterior) of larger teeth on upper and lower jaws

***Oxyeleotris lineolata* (Steindachner 1867)** Latin for marked with fine lines, referring to blackish spot in middle of scales, which form numerous longitudinal lines in the direction of the scale rows

***Oxyeleotris marmorata* (Bleeker 1852)** Latin for marbled, referring to yellowish body marbled with brown

***Oxyeleotris mertoni* (Weber 1911)** in honor of German zoologist Hugo Merton (1879–1940), who collected many fishes among the Aru Islands of Indonesia, including holotype of this one

***Oxyeleotris nullipora* Roberts 1978** *nullus* (L.), none; *póra*, from *póros* (πόρος), hole or passage, apparently differing from all known congeners in lacking cephalic pores

***Oxyeleotris paucipora* Roberts 1978** *paucus* (L.), few or scanty; *póra*, from *póros* (πόρος), hole or passage, referring to reduced cephalic pore system, nasal pores usually absent (a few specimens with one or two)

***Oxyeleotris selheimi* (Macleay 1884)** in honor of “Mr. Selheim,” a German naturalist living in the Palmer District of Queensland, Australia, who collected type; possibly Philip Frederic Sellheim (note spelling, 1832–1899), a pastoralist and mining official who was in charge of the Palmer River goldfields

***Oxyeleotris siamensis* (Günther 1861)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Siam, or Thailand, where it appears to be endemic

***Oxyeleotris stagnicola* Allen, Hortle & Renyaan 2000** *stagnum* (L.), pool of standing water; *-cola* (L.), dweller or inhabitant, referring to its swamp habitat

***Oxyeleotris urophthalmoides* (Bleeker 1853)** *-oides*, Neo-Latin from *eídos* (εἶδος), form or shape: similar in appearance to the closely related *O. urophthalmus*

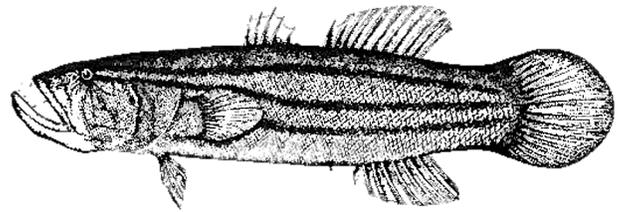
***Oxyeleotris urophthalmus* (Bleeker 1851)** *ourá* (οὐρά), tail; *ophthalmós* (ὀφθαλμός), eye, referring to large ocellus at upper base of caudal fin

***Oxyeleotris wisselensis* Allen & Boeseman 1982** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: vicinity of Tigi Lake, one of the Wissel Lakes, Irian Jaya, Indonesia, type locality

Paloa Herre 1927

from *palo*, Visayan name (Philippines) of certain gobies

***Paloa polylepis* Herre 1927** *polý* (πολύ), many; *lepis* (λεπίς), scale, refer-



Paloa polylepis. Illustration by M. L. Nievera. From: Herre, A. W. C. T. 1927. Gobies of the Philippines and the China Sea. Monographs, Bureau of Science Manila Monograph 23: 1–352, frontispiece + Pls. 1–30.

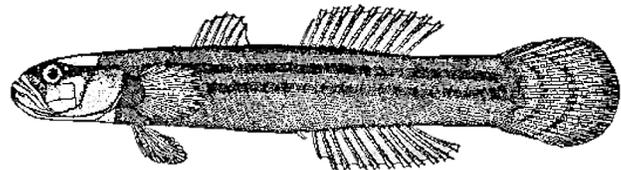
ring to many scales (88–92) in a longitudinal series

***Paloa villadolidi* Roxas & Ablan 1940** in honor of Deogracias V. Villadolid (1896–1976), Director of the Bureau of Fisheries, Philippines, for his interest in Philippine ichthyology

Parviparma Herre 1927

parvus (L.), small; *parma* (L.), from *pármē* (πάρμη), a light shield or buckler, the entire body covered with “minute cycloid scales, more or less embedded and difficult to see”

***Parviparma straminea* Herre 1927** Latin for straw-colored, referring to its “straw yellow” color in alcohol

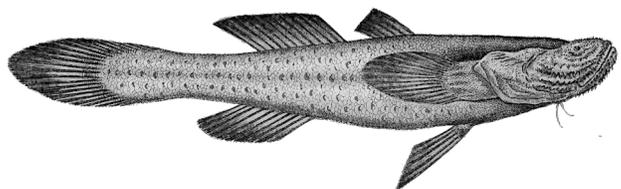


Parviparma straminea. Illustration by P. Bravo. See *Paloa polylepis* caption for source.

Pogoneleotris Bleeker 1875

pógōn (πώγων), beard, presumably referring to numerous short filaments and fringes on snout and cheeks; *Eleotris* (Eleotridae), its presumed closest relative at the time and original genus of type species

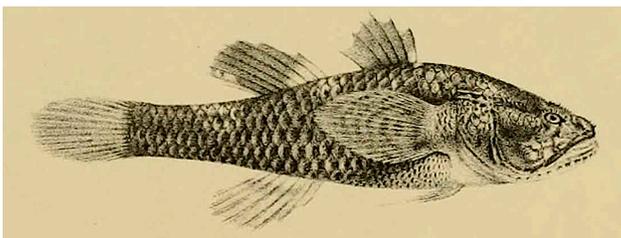
***Pogoneleotris heterolepis* (Günther 1869)** *héteros* (ἕτερος), different; *lepis* (λεπίς), scale, referring to numerous small ctenoid scales “mixed with large ones, the smaller occupying chiefly the base of the larger”



First-published image of *Pogoneleotris heterolepis*, 57 years after its description. From: Vinciguerra, D. 1926. Catalogo dei pesci raccolti a Borneo dal Sigg. Marchese G. Doria e Dott. O. Beccari negli anni 1865-67. Annali del Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Genova (Serie 3). 10 (50): 532–628, Pl. 1.

Prionobutis Bleeker 1874

príōn (πρίων), saw, presumably referring to bony serrated crests on snout and interorbital of *P. dasyrhynchus*; *Butis*, type genus of family



Prionobutis dasyrhynchus. Illustration by George Henry Ford. From: Günther, A. 1868. Description of two new gobioid fishes from Sarawak. Annals and Magazine of Natural History (Series 4) 1 (4): 264–266, Pl. 12.

***Prionobutis dasyrhynchus* (Günther 1868)** shaggy-snouted, from *dasýs* (δασύς), hairy or shaggy, and *rhýnchos* (ρύγχος), snout, presumably referring to preorbital and supraorbital ridges “beset with rough prominences or spines”

***Prionobutis microps* (Weber 1907)** *micro-*, from *mikrós* (μικρός), small; *ōps* (ὤψ), eye, its length 8–8½ times in head, about half the length of snout

***Prionobutis planiceps* (Castelnau 1878)** *planus* (L.), flat or level; *-ceps* (Neo-Latin), headed, referring to “broad and flat” snout [holotype lost; possibly a senior synonym of *P. microps*]