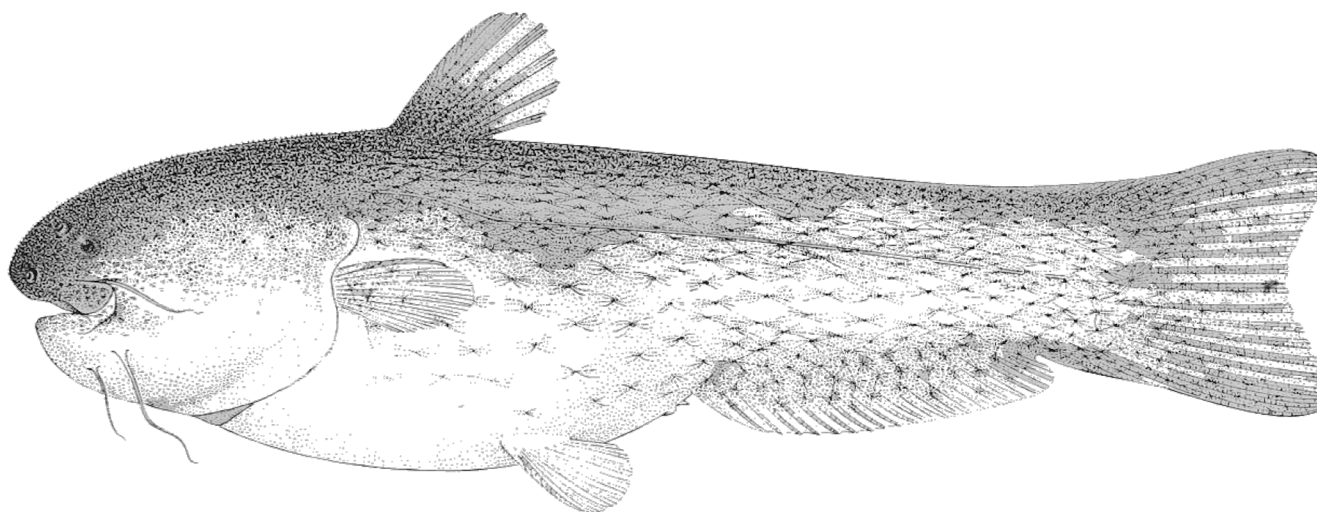


Order SILURIFORMES

Whale and Marbled Catfishes

Family **CETOPSIDAE**

Bleeker 1858



Denticetopsis macilenta. From: Eigenmann, C. H. 1912. The freshwater fishes of British Guiana, including a study of the ecological grouping of species, and the relation of the fauna of the plateau to that of the lowlands. Memoirs of the Carnegie Museum 5 (1): i–xxii + 1–578, Pls. 1–103.

Whale Catfishes
Subfamily **CETOPSINAE**
Bleeker 1858

Cetopsidium
Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005

Cetopsis, type genus of family; *-idium*, *-idium*, Latin diminutive suffix, referring to relatively small sizes of members of genus

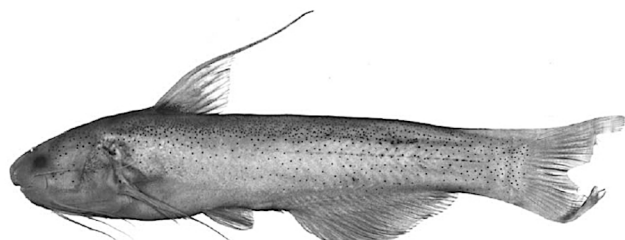
***Cetopsidium ferreirai* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** in honor of Brazilian ichthyologist Efrem J. G. Ferreira (b. 1954), Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA), collector of all known specimens of this species, for his contributions to our knowledge of the fishes of the Brazilian Amazon

***Cetopsidium minutum* (Eigenmann 1912)** Latin for very small, referring to length of type specimen, 22 mm long

***Cetopsidium morenoi* (Fernández-Yépez 1972)** in honor of José Moreno (no other information available), who has collected fishes for science for over 20 years

***Cetopsidium orientale* (Vari, Ferraris & Keith 2003)** Latin for eastern, the easternmost known member of the family

***Cetopsidium pemon* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** named for the Pemon, an Amerindian tribe whose traditional territories included area of type locality in eastern Venezuela



Cetopsidium pemon, paratype, mature male, 41 mm SL. Photo by Britt Griswold. From: Vari, R. P., C. J. Ferraris, Jr. and M. C. C. de Pinna. 2005. The neotropical whale catfishes (Siluriformes: Cetopsidae: Cetopsinae), a revisionary study. Neotropical Ichthyology 3 (2): 127–238.

***Cetopsidium roae* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** in honor of British ichthyologist Rosemary Lowe-McConnell (1921–2014), known as Ro to colleagues and friends, the collector of all known specimens of this species, for her contributions to our knowledge of the fishes of Guyana and many other regions of the world

***Cetopsidium soniae* Vari & Ferraris 2009** in honor of Sonia Fisch-Muller, Muséum d'histoire naturelle (Geneva), who brought this species to the authors' attention, for invaluable assistance to both authors over the years, and for contributing in "myriad ways" to their knowledge of South American fishes

Cetopsis
Agassiz 1829

ceto, from *kétos* (Gr. κῆτος), any big "fish" (larger than a human), in particular a whale; *opsis* (Gr. ὄψις), appearance, referring to whale-like shape (i.e., robust body and smoothly curved head and body profiles) of *C. candiru* and *C. coecutiens*

***Cetopsis amphiloza* (Eigenmann 1914)** *amphi-* (Gr. ἀμφί), on both sides or double; *loxós* (Gr. λοξός), slanting, crosswise or oblique, allusion not explained nor evident

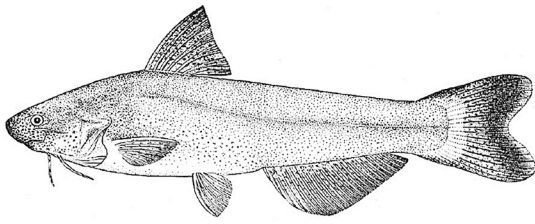
***Cetopsis arcana* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** Latin for secret or hidden, referring to its occurrence in sinkholes

***Cetopsis aspis* Abrahão, Mol & de Pinna 2019** *aspis* (ἀσπίς), shield, referring to its distribution in Guiana Shield drainages in Guyana and Suriname

***Cetopsis baudoensis* (Dahl 1960)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Río Baudó, Colombia, type locality (also endemic to Río Baudó basin)

***Cetopsis caiapo* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** named for the Caiapo Amerindian tribe who historically inhabited the area of the rio Tocantins drainage system (Goiás, Brazil), type locality

***Cetopsis candiru* Spix & Agassiz 1829** vernacular name for parasitic catfishes (Trichomycteridae) in Brazil, probably referring to the voracious predatory and scavenging feeding habits of this species and *C. coecutiens* (attacking carrion, live fishes in nets, and sometimes humans),



Cetopsis jurubidiae. Illustration by Henry Weed Fowler. From: Fowler, H. W. 1944. Fresh-water fishes from northwestern Colombia. Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia 96: 227–248.

which contributed to the erroneous assumption that they are parasitic

***Cetopsis coecutiens* (Lichtenstein 1819)** Latin for being blind or seeing poorly, presumably referring to its eyes covered by skin

***Cetopsis fimbriata* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** Latin for fringed, referring to dark pigmentation along distal portion of anal fin

***Cetopsis gobioides* Kner 1858** *-oides*, Neo-Latin from *eídos* (Gr. εἶδος), having the form of: referring to its pelvic fins, which are fused like those of a goby (*Gobius*) [an apparent misnomer; cetopsid pelvic fins are closely positioned but they are not fused!]

***Cetopsis jurubidiae* (Fowler 1944)** of the Río Jurubidá, Nuquí, Colombia, type locality

***Cetopsis montana* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** Latin for pertaining to mountains, referring to piedmont regions of the eastern slopes of the Andean Cordilleras, which are drained by the river systems inhabited by this catfish

***Cetopsis motatanensis* (Schultz 1944)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Río Motatán, Venezuela, type locality

***Cetopsis oliveirai* (Lundberg & Rapp Py-Daniel 1994)** in honor of Brazilian ichthyologist José Carlos de Oliveira, for contributions to the knowledge of cetopsid catfishes

***Cetopsis orinoco* (Schultz 1944)** named for the Río Orinoco system, Venezuela, type locality

***Cetopsis othonops* (Eigenmann 1912)** *othónē* (Gr. ὀθόνη), fine linen, veil, or a membrane that encloses the pupil of the eye; *ōps* (Gr. ὤψ), eye, presumably referring to eyes covered by skin

***Cetopsis parma* Oliveira, Vari & Ferraris 2001** *parma* (L.), from *pármē* (Gr. πάρμη), a light shield or buckler, referring to dark shield-like mark on lateral surface of body just above pectoral fin

***Cetopsis pearsoni* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** in honor of American ichthyologist Nathan Everett Pearson (1895–1982), Indiana University, whose collecting efforts in 1921 documented the high diversity of fishes in the rio Madeira drainage basin of southeastern Peru and northeastern Bolivia

***Cetopsis plumbea* Steindachner 1882** Latin for of or pertaining to lead, i.e., lead-colored, referring to silver-white body and head

***Cetopsis sandrae* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** in honor of French-born American museum specialist Sandra J. Raredon (b. 1954), Division of Fishes, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., for her assistance to the authors, particularly the first author, in this and many other projects

***Cetopsis sarcodes* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** *sarkōdēs* (Gr. σαρκώδης), fleshy, referring to its rotund body form

***Cetopsis starnesi* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** in honor of American ichthyologist Wayne C. Starnes, North Carolina State Museum of Natural History, who collected holotype along with numerous other specimens of fishes that have proved very useful in this and other studies

***Cetopsis umbrosa* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** Latin for shady, referring to dark pigmentation on dorsal and anterior portions of the snout (compared with unpigmented snout on the geographically proximate and somewhat externally similar *C. montana*)

***Cetopsis varii* Abrahão & de Pinna 2018** in honor of Richard P. Vari (1949–2016), National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (Washington, D.C., USA), for his “landmark” contributions to the systematics of fishes, especially the Cetopsidae, and for his “inspiring role as a model of scientific and personal integrity to new generations of ichthyologists”

Denticetopsis

Ferraris 1996

dentis (L.), tooth, referring to elevated symphyseal teeth of dentary; *Cetopsis*, type genus of family

***Denticetopsis epa* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** named for the Brazilian Expedição Permanente de Amazônia (EPA), which collected large series of scientifically valuable fishes, including holotype of this species, across broad expanses of the Amazon basin

***Denticetopsis iwokrama* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** named for the Iwokrama rainforest project in the region of Guyana, during which holotype was collected

***Denticetopsis macilenta* (Eigenmann 1912)** Latin for thin or lean, referring to “sides with numerous chromatophores, whose rays branch forward and backward from the center of the cell, giving a strigose effect and looking like little bundles of sticks tied in the middle, hence the name” (presumably the “sticks” are thin or lean)

***Denticetopsis praecox* (Ferraris & Brown 1991)** Latin for precocious or premature, referring to small size at sexual maturity (up to 52.9 mm SL)

***Denticetopsis royeri* Ferraris 1996** in honor of ichthyologist-parasitologist Ramiro Royero-Leon (b. 1958), Universidad Central de Venezuela, who accompanied Ferraris on all of his field work in Venezuela

***Denticetopsis sauli* Ferraris 1996** in honor of William G. Saul (b. 1944), collection manager of the Ichthyology Department of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, who participated in the collection of the type series and brought this species to the author’s attention

***Denticetopsis seducta* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** Latin for remote or apart, referring to it disjunct or scattered distribution (across a relatively wide portion of the central and western Amazon basin and possibly the southwestern portions of the rio Orinoco basin) relative to congeners

Paracetopsis

Bleeker 1862

para- (Gr. παρά), near, referring to similarity to and/or close relationship with *Cetopsis*

***Paracetopsis atahualpa* Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005** named for Atahualpa, who reigned from 1515 to 1533 as the last ruler of the Inca Empire, which encompassed the region (northwestern Peru and southwestern Ecuador) from which this catfish was collected

***Paracetopsis bleekeri* Bleeker 1862** in honor of Dutch army surgeon and ichthyologist Pieter Bleeker (1819–1878); Bleeker used a museum name coined by Guichenot, whom he credited, but since Bleeker made the name available he becomes the author of a name that honors himself



Paracetopsis atahualpa, holotype, 128 mm SL. Photo by Britt Griswold. From: Vari, R. P., C. J. Ferraris, Jr. and M. C. C. de Pinna. 2005. The neotropical whale catfishes (Siluriformes: Cetopsidae: Cetopsinae), a revisionary study. Neotropical Ichthyology 3 (2): 127–238.

¹ Richard P. Vari, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (Washington, D.C., USA), pers. comm.

Paracetopsis esmeraldas Vari, Ferraris & de Pinna 2005 named for both the Ecuadorian Province of Esmeraldas, from which all specimens of the species originated, and the río Esmeraldas basin, within which holotype was collected

Marbled Catfishes
Subfamily **HELOGENINAE**
Regan 1911

Helogenes

Günther 1863

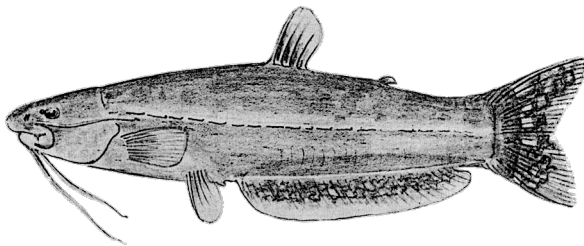
etymology not explained, perhaps *hélos* (Gr. ἑλος), marshland, swamp or bog, and *genes*, from *génésis* (Gr. γένεσις), i.e., marsh-born; although these catfishes are typically found in clumps of aquatic vegetation in backwater streams, Günther did not mention habitat

Helogenes castaneus (Dahl 1960) Latin for chestnut-brown, referring to its dominant body color, a “dark chestnut brown”

Helogenes gouldingi Vari & Ortega 1986 in honor of conservation ecologist Michael Goulding (b. 1950), who collected holotype, for his contributions to the knowledge of Amazonian fishes

Helogenes marmoratus Günther 1863 Latin for marbled, referring to its blackish-brown coloration, “finely marbled with black” (per Günther 1864²)

Helogenes uruyensis Fernández-Yépez 1967 *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Uruyén River, Venezuela, type locality



Helogenes uruyensis, holotype, 49.5 mm SL. From: Fernández-Yépez, A. 1967. Primera contribución al conocimiento de los peces, con descripción de dos especies y una subespecie nuevas. Resultados zoológicos de la expedición de la Universidad Central de Venezuela a la región de Ayantepui en la Guayana venezolana, Abril de 1956. Acta Biologica Venezuelica 5: 159–177.

² Günther, A. 1864. Catalogue of the fishes in the British Museum. Catalogue of the Physostomi, containing the families Siluridae, Characinae, Haplochitonidae, Sternoptychidae, Scopelidae, Stomiatidae in the collection of the British Museum. v. 5: i–xxii + 1–455.