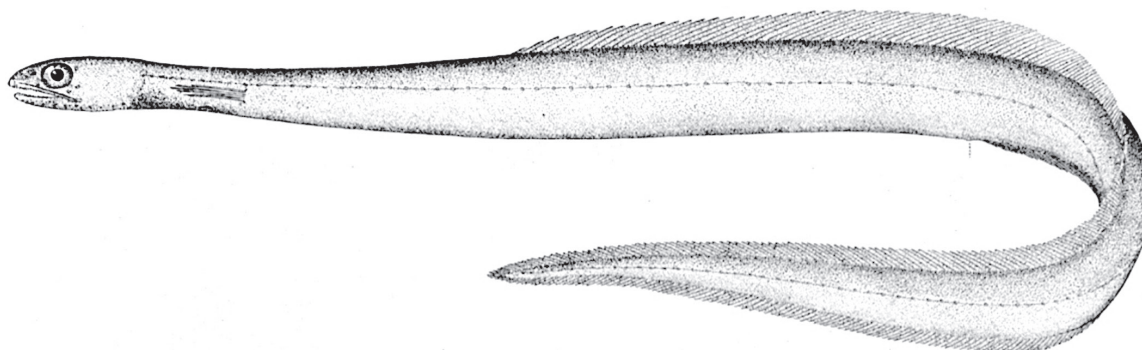


Order **ANGUILLIFORMES**

Longneck Eels and Shorttail Eels

Family **DERICHTHYIDAE**¹

Gill 1884



Possibly first-published image of *Derichthys serpentinus*. Illustration by H. L. Todd. From: Goode, G. B. and T. H. Bean. 1896. Oceanic ichthyology, a treatise on the deep-sea and pelagic fishes of the world, based chiefly upon the collections made by the steamers Blake, Albatross, and Fish Hawk in the northwestern Atlantic, with an atlas containing 417 figures. Special Bulletin U. S. National Museum No. 2: Text: i–xxxv + 1–26 + 11–553, Atlas: i–xxxiii, 1–26, 123 pls.

Coloconger

Alcock 1889

colo-, from *kólos* (Gr. κόλος), shortened or curtailed, referring to stubby body and short tail of *C. raniceps*; *conger*, Latin for a marine eel but in this case referring to its presumed close affinity with *Conger* (Congridae)

***Coloconger cadenati* Kanazawa 1961** in honor of French ichthyologist Jean Cadenat (1908–1992), Director, Marine Biological Section of the Institut Français d’Afrique Noire (Gorée, Senegal), who supplied holotype

***Coloconger canina* (Castle & Raju 1975)** Latin for canine or like a dog, referring to the shape of its snout

***Coloconger eximia* (Castle 1967)** Latin for exceptional, uncommon or extraordinary, presumably referring to its “remarkably large” size for a leptocephalus (only larval forms are known), and/or to its laterally compressed body, “giving the impression of a broad, flat tape”

***Coloconger japonicus* Machida 1984** *-icus* (L.), belonging to: Japan, referring to Okinawa Trough, type locality, between Japan and Taiwan in the South China Sea

***Coloconger maculatus* Ho & Tang 2021** Latin for spotted, referring to distinct black blotch on posterior portion of tail

***Coloconger meadi* Kanazawa 1957** in honor of American ichthyologist Giles W. Mead (1928–2003), who sent holotype to Kanazawa

***Coloconger raniceps* Alcock 1889** *rana* (L.), frog; *-ceps* (New Latin), headed, referring to its “massive, frog-like” head



Coloconger maculatus, holotype, 520 mm TL. From: Ho, H.-C., C.-N. Tang and T.-W. Chu. 2021. *Coloconger maculatus* sp. nov., a species of short-tail eel from eastern Taiwan (Anguilliformes: Colocongridae). Zootaxa 5016 (2): 271–282.

***Coloconger saldanhai* Quéro 2001** in honor of Portuguese ichthyologist Luiz Saldanha (1937–1997, in a memorial volume commemorating his contributions to marine biology); Saldanha collaborated with Quéro and co-discovered this eel

***Coloconger scholesi* Chan 1967** in honor of Patrick Scholes (ca. 1946–2011), Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, England, for his contributions to the fishery survey program in the South China Sea

Derichthys

Gill 1884

déré (Gr. δέρη), neck or throat; *ichthýs* (Gr. ἰχθύς), fish, the only fish Gill knew of with a “true neck”; Goode & Bean (1896) tempered his remark, describing the eel’s “neck” as “a neck-like contraction between the head and pectoral fins ...”²

***Derichthys serpentinus* Gill 1884** Latin for snake-like, referring to its “serpentiniform” head, enhanced by the contracted neck-like appearance of the anterior portion of the body

Nessorhamphus

Schmidt 1931

néssa (Gr. νήσσα), duck; *rhámphos* (Gr. ράμφος), beak or bill, referring to its spatulate (duck-like) snout

***Nessorhamphus danae* Schmidt 1931** in honor of the Danish fishery research vessel *Dana*, from which holotype was collected

***Nessorhamphus ingolfianus* (Schmidt 1912) -anus** (L.), belonging to: *Ingolf*, Danish ship from which holotype was collected



Nessorhamphus danae. From: Schmidt, J. 1931. Oceanographic expedition of the *Dana*, 1928–1930. Nature (London) 127 (3204): 487–490.

¹ Treated as two families by some workers: Derichthyidae (*Derichthys*, *Nessorhamphus*) and Colocongridae Smith 1976 (*Coloconger*).

² See image caption for citation. Fishes do not have necks (a cervical connection between the head and trunk), although a few can turn their heads up (e.g., the characoid *Rhaphiodon vulpes*), or both down and sideways (*Salamanderfish*, *Lepidogalaxias salamandroides*), thus creating the impression that a neck is involved.