

Order CHARACIFORMES

Trahiras

Family **ERYTHRINIDAE**

Valenciennes 1847



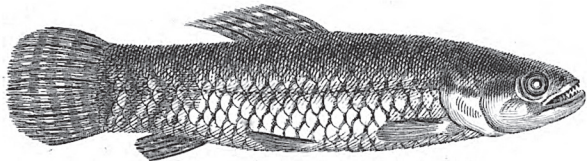
Hoplias auri, holotype, 229 mm SL. From: Guimarães, K. L. A., J. J. Rosso, M. González-Castro, M. F. B. Souza, J. M. Díaz de Astarloa and L. R. R. Rodrigues. 2021. A new species of *Hoplias malabaricus* species complex (Characiformes: Erythrinidae) from the Crepori River, Amazon basin, Brazil. *Journal of Fish Biology* 100 (2): 425–443. [First published online in 2021; printed volume number and pages added in 2022.]

Erythrinus
Scopoli 1777

-inus, Latin adjectival suffix: *erythrós* (Gr. ἐρυθρός), red, allusion not explained nor evident; name coined by Gronow (1756), who described color as “gray, variegated with brown spots” (translation) [predates *Synodus erythrinus* Bloch & Schneider 1801 and therefore is not tautonymous with it]

***Erythrinus erythrinus* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)** *-inus*, Latin adjectival suffix: *erythrós* (Gr. ἐρυθρός), red, allusion not explained nor evident; name coined by Gronow (1756), who described color as “gray, variegated with brown spots” (translation)

***Erythrinus kessleri* Steindachner 1877** patronym not identified, possibly in honor of German-Russian zoologist Karl Fedorovich Kessler (1815–1881) [*species inquirenda*, provisionally included here]



Probably first-published image of an erythrinid, possibly *Erythrinus erythrinus*, but Valenciennes, in his description of *Hoplerhythrinus gronovii*, says it represents his species. From: Gronow, L. T. 1756. *Museum Ichthyologicum, sistens piscium indigenorum et quorundam exoticorum, qui in Museo Laur. Theod. Gronovii adservantur, descriptiones, ordine systematico; accedunt nonulorum exoticorum piscium icones, aeri incisae*. v. 2. I–vi + 1–88, pls. 5–7.

Hoplerhythrinus
Gill 1896

hóplon (Gr. ὄπλον), shield or armor, presumably referring to enlarged infraorbital bones covering cheeks, i.e., an *Erythrinus* with an armored head (a feature all erythrinids possess)

***Hoplerhythrinus cinereus* (Gill 1858)** Latin for ash-colored or gray, referring to its coloration

***Hoplerhythrinus gronovii* (Valenciennes 1847)** in honor of Dutch naturalist Laurens Theodoor Gronow (often Latinized as Gronovius, 1730–1777), who, according to Valenciennes, illustrated this species in his *Museum Ichthyologicum* (vol. 2, 1756)

***Hoplerhythrinus unitaeniatus* (Spix & Agassiz 1829)** *uni-*, from *unus* (L.),

one; *taeniatus* (L.), presumably referring to wide black longitudinal band on sides

Hoplias
Gill 1903

from *hóplon* (Gr. ὄπλον), shield or armor, referring to “defensive armature” of “cranial shield-like surface as well as the offensive teeth”

***Hoplias aimara* (Valenciennes 1847)** from *Haïmara*, local name for this species in Cayenne, French Guiana, type locality

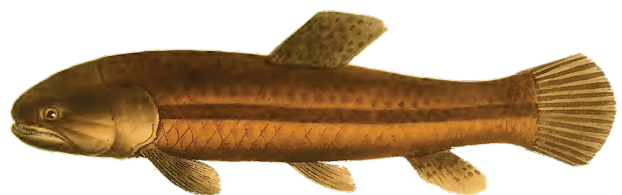
***Hoplias argentinensis* Rosso, González-Castro, Bogan, Cardoso, Mabragaña, Delpiani & Díaz de Astarloa 2018** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Argentina, where type locality (Río Coronda, Río Paraná basin, Santa Fe Province) is situated

***Hoplias auri* Guimarães, Rosso, González-Castro, Souza, Díaz de Astarloa & Rodrigues 2021** *auri*, from *aurum* (L.), gold, referring to its occurrence in an area disturbed by artisanal gold extraction

***Hoplias australis* Oyakawa & Mattox 2009** Latin for southern, referring to its distribution, one of the southernmost in the genus

***Hoplias brasiliensis* (Spix & Agassiz 1829)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Brazil, where it is endemic to coastal rivers in the northeastern part of the country

***Hoplias curupira* Oyakawa & Mattox 2009** named for Curupira, a mythical creature of Brazilian folklore that protects the forest, taking the form of a small Amerindian child whose feet are turned backwards, making it difficult to follow its tracks



Hoplerhythrinus unitaeniatus. From: Spix, J. B. von and L. Agassiz 1829–31. *Selecta genera et species piscium quos in itinere per Brasiliam annis MDCCCXXVII–MDCCCXXX jussu et auspiciis Maximiliani Josephi I. Monachii* (Munich). Part 1: i–xvi + i–ii + 1–6 + 1–82, Pls. 1–48, Part 2: 83–138, Pls. 49–101. [Part 1 published June 1829, part 2 Jan. 1831.]

Hoplias intermedius (Günther 1864) Latin for intermediate, allusion not explained, presumably referring to its intermediate number (13) of longitudinal scales series across back compared with 12 on *Macrodon trahira* (=Hoplias malabaricus) and 13–14 on *H. microlepis*

Hoplias lacerdae Miranda Ribeiro 1908 in honor of physician-anthropologist Jean Baptiste de Lacerda (1845–1915), director, Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, for his interest in scientific explorations of the region [although named after a man, “ae” is an acceptable way to form a genitive from nouns that end in “a”]

Hoplias malabaricus (Bloch 1794) *-icus* (L.), belonging to: Malabar (i.e., southern India), obviously reflecting an error in the original locality (Tranquebar, now Tharangambadi, Tamil Nadu, India) of the specimens sent to Bloch since this is a South American species

Hoplias mbigua Azpelicueta, Benítez, Aichino & Mendez 2015 Guaraní word for a Neotropical cormorant *Nannopterum brasilianum*, the nickname of Isabelino Rodríguez, who worked many years in the Proyecto Biología Pesquera Regional (Misiones, Argentina), where she helped collect holotype; the name reportedly alludes to her cormorant-like skill at catching fishes, some of which she taught to the authors¹

¹ Boelens, B., M. Grayson and M. Watkins. 2023. *Eponym Dictionary of Fishes*. Caithness, Scotland: Whittles Publishing. 1472 pp. https://www.whittlespublishing.com/Eponym_Dictionary_of_Fishes

Hoplias microcephalus (Agassiz 1829) small-headed, from *mikrós* (Gr. μικρός), small, and *kephalé* (Gr. κεφαλή), head, referring to smaller head-to-body ratio compared with other members of family known at the time [*species inquirenda*, provisionally included here]

Hoplias microlepis (Günther 1864) *micro-*, from *mikrós* (Gr. μικρός), small; *lepis* (Gr. λεπίς), scale, referring to smaller scales in longitudinal series along back compared with *Macrodon trahira* (=Hoplias malabaricus) and *H. intermedius*

Hoplias misionera Rosso, Mabragaña, González-Castro, Delpiani, Avigliano, Schenone & Díaz de Astarloa 2016 Spanish for missionary, referring to Misiones, Argentinian province where type locality is situated (and home to other species of *Hoplias*, including type locality of *H. mbigua*)

Hoplias patana (Valenciennes 1847) etymology not explained; Valenciennes provided the common name “Le Macrodon patagnaye,” perhaps a place name at or near Cayenne, French Guiana, type locality

Hoplias teres (Valenciennes 1847) Latin for rounded or cylindrical, presumably referring to its body form (a characteristic of the family)