Updated 17 Oct. 2024 **COMMENTS** 

#### Order GYMNOTIFORMES

Bluntnose Knifefishes

# Family **HYPOPOMIDAE**

Eigenmann 1912



Brachyhypopomus pinnicaudatus, holotype, male, 125.3 mm TL. Illustration by Marshall Hopkins. From: Hopkins, C. D. 1991. Hypopomus pinnicaudatus (Hypopomidae), a new species of gymnotiform fish from French Guiana. Copeia 1991 (1): 151–161. [Name dates to an earlier non-taxonomic publication (with a different illustration): Hopkins, C. D., N. C. Comfort, J. Bastian and A. H. Bass. 1990. Functional analysis of sexual dimorphism in an electric fish, Hypopomus pinnicaudatus, order Gymnotiformes. Brain Behavior and Evolution 35: 350–367.

## Akawaio

#### Maldonado-Ocampo, López-Fernández, Taphorn, Bernard, Crampton & Lovejoy 2014

named in honor of the Akawaio Amerindians who populate the region of the upper Mazaruni River, Guyana (where *A. penak* is endemic), for their valuable help while studying the fishes of their lands

Akawaio penak Maldonado-Ocampo, López-Fernández, Taphorn, Bernard, Crampton & Lovejoy 2014 Akawaio Amerindian word that is "apparently used unambiguously for this species"



Akawaio penak, holotype, 208 mm TL. From: Maldonado-Ocampo, J. A., H. López-Fernández, D. C. Taphorn, C. R. Bernard, W. G. R. Crampton and N. R. Lovejoy. 2014. Akawaio penak, a new genus and species of neotropical electric fish (Gymnotiformes, Hypopomidae) endemic to the upper Mazaruni River in the Guiana Shield. Zoologica Scripta 43 (1): 24–33. [First published online in 2013 without ZooBank registration; names date to the printed edition.]

### Brachyhypopomus Mago-Leccia 1994

*brachýs* (Gr. βραχύς), short, i.e., similar and/or related to *Hypopomus* but distinguished by their short snouts

Subgenus Brachyhypopomus

Brachyhypopomus alberti Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of ichthyologist James S. Albert (b. 1964), University of Louisiana at Lafayette (Louisiana, USA), collector of part of the type series, for his "enormous" contributions to the systematic biology of gymnotiform fishes

**Brachyhypopomus arrayae** Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy **2017** in honor of Bolivian biologist Mariana Arraya, for her assistance in collecting the type series in Bolivia

**Brachyhypopomus batesi** Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of English naturalist Henry Walter Bates (1829–1892), who explored the Amazon with Alfred Russel Wallace in 1848 and collected many specimens (mostly insects), for his contributions to the natural history of the Tefé region of Brazil, type locality

Brachyhypopomus beebei (Schultz 1944) in honor of American naturalist and explorer William Beebe (1877–1962), New York Zoological Society, who collected holotype and "kindly" loaned the specimens to Schultz

Brachyhypopomus belindae Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of evolutionary biologist Belinda Siew-Woon Chang, University of Toronto (Canada), for her "inspiration to [the fourth author] during the preparation of this work"

Brachyhypopomus benjamini Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of Benjamin T. D. Crampton (b. 1972), British and Irish diplomat, amateur ornithologist, and brother of first author, who collected holotype

Brachyhypopomus bombilla Loureiro & Silva 2006 local name for metal straw used to drink mate, a popular herbal infusion in the Río de la Plata region of Uruguay, whose shape resembles the shape of this knifefish; in memory of friend and colleague Pablo Errandonea (1973–2000), who coined the name (see Gymnotus chimarrao and G. cuia [Gymnotidae] for other mate-related knifefish names)

Brachyhypopomus brevirostris (Steindachner 1868) brevis (L.), short; rostris, Neo-Latin scientific adjective of rostrum (L.), snout, referring to its "greatly blunted muzzle" (translation), less than ½ length of head

Brachyhypopomus bullocki Sullivan & Hopkins 2009 in honor of Theodore Holmes Bullock (1915–2005), a "pioneer" of the comparative neurobiology of both invertebrates and vertebrates; he is credited with the first physiological recordings from an electroreceptor and for championing electric fishes as a model system in neurobiology

Brachyhypopomus cunia Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 named for lago Cuniã, type locality, a floodplain lake of the lower rio Madeira inside the Reserva Extrativista do lago do Cuniã, Rondônia, Brazil

Brachyhypopomus degy Dutra, Peixoto, Ochoa, Ohara, de Santana, Menezes & Datovo 2021 acronym for Diversity and Evolution of Gymnotiformes, a project that supported the authors' research and is funded by a cooperation agreement between the Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (Brazil) and the Smithsonian Institution (USA)

Brachyhypopomus diazae (Fernández-Yépez 1972) in honor of Fernández-Yépez' secretary, María Isabel (Betty) Diaz

*Brachyhypopomus draco* **Giora, Malabarba & Crampton 2008** Latin for dragon, from  $dr\acute{a}k\bar{o}n$  (Gr. δράκων), referring to shape of distal portion of caudal filament in mature males, similar to that illustrated in these imaginary creatures

*Brachyhypopomus flavipomus* Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 *flavus* (L.), yellow; *pomus*, from *pốma* (Gr. πῶμα), lid or cover, i.e., operculum, referring to conspicuous patches of yellow guanine on operculum of live individuals

Brachyhypopomus gauderio Giora & Malabarba 2009 synonym of

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gaúcho, a person who lives in the countryside (*Pampas*) of Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina, referring to geographic distribution of this species

Brachyhypopomus hamiltoni Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of William D. Hamilton (1936–2000), British evolutionary biologist and doctoral advisor of the first author, for his contributions to Amazonian ecology

Brachyhypopomus hendersoni Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of Peter A. Henderson (b. 1954), British aquatic biologist and doctoral co-advisor of the first author, for his contributions to Amazonian aquatic ecology

Brachyhypopomus janeiroensis (Costa & Campos-da-Paz 1992) -ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where type locality (Corrego Salto-d'agua, tributary of Rio São Joao) is situated

Brachyhypopomus jureiae Triques & Khamis 2003 of the Juréia Ecological Station, São Paulo, Brazil, type locality

Brachyhypopomus menezesi Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of Brazilian ichthyologist Naércio Aquino Menezes (b. 1937), Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo (Brazil), for his important contributions to Neotropical fish systematics

**Brachyhypopomus occidentalis** (Regan 1914) Latin for western, presumably referring to type locality along Pacific slope of Colombia

Brachyhypopomus palenque Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 named for Río Palenque, a Pacific Ocean drainage of Ecuador, type locality

Brachyhypopomus pinnicaudatus (Hopkins, Comfort, Bastian & Bass 1990) pinni, from pinna (L.), feather; caudatus (L.), tailed, referring to "feather-like" appearance of caudal-fin filament in males [sometimes dated to (Hopkins 1991) but name is available from an earlier non-taxonomic publication]

Brachyhypopomus provenzanoi Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of Francisco Provenzano R., Instituto de Zoología Tropical de la Universidad Central de Venezuela, for his contributions to Neotropical ichthyology

**Brachyhypopomus regani** Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of English ichthyologist Charles Tate Regan (1878–1943), Natural History Museum (London) for his contributions to Neotropical ichthyology

Brachyhypopomus sullivani Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy 2017 in honor of American ichthyologist John P. Sullivan (b. 1965), Cornell University, for his contributions to gymnotiform biology

**Brachyhypopomus verdii** Crampton, de Santana, Waddell & Lovejoy **2017** in honor of Peruvian conservation biologist Lorgio Verdi Olivares, for his support to the first and fourth authors

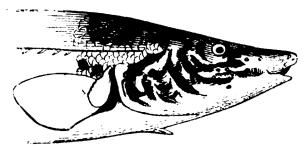
## Subgenus *Odontohypopomus*

#### Sullivan, Zuanon & Cox Fernandes 2013

odontos, Latinized and grammatically adjusted from the Greek nominative ὁδούς (odoús), tooth, referring to small teeth on premaxillae; *Hypopomus*, type genus of family

Brachyhpopomus bennetti Sullivan, Zuanon & Cox Fernandes 2013 in honor of Michael V. L. Bennett (b. 1931), Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University (Bronx, New York, USA), for his "pioneering" work on electric-fish neurophysiology; in 1961 and 1971, Bennett reported studying a knifefish with a monophasic EOD (electric organ discharge) likely to have been this species

Brachyhypopomus walteri Sullivan, Zuanon & Cox Fernandes 2013 in honor of ethologist Walter Heiligenberg (1938–1994), for his discoveries in electric-fish neurophysiology and behavior made at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, most notably the "jamming avoidance response" in Eigenmannia (Sternopygidae), often described as the bestunderstood vertebrate behavior



*Hypopomus artedi*. From: Kaup, J. J. 1857. Catalogue of apodal fish in the collection of the British Museum. London. 1–163, Pls. 1–19.

#### Hypopomus Gill 1864

etymology not explained and no description given, presumably hypo (Gr.  $\dot{\upsilon}\pi\dot{\upsilon}$ ), under or beneath (i.e., ventral), and pomus, from poma (Gr.  $\pi\omega\dot{\iota}$ ), lid or cover, i.e., operculum, perhaps referring to anus situated under gill opening

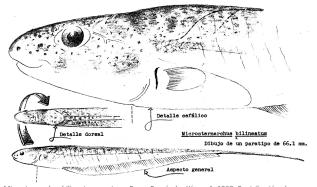
*Hypopomus artedi* (Kaup 1856) patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of Swedish naturalist Peter Artedi (1705–1735), widely known as the "father of ichthyology" [presumably a noun in apposition, without the patronymic "i"]

## **Microsternarchus**

#### Fernández-Yépez 1968

micro-, from mikrós (Gr. μικρός), small, presumably referring to size of M. bilineatus (up to 82.8 mm TL); sternarchus, a common suffix in knifefish taxonomy, from Sternarchus Bloch & Schneider 1801 (=Apteronotus, Apteronotidae), stérnon (Gr. στέρνον), breast or chest (especially of men), and archós (Gr. ἀρχός), anus, referring to placement of anal opening near breast of Apteronotus albifrons (and all other gymnotiforms)

*Microsternarchus bilineatus* Fernández-Yépez 1968 *bi-*, from *bis* (L.), twice; *lineatus* (L.), lined, referring to double dotted line (almost imperceptible) running along dorsal surface



Microsternarchus bilineatus, paratype. From: Fernández-Yépez, A. 1968. Contribución al conocimiento de los peces Gymnotiformes. Evencias 20: 6 unnumbered pp., 5 unnumbered pls.

Microsternarchus brevis Cox Fernandes, Nogueira, Williston & Alves-Gomes 2015 Latin for short, referring to overall size (up to 53.2 mm TL) and shorter caudal-fin filament compared with M. bilineatus

Microsternarchus longicaudatus Sousa, Wosiacki, Muriel-Cunha, Prudente, Sousa & Peixoto 2024 longus (L.), long; caudatus (L.), tailed, referring to its elongated caudal filament (35.1–36.8% of TL), unique in the genus

Microsternarchus schonmanni Cox Fernandes, Keeffe & Pinilla 2024 in honor of Joseph Allois Schönmann (1872–1914), great-grandfather of the first author, trained at the Federal Polytechnic of Zurich, Switzerland, and who contributed much to the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi (Belém, Pará, Brazil), preparing fish specimens among other animals from the Amazon



Procerusternarchus pixuna, 126 mm TL. From: Cox Fernandes, C., A. Nogueira and J. A. Alves-Gomes. 2014. Procerusternarchus pixuna, a new genus and species of electric knifefish (Gymnotiformes: Hypopomidae, Microsternarchini) from the Negro River, South America. Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia 163: 95–118.

## **Procerusternarchus**

#### Cox Fernandes, Nogueira & Alves-Gomes 2014

procerus (L.), high, long or tall, referring to its elongate, slender body; sternarchus, a common suffix in knifefish taxonomy, from Sternarchus Bloch & Schneider 1801 (=Apteronotus, Apteronotidae), stérnon (Gr. στέρνον), breast or chest (especially of men), and archós (Gr. ἀρχός), anus, referring to placement of anal opening near breast of Apteronotus albifrons (and all other gymnotiforms)

Procerusternarchus pixuna Cox Fernandes, Nogueira & Alves-Gomes 2014 Nheengatu (Amerindian language of the Tupí-Guaraní family) word meaning dark or black, presumably referring to "almost black" coloration on dorsal surface from snout to caudal filament on living specimens

## Racenisia

### Mago-Leccia 1994

 -ia (L. suffix), belonging to: entomologist Janis Racenis (1915–1980), founder, Institutio de Zoología Tropical, Universidad Central de Venezuela, where Mago-Leccia worked

Racenisia fimbriipinna Mago-Leccia 1994 fimbriae (L.), fringe; pinna (L.), feather or fin, referring to how anal-fin rays are "covered by a thick tissue that gives an undulated shape to the fin in recently preserved specimens"



Racenisia fimbriipinna, paratype, 88.3 mm TL. From: Mago-Leccia, F. 1994. Electric fishes of the continental waters of America. Caracas, Fundacion para el Desarrollo de las Ciencias Fisicas, Matematicas y Naturales. 1–206 + 16 unnumbered tables.