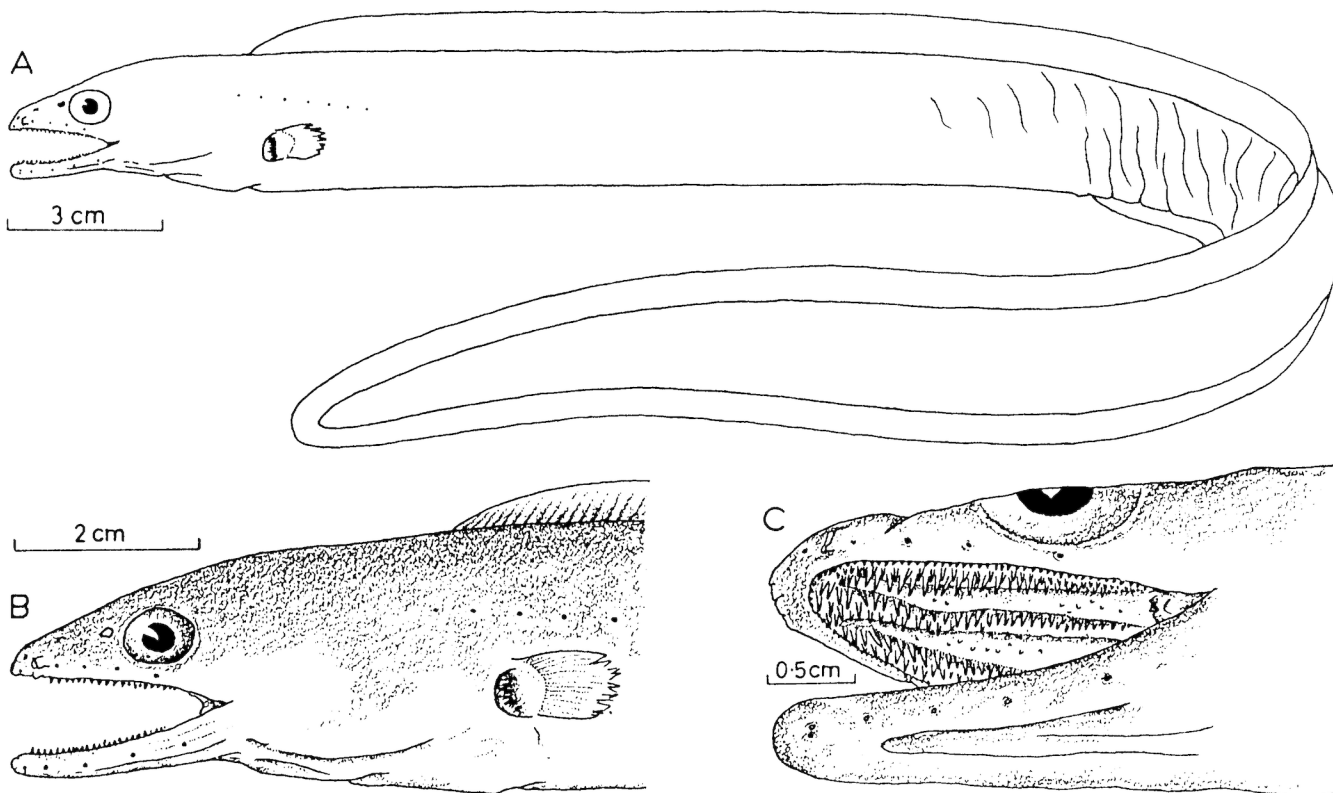


Order ANGUILLIFORMES

Myroconger Eels

Family **MYROCONGRIDAE**

Gill 1890



Myroconger gracilis, holotype, 477 mm SL. A) overall body form; B) lateral view of head; C) ventrolateral view showing maxillary and premaxillary-ethmovomerine teeth. From: Castle, P. H. J. 1991. First Indo-Pacific record of the eel family Myrocongridae, with the description of a new species of *Myroconger*. *Copeia* 1991 (1): 148–150.

Myroconger
Günther 1870

etymology not explained, probably *myros*, from *múros* (Gr. μύρος)¹, a kind of eel or, specifically, a male moray, possibly referring to its resemblance to *Muraena* (“being a *Muraena* with pectoral fins,” Günther said elsewhere²); *conger*, Latin for a marine eel

***Myroconger compressus* Günther 1870** Latin for squeezed or pressed together, referring to its compressed body

***Myroconger gracilis* Castle 1991** Latin for thin or slender, referring to more slender body compared with *M. compressus*

¹ *Myros*, sometimes spelled *smiros*, may be derived from the Indo-European *smer(u)* meaning fat (eels have a high fat content) or greasy (i.e., slippery). See: Frisk, H. 1970. Griechisches etymologisches Wörterbuch. Vol. 2. Heidelberg: Carl Winter Universitätsverlag. 1154 pp.

² Günther, A. 1869. Report of a second collection of fishes made at St. Helena by J. C. Melliss, Esq. Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London 1869 (pt 2) (art. 4): 238–239, Pl. 16. Günther mentioned *Myroconger compressus* in this paper but did not describe it.

***Myroconger nigrodentatus* Castle & Béarez 1995** *nigro-*, from *niger* (L.), dark or black; *dentatus* (L.), toothed, referring to internal dark pigment of many jaw and intermaxillary teeth

***Myroconger pietschi* Espíndola, Caires, Tighe, de Pinna & Melo 2021** in honor of American ichthyologist Theodore W. Pietsch (b. 1945), University of Washington (Seattle, USA), for “outstanding” contributions to the knowledge of deep-sea fishes

***Myroconger prolixus* Castle & Béarez 1995** Latin for long, extended or drawn out, referring to its more elongate body compared with *M. gracilis*

***Myroconger seychellensis* Karmovskaya 2006** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: the Seychelles, where it was found at a depth of 200 m