

Order SILURIFORMES

Cistern Catfishes

## Family PHREATOBIIDAE

Reichel 1927



*Phreatobius dracunculus*, holotype, 36 mm SL. Photo by Leandro M. Sousa. From: Shibatta, O. A., J. Muriel-Cunha and M. C. C. de Pinna. 2007. A new subterranean species of *Phreatobius* Goeldi, 1905 (Siluriformes, *Incertae sedis*) from the southwestern Amazon basin. *Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia*, São Paulo 47 (17): 191–201.

### **Phreatobius**

**Goeldi 1905**

*phréatos* (Gr. φρέατος), genitive of *phréar* (φρέαρ), artificial well; *bíos* (Gr. βίος), life, i.e., living in a well, collected from an artificial well, or cistern, penetrating a near-surface aquifer of the Amazon basin

***Phreatobius cisternarum* Goeldi 1905** genitive plural of *cisterna* (L.), an underground reservoir for water, where it was discovered

***Phreatobius dracunculus* Shibatta, Muriel-Cunha & de Pinna 2007** diminutive of *draco*, from *drákōn* (Gr. δράκων), dragon, referring to the color and general aspect of its body and fins

***Phreatobius sanguijuela* Fernández, Saucedo, Carvajal-Vallejos & Schaefer 2007** Spanish for leech and the local name for this catfish in the region of Bolivia where it occurs, where it is often mistaken for a parasitic leech due to its bright, blood-red coloration