

Order GYMNOTIFORMES

Sand Knifefishes

Family RHAMPHICHTHYIDAE

Regan 1911



Rhamphichthys lineatus. Painting by Paul Louis Oudart. From: Castelneau, F. L. 1855. Poissons. In: Animaux nouveaux or rares recueillis pendant l'expédition dans les parties centrales de l'Amérique du Sud, de Rio de Janeiro a Lima, et de Lima au Para; exécutée par ordre du gouvernement Français pendant les années 1843 a 1847. Part 7, Zoologie. Paris (P. Bertrand). v. 2: i–xii + 1–112, Pls. 1–50.

Gymnorhamphichthys

Ellis 1912

gymnós (Gr. γυμνός), bare or naked, “much the same as” *Rhamphichthys* except scaleless on anterior portion of body

***Gymnorhamphichthys bogardusi* Lundberg 2005** in honor of Joan Bogardus Spears (1939–2002), “a descendant of the earliest Dutch settlers in New York, whose avid interests in life’s diversity on Earth taught and inspired her children to support its scientific discovery and documentation” (Spears’ daughter Dorothy provided “generous support” of Lundberg’s work) [preferably spelled *bogardusae* since name honors a woman, but ICZN 32.5.1 forbids such a correction]

***Gymnorhamphichthys britskii* Carvalho, Ramos & Albert 2011** in honor of Heraldo A. Britski (b. 1934), Universidade de São Paulo, for his many contributions to our understanding of Neotropical fishes, and his “paramount” work on the fishes of the Paraguay basin

***Gymnorhamphichthys hypostomus* Ellis 1912** under-mouthed, from *hypó* (Gr. ὑπό), under or beneath, and *stóma* (Gr. στόμα), mouth, referring to its mouth “somewhat under the upper jaw”

***Gymnorhamphichthys rondoni* (Miranda Ribeiro 1920)** in honor of Cândido Rondon (1865–1958), Brazilian army engineer and explorer, whose Rondon Commission to install telegraph poles from Mato Grosso to Amazonas included expedition during which holotype was collected

***Gymnorhamphichthys rosamariae* Schwassmann 1989** of Rosa María, Amazonas, Brazil, type locality



Gymnorhamphichthys bogardusi, holotype, 127 mm SL. From: Lundberg, J. G. 2005. *Gymnorhamphichthys bogardusi*, a new species of sand knifefish (Gymnotiformes: Rhamphichthyidae) from the Rio Orinoco, South America. Notulae Naturae (Philadelphia) 479: 1–4.

Hypopygus

Hoedeman 1962

a combination of the generic names *Hypopomus* and *Parupygus* (Hypopomidae, now considered congeneric), presumed to be related to this genus at time of description

***Hypopygus benoneae* Peixoto, Dutra, de Santana & Wosiacki 2013** in honor of Naraiana Benone, Universidade Federal do Pará, who collected most of the type series

***Hypopygus cryptogenes* (Triques 1997)** *cryptos*, from *kryptós* (Gr. κρυπτός), concealed or hidden; *genes*, from *génésis* (Gr. γένεσις), manner of birth, referring to its “obscure origins and phyletic relationships” (Triques believed the species shared characters with *Hypopygus* and *Steatogenys*, but did not feel confident placing it in either; therefore he proposed a new genus, *Stegostenopos*, now a synonym)

***Hypopygus hoedemani* de Santana & Crampton 2011** in honor of Dutch ichthyologist Jacobus Johannes Hoedeman (1917–1982), for his contributions to Neotropical ichthyology, including description of *H. lepturus*, type species of genus

***Hypopygus isbruckeri* de Santana & Crampton 2011** in honor of Dutch ichthyologist Isaäc J. H. Isbrücker (b. 1944), Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam, for contributions to Neotropical ichthyology, including *Hypopygus* [sometimes spelled *isbrueckeri* but ICZN Art. 32.5.1-2 does not apply]

***Hypopygus lepturus* Hoedeman 1962** thin-tailed, from *leptós* (Gr. λεπτός), fine or thin, and *urus*, from *ourá* (Gr. οὐρά), tail, referring to slender, pointed tail beyond anal fin

***Hypopygus minissimus* de Santana & Crampton 2011** Latin for smallest, the smallest known gymnotiform (up to 64.0 mm TL)

***Hypopygus neblinae* Mago-Leccia 1994** of La Neblina National Park (Amazonas, Venezuela), where Mago-Leccia first spotted the differences between this species and *H. lepturus*



Hypopygus neblinae, paratype, 61 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.

***Hypopygus nijsseni* de Santana & Crampton 2011** in honor of Dutch ichthyologist Han Nijssen (1935–2013), Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam, for his contributions to Neotropical ichthyology

***Hypopygus ortegai* de Santana & Crampton 2011** in honor of Peruvian ichthyologist Hernán Ortega Torres, for his many contributions to Neotropical ichthyology and his participation in the expedition that discovered this species

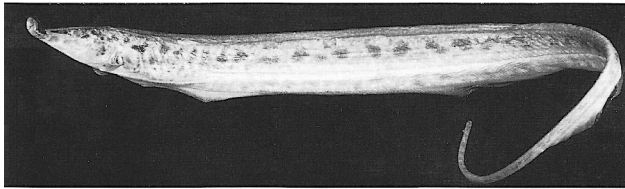
***Hypopygus varii* Campos-da-Paz 2018** in honor of Richard P. Vari (1949–2016), National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (Washington, D.C., USA), who “greatly” contributed to the knowledge of Neotropical characiphysan fishes, and also produced a number of papers on gymnotiform taxonomy and systematics, for his “work, enthusiasm and encouragement to many ichthyologists”

Iracema

Triques 1996

name of a “literary beautiful female native” from an eponymous 1865 Brazilian novel by José de Alencar and a female personal name in Brazil (where this knifefish is endemic), allusion not explained nor evident (interesting to note: Iracema is Guarani for honey-lips and an anagram of America)

***Iracema caiana* Triques 1996** Tupi word for cane, referring to its elongate body shape



Iracema caiana, holotype, 356 mm SL, snout bent upward. From: Triques, M. L. 1996. *Iracema caiana*, new genus and species of electrogenic neotropical freshwater fish (Rhamphichthyidae: Gymnotiformes: Ostariophysi: Actionopterygii). *Revue française d'Aquariologie Herpétologie* v. 23 (3/4): 91–92.

Rhamphichthys

Müller & Troschel 1846

rhámphos (Gr. ῥάμφος), beak or bill, referring to snout produced into a tube; *ichthýs* (Gr. ἰχθύς), fish [originally spelled *Ramphichthys*, probably an error, then corrected to *Rhamphichthys* when the authors republished their description in 1849; corrected spelling is in prevailing usage]

***Rhamphichthys apurensis* (Fernández-Yépez 1968)** *-ensis*, Latin suffix denoting place: Río Apure, Orinoco basin, Apure, Venezuela, type locality

***Rhamphichthys drepanium* Triques 1999** a botanical term for a type of flower cluster shaped like a sickle, from *drépanon* (Gr. δρέπανον), sickle, referring to sickle-shaped pattern of upper part of the oblique transversal dark bars of the body

***Rhamphichthys hahni* (Meinken 1937)** in honor of friend and “fish connoisseur” Carlos Hahn (Corrientes, Argentina), for “many stimulating observations [via mail] on numerous fishes, from outdoors and aquaria” (translation)

***Rhamphichthys heleios* Carvalho & Albert 2015** *heleiós* (Gr. ἠλειός), marsh, referring to the floodplain habitat where it occurs

***Rhamphichthys lineatus* Castelnau 1855** Latin for lined, referring to distinct longitudinal line on sides

***Rhamphichthys pantherinus* Castelnau 1855** Latin for panther-like, referring to numerous dark-brown spots on head and back

***Rhamphichthys rostratus* (Linnaeus 1766)** Latin for beaked, referring to snout produced into a tube

Steatogenys

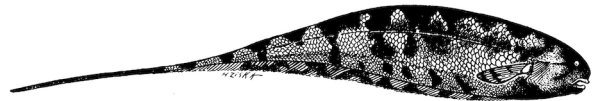
Boulenger 1898

steatos (Gr. στέατος), fat (noun); *génys* (Gr. γένυς), jaw (usually the cheek or lower jaw in ichthyology), referring to filament of adipose tissue in a groove along each side of mental region of *S. elegans*

***Steatogenys duidae* (LaMonte 1929)** of Mt. Duida, Venezuela, type locality

***Steatogenys elegans* (Steindachner 1880)** Latin for elegant, fine or select, allusion not explained, probably referring to its attractive barred color pattern

***Steatogenys ocellatus* Crampton, Thorsen & Albert 2004** Latin for having little eyes (ocelli), referring to diagnostic eye-like markings at pectoral-fin base



Steatogenys duidae, holotype, 149 mm TL. Illustration by Helen Ziska. From: LaMonte, F. R. 1929. Two new fishes from Mt. Duida, Venezuela. *American Museum Novitates* 373: 1–4.