The ETYFish Project

COMMENTS: **■**v. 12.0 - 15 Feb. 2025

Order BLENNIIFORMES (part 1 of 3)

Family TRIPTERYGIIDAE Triplefin Blennies

29 genera · 190 species

Subfamily Notoclininae

Brachynectes Scott 1957

brachy, short; nectes, swimmer, allusion not explained, probably referring to second dorsal fin shorter than third dorsal fin, which distinguishes it from other Australian genera known at the time; name could also refer to "short, not much compressed" body

Brachynectes fasciatus Scott 1957

banded, referring to 5-6 dark bars on body

Notoclinus Gill 1893

notos, back, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to "less divided dorsal [fin] with a shorter median portion" of N. fenestratus compared to "typical" species of Tripterygion; Clinus, probably referring to its similarity to Clinidae and/or its placement in that family at the time

Notoclinus compressus (Hutton 1872)

compressed, referring to "oval, compressed" body

Notoclinus fenestratus (Forster 1801)

windowed, referring to distinctive, large, transparent windows on fins, similar to the transparent wings (fenestrae) of some insects

Subfamily Tripterygiinae

Acanthanectes Holleman & Buxton 1993

acanthus, thorn or spine; nectes, swimmer, referring to lateral branching spinelets on dorsal-fin spines

Acanthanectes hystrix Holleman & Buxton 1993

porcupine, referring to its prickly appearance

Acanthanectes rufus Holleman & Buxton 1993

reddish, referring to "pale orangy-red" color in life

Apopterygion Kuiter 1986

apo-, separate; pterygion, diminutive of pteryx, fin, referring to its distinctly separate dorsal fins

Apopterygion alta Kuiter 1986

deep, referring to its apparent preference for deep water (5-77 m), unusual for this family

Apopterygion oculus Fricke & Roberts 1994

eye, referring to ocellate black blotch on second dorsal fin

Axoclinus Fowler 1944

axis, referring to axial course of lateral line; Clinus, probably referring to similarity to Clinidae and/or its placement in that family at the time

Axoclinus cocoensis Bussing 1991

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Isla del Coco, Costa Rica, only known area of occurrence

Axoclinus lucillae Fowler 1944

in honor of "Mrs. George Vanderbilt," i.e., Louise "Lulu" Miriam Vanderbilt (née Parsons, 1912-2013), first wife of the yachtsman and explorer who financed and led expedition that collected type, but the epithet suggests it's named for Lucille Margaret (b. 1938), their only child

Axoclinus multicinctus Allen & Robertson 1992

multi-, many; cinctus, band, referring to three sets of double brown bars and alternating pale bars in between (and each of these with a faint intermediate brown bar)

Axoclinus nigricaudus Allen & Robertson 1991

nigri-, black; caudus, tail, referring to black caudal fin

Axoclinus rubinoffi Allen & Robertson 1992

in honor of marine biologist Ira Rubinoff (b. 1938), Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, for his continuing support of the authors' studies of eastern Pacific fishes

Axoclinus storeyae (Brock 1940)

in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist Margaret Storey (1900-1960), Stanford University, and editor of journal in which description appeared, who called Brock's attention to the differences in squamation between this species and *Enneapterygius* (now *Enneanectes*) carminalis, its presumed congener at the time

Bellapiscis Hardy 1987

bella, pretty; piscis, fish (no other explanation provided)

Bellapiscis lesleyae Hardy 1987

in honor of Lesley Bolton (now Bolton-Ritchie), marine biologist and companion on several marine surveys, who helped collect rockpool fishes in the Taranaki coast of New Zealand, including type of this one, "under inclement weather conditions"

Bellapiscis medius (Günther 1861)

middle, allusion not explained, perhaps representing an intermediate form between the similar *Forsterygion nigripenne* (its presumed congener at the time) and one or more other related species

Blennodon Hardy 1987

blennos, cognate of Latin blennius, blenny; odon, tooth, referring to convergent similarity of its teeth to the incisiform teeth (outer row in each jaw) characteristic of the family Blenniidae (coined by Rosenblatt in his 1959 Ph.D. dissertation)

Blennodon dorsalis (Clarke 1879)

dorsal, allusion not explained, possibly referring to four spines of first dorsal fin, which increase in height posteriorly

Ceratobregma Holleman 1987

keratos, horn; bregma, front of head, referring to the "horns" (three conical spines) over front of each eye of males

Ceratobregma acanthops (Whitley 1964)

acanthus, spine; ops, eye, referring to three conical spines over front of each eye of males

Ceratobregma helenae Holleman 1987

in honor of Holleman's wife, Helen

Cremnochorites Holleman 1982

kremnos, cliff; chorites, native or country man, referring to its habitat, known only from vertical rock faces

Cremnochorites capensis (Gilchrist & Thompson 1908)

-ensis, suffix denoting place: the Cape, presumably referring to type locality off False Bay, Cape Peninsula, South Africa

Crocodilichthys Allen & Robertson 1991

crocodilus, lizard, referring to its common name, Lizard Triplefin, presumably referring to its caudal color pattern and display, similar to zebra-tailed lizards (Callisaurus); ichthys, fish

Crocodilichthys gracilis Allen & Robertson 1991

slender, referring to its elongate body shape

Cryptichthys Hardy 1987

cryptos, hidden, referring to its "excellent" camouflage, in which its colors blend well into the background of encrusting invertebrate growth and algal turf of its habitat; *ichthys*, fish

Cryptichthys jojettae Hardy 1987

in honor of Johanna Henriette "Jojette" Drost (b. 1960), a former staff member of the National Museum of New Zealand (and now a horticultural technician), who participated with "much enthusiasm and effectiveness" in a number of ichthyology coastal reef fish collecting trips

Enneanectes Jordan & Evermann 1895

ennea, nine; nectes, swimmer; per Jordan & Evermann (1898), referring to nine fins (3 dorsal, 2 pectoral, 2 ventral or pelvic, 1 anal, 1 caudal)

Enneanectes altivelis Rosenblatt 1960

altus, high; velum, sail, referring to high first dorsal fin

Enneanectes atrorus Rosenblatt 1960

ater, black; ora, margin, referring to "striking" black margin of second dorsal fin

Enneanectes boehlkei Rosenblatt 1960

in honor of James E. Böhlke (1930-1982), Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for his researches on the fishes of the Bahamas, and "in thanks for his cooperation and encouragement"

Enneanectes carminalis (Jordan & Gilbert 1882)

per Jordan & Evermann (1898): adjectival form of *carmen*, hetchel, a comb used to separate flax fibers, referring to rough ctenoid scales, their edges "strongly pectinate"

Enneanectes deloachorum Victor 2013

-orum, commemorative suffix, plural: in honor of Ned and Anna Deloach, for their contributions to the art of underwater photography of coral-reef animals, their development of very useful guides to reef organisms, and their exceptional camaraderie on Dominica expedition during which type was collected

Enneanectes exsul Rosenblatt, Miller & Hastings 2013

an exile, referring to its island habitat (endemic to the Revillagigedo Islands, eastern Pacific of México)

Enneanectes flavus Victor 2019

yellow, referring to bright yellow color of mature males

Enneanectes glendae Rosenblatt, Miller & Hastings 2013

in honor of senior author's wife, Glenda

Enneanectes jordani (Evermann & Marsh 1899)

in honor of ichthyologist David Starr Jordan (1851-1931)

Enneanectes macrops Rosenblatt, Miller & Hastings 2013

macro-, long; ops, eye, referring to its comparatively large eye

Enneanectes matador Victor 2013

referring to bright-red tail swung back and forth in mating displays, alluding to the red cape of matadors

Enneanectes quadra Victor 2017

Latin for square, referring to characteristic squared shape of dark bar on caudal peduncle

Enneanectes reticulatus Allen & Robertson 1991

net-like or netted, referring to network pattern formed by dusky scales margins against a whitish background

Enneanectes smithi Lubbock & Edwards 1981

in honor of Roger Wellesley Smith (no other information available), for his "considerable" help to the Cambridge Expedition to St. Paul's Rocks (a remote group of barren islets lying just north of the equator on the mid-Atlantic ridge, approximately 960 km from the northeast coast of Brazil), during which type was collected

Enneanectes wilki Victor 2013

in honor of Les Wilk, for contributions to the art of underwater photography of coral-reef animals, his development of the ReefNet underwater identification CDs, and his organization of the expedition to Dominica, during which type was collected

Enneapterygius Rüppell 1835

ennea, nine; pterygion, fin, presumably referring to nine fins (3 dorsal, 2 pectoral, 2 ventral or pelvic, 1 anal, 1 caudal)

Enneapterygius abeli (Klausewitz 1960)

in honor of Austrian biologist Erich F. Abel (1919-1995), University of Vienna, who worked on the ecology and ethology of fishes of the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, and who donated type specimens (from the Red Sea) to the Senckenberg Museum

Enneapterygius altipinnis Clark 1980

altus, high; pinnis, fin, referring to higher first dorsal fin in both juveniles and adults

Enneapterygius atriceps (Jenkins 1903)

atri-, black; ceps, head, referring to dusky mottlings on top of head

Enneapterygius atrogulare (Günther 1873)

atro-, black; gulare, gular, referring to black underside of head

Enneapterygius bahasa Fricke 1997

named for Bahasa Indonesia, the "language uniting the Indonesian nation" (blenny occurs in Indonesia and also Japan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Guam and Australia) [note: *bahasa* is derived from a Sanskrit word for speech or spoken languages and applies to all languages in many Asian languages; "Bahasa Indonesia" is a holdover from colonial times used by English-speakers in Indonesia and Malaysia but is not formally recognized by linguists]

Enneapterygius cerasinus Jordan & Seale 1906

Latin for cherry-colored, referring to "clear reddish brown" color in life

Enneapterygius cheni Wang, Shao & Shen 1996

in honor of Jeng-Ping Chen, Taiwan Ocean Research Institute, who collected type while diving

Enneapterygius clarkae Holleman 1982

in honor of ichthyologist Eugenie Clark (1922-2015), University of Maryland, who "very kindly consented" that

Holleman name and describe this species, which she mentioned in her 1979 (published 1980) revision of Red Sea tripterygiids; in addition, she shared a draft of her revision with Holleman in 1976, which was of "invaluable assistance" in his revision of South African tripterygiids, forming the basis of his Masters dissertation

Enneapterygius clea Fricke 1997

in honor of Fricke's seven-year-old daughter Clea, who "starts to become interested in marine fishes" [presumably a noun in apposition, without the genitive "ae"]

Enneapterygius destai Clark 1980

in honor of the late Prince Alexander (also Iskinder and Eskander) Desta (1934-1974), Admiral of the former Ethiopian Imperial Navy; he was one of 60 imperial officials who were executed when the Derg took over the country (where this blenny occurs in the Red Sea)

Enneapterygius elaine Holleman 2005

in honor of Elaine Heemstra, South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (Grahamstown), for her "considerable and excellent contribution to the illustration of Indo-Pacific fishes, including several in this paper" [a noun in apposition, without the genitive "ae"]

Enneapterygius elegans (Peters 1876)

elegant, fine or tasteful, allusion not explained, probably reflecting Peters' opinion about its shape and/or color pattern (e.g., hourglass-shaped markings on body)

Enneapterygius erythrosoma Shen 1994

erythros, red; soma, body, referring to its characteristic red color

Enneapterygius etheostoma (Jordan & Snyder 1902)

referring to "similar appearance and habit" to the North American darter (Percidae) genus Etheostoma

Enneapterygius fasciatus (Weber 1909)

banded, referring to seven brown transverse bands on body, the front four sometimes connected

Enneapterygius flavoccipitis Shen 1994

flavus, yellow; occipitis, occipital, referring to yellow color behind head to base of first dorsal fin

Enneapterygius frickei Allen & Erdmann 2024

in honor of German ichthyologist Ronald Fricke (b. 1959), Curator of Fishes, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, for his many "valuable" taxonomic contributions, especially those involving tripterygiid and callionymid fishes

Enneapterygius fulgicauda Fowler 1946

fuligo, soot; cauda, tail, referring to tail "sprinkled with fine dark gray dots or points, producing a swarthy or sooty appearance"

Enneapterygius fuscoventer Fricke 1997

fuscus, dusky; venter, belly, referring to dark ventral side of males

Enneapterygius genamaculatus Holleman 2005

gena, cheek; maculatus, spotted, referring to spots on cheeks of males

Enneapterygius gracilis Fricke 1994

graceful, referring to its "tiny elegance"

Enneapterygius gruschkai Holleman 2005

in honor of Victor G. Springer (b. 1928), U.S. National Museum, "doyen of blennioid systematics"

Enneapterygius hemimelas (Kner & Steindachner 1867)

hemi-, partial; melas, black, referring to black snout, blackish posterior half of head, and abruptly black posterior half of body

Enneapterygius hollemani Randall 1995

in honor of Wouter Holleman, South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, for research dealing with tripterygiid classification

Enneapterygius howensis Fricke 1997

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Lord Howe Island, type locality (also occurs in New Caledonia)

Enneapterygius hsiojenae Shen 1994

in honor of Shen's wife, Hsiojen Lin Shen

Enneapterygius kermadecensis Fricke 1994

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kermadec Islands north of New Zealand, where it is endemic

Enneapterygius kosiensis Holleman 2005

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kosi Bay, northern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, type locality

Enneapterygius larsonae Fricke 1994

in honor of Helen Larson, Curator of Fishes, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (Darwin, Australia), "who has an eye for tiny fishes and collected numerous tripterygiid fishes around Australia," including holotype of this one

Enneapterygius leucopunctatus Shen 1994

leucos, white; punctatus, spotted, referring to numerous white spots on body

Enneapterygius melanospilus Randall 1995

melanos, black; spilos, spot, referring to large black spot on second dorsal fin

Enneapterygius minutus (Günther 1877)

Latin for small, described from two specimens each an inch long

Enneapterygius mirabilis Fricke 1994

admirable, referring to its "unusually large first dorsal and pectoral fins, which look very pretty" (Ronald Fricke, pers. comm.)

Enneapterygius miyakensis Fricke 1987

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Miyake-jima, Izu Islands, Japan, type locality

Enneapterygius namarrgon Fricke 1997

named for Namarrgon, also known as Lightning Man, mythical source of fierce tropical storms in Western Arnhem Land (Northern Territory, Australia) during monsoon season, shown on a rock painting at Nourlangie Rock in Kakadu National Park; "Namarrgon is pretty and powerful, as is this triplefin species," which is endemic to Arnhem Land

Enneapterygius nanus (Schultz 1960)

dwarf, referring to its size, females maturing at 14-19 mm SL

Enneapterygius niger Fricke 1994

black, referring to overall blackish coloration of males

Enneapterygius nigricauda Fricke 1997

niger, back; cauda, tail, referring to black caudal fin of males

Enneapterygius niue Fricke & Erdmann 2017

named for Niue, an island country in the South Pacific, type locality, "in honor of the friendly people and magnif-



Enneapterygius phoenicosoma. A, fresh specimen. B, preserved specimen. From: Motomura, H., R. Ota, M. Meguro and S. Tashiro. 2015. Enneapterygius phoenicosoma, a new species of triplefin (Tripterygiidae) from the western Pacific Ocean. Species Diversity v. 20: 1-12.

icent culture of [this] stunning island" (also occurs in American Samoa)

Enneapterygius obscurus Clark 1980

named for its "obscure color pattern," presumably referring to preserved specimens "pale with no conspicuous markings"

Enneapterygius olivaceus Dewa, Tashiro & Motomura 2023

Latin for olive-colored, referring to its body color

Enneapterygius ornatus Fricke 1997

ornate, referring to body color pattern of males, "posteriorly dark, ornate with whitish/yellowish blotches"

Enneapterygius pallidus Clark 1980

pale, referring to pale color of preserved specimens

Enneapterygius paucifasciatus Fricke 1994

pauci-, few; fasciatus, banded, referring to narrow vertical dark bands on anterior sides of body, but not continuing to caudal peduncle

Enneapterygius philippinus (Peters 1868)

Filipino, referring to type locality, Luzon Island, Philippines (also occurs elsewhere in Indo-West Pacific)

Enneapterygius phoenicosoma Motomura, Ota & Meguro 2015

phoenico, red; soma, body, referring to red body of nuptial males

Enneapterygius pusillus Rüppell 1835

very small, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to size, up to 3.0 cm SL (males)

Enneapterygius pyramis Fricke 1994

pyramid, referring to triangular brown blotches or streaks on posterior sides of body, which resemble ancient Egyptian pyramids on some specimens

Enneapterygius qirmiz Holleman & Bogorodsky 2012

Arabic word for deep red or crimson, referring to its translucent crimson color

Enneapterygius randalli Fricke 1997

in honor of ichthyologist John E. Randall (1924-2020), Bishop Museum (Honolulu), who collected most of type series, "appreciating several decades of collecting and research on Indo-Pacific and Caribbean fishes"

Enneapterygius rhabdotus Fricke 1994

striped, referring to four broad oblique bands across sides

Enneapterygius rhothion Fricke 1997

Greek for surf, referring to its "favorite" habitat, "on rocks in surge channels or around fringing reefs exposed to the ocean surf"

Enneapterygius rubrimarginatus Fricke, Erdmann & Ichida 2024

ruber, red; marginatus, edged or bordered, referring to "distinctive" red margin on scales

Enneapterygius rufopileus (Waite 1904)

rufus, red; pileus, capped, presumably referring to scarlet patch on occiput

Enneapterygius senoui Motomura, Harazaki & Hardy 2005

in honor of Hiroshi Senou, Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History, who collected holotype and four paratypes and made them available to the authors

Enneapterygius sericus Dewa, Harazaki & Motomura 2024

Latin for silk, referring to its shiny whitish body

Enneapterygius shaoi Chiang & Chen 2008

in honor of ichthyologist and marine ecologist Kwang-Tsao Shao (b. 1951), Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, for his "excellent" contribution to the systematics and ecology of fishes in Taiwan

Enneapterygius sheni Chiang & Chen 2008

in honor of Shieh-Chieh Shen, National Taiwan University, for his "great" contribution to the systematics of marine fishes, including the triplefin blennies of Taiwan

Enneapterygius signicauda Fricke 1997

signum, flag; cauda, tail, referring to flag-like blotch on caudal fin of male

Enneapterygius similis Fricke 1997

Latin for similar, referring to coloration and general habits, which are "very similar" to the widespread *E. hemimelas* [treated as a synonym of *E. fulgicauda* by some workers]

Enneapterygius triserialis Fricke 1994

tri-, three; serialis, series, referring to three series of white blotches on body of males

Enneapterygius trisignatus Fricke 2001

tri-, three; signatus, signed or marked, referring to triple marking (white-brown-black) on caudal peduncle

Enneapterygius tutuilae Jordan & Seale 1906

of Tutuila, Samoan island where type locality (Pago Pago) is situated (also occurs in Red Sea and elsewhere in Indo-West Pacific)

Enneapterygius velatus Tashiro, Senou & Motomura 2018

sailed (i.e., having a sail), referring to extremely long first dorsal-fin spine

Enneapterygius ventermaculus Holleman 1982

venter, belly; maculus, spot or mark, referring to row of 5-6 conspicuous black spots at base of anal fin and one spot in front of vent

Enneapterygius vexillarius Fowler 1946

-arius, pertaining to: vexillum, flag or banner, referring to longer or larger first dorsal fin

Enneapterygius viricauda Fricke, Erdmann & Sianipar 2024

viridis, green; cauda, tail, referring to its "distinctive" green tail [name, a noun, is erroneously described as an adjective in the description]

Enneapterygius williamsi Fricke 1997

in honor of ichthyologist Jeffrey T. Williams, Smithsonian Institution, who "collected all of the type material under dangerous circumstances in surge channels and in the surf off the Loyalty Islands and southern Vanuatu"; in addition, with his work on the *Helcogramma fuscopinna* species group, he has made "important" contributions to tripterygiid taxonomy

Enneapterygius ziegleri Fricke 1994

in honor of paleontologist Bernhard Ziegler (1929-2013), Director, State Museum of Natural History (Stuttgart, Germany) [description published in a Festschrift commemorating his 65th birthday and retirement]

Forsterygion Whitley & Phillipps 1939

in honor of Johann Reinhold Forster (1729-1798), naturalist aboard Captain Cook's second voyage on HMS *Resolution*, during which *F. varium* was collected and subsequently described by Forster; [*Tripter*]ygion, previous genus in which *F. varium* and *F. nigripenne* had been placed

Forsterygion capito (Jenyns 1842)

large head, described as "rather large, thicker than the body, contained four and a half times in the entire length"

Forsterygion flavonigrum Fricke & Roberts 1994

flavus, yellow; niger, black, referring to yellow-and-black coloration of breeding males

Forsterygion gymnotum Scott 1977

gymnos, bare or naked; notos, back, referring to naked, non-scaled area on back on either side of base of first dorsal fin and early part of second dorsal fin

Forsterygion lapillum Hardy 1989

pebble, referring to its habitat, abundant among patches of cobbles or small loose boulders, or on areas of bare rock

Forsterygion malcolmi Hardy 1987

in honor of marine ecologist Malcolm Francis (Fisheries Research Centre, Wellington, New Zealand), who accompanied Hardy on a number of collecting trips, and made available many of his color transparencies of tripterygiid fishes

Forsterygion maryannae (Hardy 1987)

in honor of Maryann W. Williams, a "gently lady and fine underwater photographer," who provided color photographs of this blenny in the wild

Forsterygion nigripenne (Valenciennes 1836)

nigri-, black; pinnis, fin, probably referring to black first dorsal fin in alcohol (actually brownish, with distal third black)

Forsterygion varium (Forster 1801)

variable, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to its variable appearance, which Fricke (1994) attributed to Forster probably having a mix of *F. varium* and *F. nigripenne* specimens available, thinking they represented a single, highly variable species

Gilloblennius Whitley & Phillipps 1939

etymology not explained, probably in honor of Smithsonian zoologist Theodore Gill (1837-1914), who proposed several blenniiform taxa; *Blennius*, original genus of *G. tripennis*

Gilloblennius abditus Hardy 1986

hidden, referring to its "concealed status," being both similar to *G. tripennis* in overall appearance and "uncommonly collected"

Gilloblennius tripennis (Forster 1801)

tri-, three; pennis, fin, referring to three dorsal fins

Helcogramma McCulloch & Waite 1918

etymology not explained, perhaps *helcium*, a yoke or collar harness around the neck of draft animals; *gramme*, line, possibly referring to lateral line of *H. decurrens*, which differs from that of *Tripterygion* by running "downwards from the shoulder to the middle of the side instead of extending backward parallel with the back"; this unusual lateral line running down the neck may have reminded McCulloch & Waite of that type of equipment, which was still in use when the genus was described (Ronald Fricke, pers. comm.)

Helcogramma albimacula Williams & Howe 2003

albus, white; macula, spot, referring to pale spot on ventral part of pectoral-fin base of preserved specimens

Helcogramma alkamr Holleman 2007

al-Kamr (or al-Qumr), from Jazirat al-Qumr, Arabic and original name for Madagascar, referring to this blenny's distribution along Comoro Islands and northern Madagascar (also occurs along Zanzibar, Seychelles, St. Brandon Shoals, Mauritius and Rodrigues)

Helcogramma aquila Williams & McCormick 1990

blackish, referring to distinct black caudal fin and black distal margin of second dorsal fin of adult males

Helcogramma ascensionis Lubbock 1980

-is, genitive singular of: Ascension Island, south Atlantic, type locality (also occurs at Saint Helena Island)

Helcogramma atauroensis Fricke & Erdmann 2017

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Ataúro Island, Fatuu, eastern Indian Ocean, type locality

Helcogramma billi Hansen 1986

in honor of ichthyologist William ("Bill") F. Smith-Vaniz (b. 1941), who collected all the specimens Hansen examined

Helcogramma capidata Rosenblatt 1960

with a covered head, referring to "hooded appearance" of dark-headed males

Helcogramma cerasina Williams & Howe 2003

cherry, referring to cherry-red color of anal fin

Helcogramma chica Rosenblatt 1960

Spanish for little, referring to small size (15.1 mm SL) at maturity

Helcogramma decurrens McCulloch & Waite 1918

flowing down, referring to how lateral line differs from that of *Tripterygion* by running "downwards from the shoulder to the middle of the side instead of extending backward parallel with the back"

Helcogramma desa Williams & Howe 2003

Latin for neglected, referring to how this species was overlooked in previous studies

Helcogramma ellioti (Herre 1944)

in honor of naturalist-ethnologist Walter Elliot (1803-1887), Madras Civil Service, who employed local artists to make colored illustrations of the fishes of Madras and Waltair, including this blenny, which Day (1888) reported as *Tripterygion* (now *Helcogramma*) trigloides

Helcogramma ememes Holleman 2007

taken from the initials of Margaret Mary Smith, often called "MMS" (1916-1987), first director of the J.L.B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology (now the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity), who, in the 1970s, brought Holleman on as a gradate student for two years on "soft money," which Holleman later learned was paid for out of her own pocket; "In gratitude I am pleased to be able to name one of 'my' little fishes in her memory and for her generosity" (in addition, many of the specimens of this species were collected by Margaret and her husband J. L. B. Smith in the 1960s)

Helcogramma fuscipectoris (Fowler 1946)

fuscus, swarthy; pectoris, chest, referring to dark gray lower part of head below eye, inclusive of breast to ventral-fin base, which under a lens is seen to be composed of small, close-set blue-black spots

Helcogramma fuscopinna Holleman 1982

fuscus, dark; pinna, fin, referring to dark dorsal and anal fins

Helcogramma gymnauchen (Weber 1909)

gymnos, bare or naked; auchen, nape, referring to scaleless head and strip below bases of first and second dorsal fins, reaching back to end of base of second dorsal fin

Helcogramma hudsoni (Jordan & Seale 1906)

in honor of R. L. Hudson, who created the illustrations used in Jordan & Seale's monograph on Samoan fishes

Helcogramma inclinata (Fowler 1946)

inclined, referring to eight transverse dark-brown bands on body, "more or less inclined down and back"

Helcogramma ishigakiensis (Aoyagi 1954)

-ensis, Ishigaki Island, Ishigaki City, Okinawa, Japan, type locality

Helcogramma kranos Fricke 1997

Greek for helmet, referring to helmet-like black head coloration of the male

Helcogramma lacuna Williams & Howe 2003

cavity, cavern or hollow, referring to holes in rocky reefs inhabited by all members of the *H. fuscopinna* species complex, including this one

Helcogramma larvata Fricke & Randall 1992

masked, referring to dark lower side of head in males

Helcogramma maldivensis Fricke & Randall 1992

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Maldive Islands, western Indian Ocean, where it is endemic

Helcogramma melanolancea Tashiro & Motomura 2018

melas, black; lancea, lance, referring to blackish dermal prolongation on upper lip in males

Helcogramma microstigma Holleman 2006

micro-, small; stigma, spot or mark, referring to micromelanophores on membrane between first two dorsal-fin spines

Helcogramma nesion Williams & Howe 2003

Greek for island, referring to "isolated island of scales" on either side of nape

Helcogramma nigra Williams & Howe 2003

black, referring to black dorsal, caudal and anal fins of males

Helcogramma novaecaledoniae Fricke 1994

of New Caledonia, type locality (also occurs along the Solomon Islands)

Helcogramma obtusirostris (Klunzinger 1871)

obtusus, blunt; rostris, snout, referring to concave snout

Helcogramma randalli Williams & Howe 2003

in honor of ichthyologist John E. Randall (1924-2020), Bishop Museum (Honolulu), who collected all known specimens and provided photographs (underwater and freshly preserved) of this and other species

Helcogramma rharhabe Holleman 2007

in honor of Rharhabe, eldest son of Phalo, paramount chief of amaXhosa, a Bantu ethnic group in the Eastern Cape of South Africa (where this blenny occurs); in ca. 1750, Rharhabe and his father quelled an uprising by Rharhabe's half-brother Gcaleka, and subsequently lead a break-away group which Rharhabe ruled as paramount chief from 1775 to 1787 [a noun in apposition, without the genitive "i"]

Helcogramma rhinoceros Hansen 1986

named for prolongation of upper lip of males, reminiscent of the snout horn of rhinoceri

Helcogramma rosea Holleman 2006

pink or rosy, allusion not explained, possibly referring to "mostly deep pink" caudal fin of males

Helcogramma serendip Holleman 2007

Sarandib (Serendip in English), old Arabic name for Sri Lanka, only known locality of this blenny, referring to the serendipitous way it (and many new species) was discovered: type specimens were amongst several lots collected by Hans Bath in 1982, which he donated to the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity

Helcogramma shinglensis Lal Mohan 1971

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Shingle Island, Gulf of Mannar, between India and Sri Lanka, type locality

Helcogramma solorensis Fricke 1997

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Solor Island, Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia, where it appears to be endemic

Helcogramma springeri Hansen 1986

in honor of ichthyologist Victor G. Springer (b. 1928), U.S. National Museum, who collected most of the specimens Hansen examined

Helcogramma steinitzi Clark 1980

in honor of the late Heinz Steinitz (1909-1971), marine biologist and herpetologist (Hebrew University, Jerusalem), who suggested that Clark undertake her revision of the genus, and who provided encouragement and facilities

Helcogramma striata Hansen 1986

striped, referring to "distinct" striping on body

Helcogramma trigloides (Bleeker 1858)

-oides, having the form of: Trigla, gurnard genus (Scorpaeniformes: Triglidae), referring to gurnard-like appearance of head, body, and pectoral fins

Helcogramma vulcana Randall & Clark 1993

Vulcanus, god of fire, referring to its occurrence along the rocky coasts of two volcanic islets (Gunung Api and Manuk) in the Banda Sea, Indonesia.

Helcogramma williamsi Chiang & Chen 2012

in honor of ichthyologist Jeffrey T. Williams, Smithsonian Institution, for his "excellent" research work on marine blenniiform fishes

Helcogrammoides Rosenblatt 1990

-oides, having the form of: referring to similarity of H. cunninghami to "certain species" of Helcogramma

Helcogrammoides antarcticus (Tomo 1982)

named for its distribution in the Antarctic Peninsula

Helcogrammoides chilensis (Cancino 1960)

-ensis, suffix denoting place: off coast of Maitencillo, Chile, type locality (also occurs off coast of Peru)

Helcogrammoides cunninghami (Smitt 1898)

in honor of Scottish naturalist Robert Oliver Cunningham (1841-1918), who collected this blenny in 1868 but could not identify it

Karalepis Hardy 1984

kara, head; lepis, scale, referring to dense covering of scales on head

Karalepis stewarti Hardy 1984

in honor of Andy Stewart (b. 1958), Department of Fishes, National Museum of New Zealand, an "enthusiastic diving 'buddy' on a number of collecting trips," including trip that collected type

Lepidoblennius Steindachner 1867

lepido-, scaled, referring to L. haplodactylus, similar to Blennius (Blenniidae) but completely covered with small scales

Lepidoblennius haplodactylus Steindachner 1867

haplo-, single or simple; dactylus, finger, referring to simple (unbranched) pectoral, anal and caudal fins

Lepidoblennius marmoratus (Macleay 1878)

marbled or mottled, referring to yellowish color, "much mottled with black," especially on and above lateral line

Lepidonectes Bussing 1991

lepidotos, scaly; nectes, swimmer, referring to scaled patch on pectoral fin and "well-scaled" head and body

Lepidonectes bimaculatus Allen & Robertson 1992

bi-, two; maculatus, spot, referring to pair of brilliant pearl-white saddles on back of posterior half of body (Gerald R. Allen, pers. comm.)

Lepidonectes clarkhubbsi Bussing 1991

in honor of ichthyologist Clark Hubbs (1921-2008), University of Texas at Austin, the first to characterize the family Tripterygiidae, for his contributions to the study of blennioid fishes

Lepidonectes corallicola (Kendall & Radcliffe 1912)

-icola, dweller or inhabitant, i.e., coral dwelling, referring to its occurrence among rocky reefs of the Galapagos Archipelago

Matanui Jawad & Clements 2004

from the Maori (reflecting their New Zealand distribution) words *mata*, eye, and *nui*, big, referring to their large eyes (1.6-2.5 in HL)

Matanui bathytaton (Hardy 1989)

deepest, referring to its being the deepest tripterygiid (82-198 m) known at the time

Matanui profundum (Fricke & Roberts 1994)

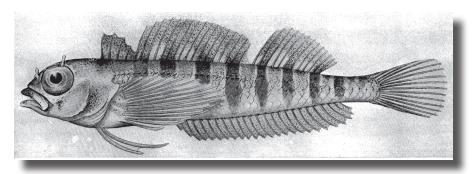
deep, referring to its depth range, to ~500 m

Norfolkia Fowler 1953

-ia, belonging to: Norfolk Island, southwestern Pacific, type locality of N. lairdi (=squamiceps)

Norfolkia brachylepis (Schultz 1960)

brachys, short; lepis, scale, referring to scales on pectoral-fin base (although their length is not mentioned)



Notoclinops segmentatus. From: McCulloch, A. R. and W. J. Phillipps. 1923. Notes on New Zealand fishes. Records of the Australian Museum v. 14: 18-22, Pl. 4.

Norfolkia leeuwin Fricke 1994

referring to its distribution in temperate Western Australia, an area influenced by the Leeuwin Current

Norfolkia squamiceps (McCulloch & Waite 1916)

squama, scale; ceps, head, referring to top and sides of head almost completely scaly

Norfolkia thomasi Whitley 1964

in honor of Leonard Rees Thomas, organizer of the Australian Museum 1962 Swain Reefs Expedition, during which paratypes and many other fishes were collected

Notoclinops Whitley 1930

ops, appearance, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to *Nothoclinus*-like appearance, e.g., scaleless head, discontinuous lateral line, four spines in first dorsal fin (Ronald Fricke, pers. comm.)

Notoclinops caerulepunctus Hardy 1989

caeruleus, sky-blue; punctum, spot, referring to vivid bluish-white blotches on body

Notoclinops segmentatus (McCulloch & Phillipps 1923)

trimmed or ornamented, allusion not explained, presumably referring to 8-9 vertical dark bars on sides (Ronald Fricke, pers. comm.)

Notoclinops yaldwyni Hardy 1987

in honor of marine biologist John C. Yaldwyn (1929-2005), Director of the National Museum of New Zealand, whose name has been associated with this species (as Yaldwyn's Blenny) since 1972, for support and encouragement he has given to an enhanced field program for the NMNZ Fish Department over the last several years

Ruanoho Hardy 1986

combination of the Maori words (reflecting its New Zealand distribution) *rua*, meaning either fish or hole, and *noho*, meaning dwell, referring to how both species characteristically shelter in holes under rocks, or in small cracks or crevices

Ruanoho decemdigitatus (Clarke 1879)

decem, ten; digitatus, having fingers, referring to 10 finger-like pinnae on orbital tentacle

Ruanoho scurra Stewart, Knudsen & Clements 2021

Latin for comedian or jester, referring to diagnostic bright-yellow dots and spots over head, anterior body and unpaired fins

Ruanoho whero Hardy 1986

Maori word (reflecting its New Zealand distribution) meaning red, referring to oblique reddish stripes on dorsal fins

Springerichthys Shen 1994

in honor of ichthyologist Victor G. Springer (b. 1928), U.S. National Museum, for his contributions to the systematics of blennioid fishes; *ichthys*, fish

Springerichthys bapturus (Jordan & Snyder 1902)

baptos, dyed; oura, tail, referring to black caudal fin with white base and tip

Springerichthys kulbickii (Fricke & Randall 1994)

in honor of reef-fish ecologist Michel L. Kulbicki, ORSTOM (Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique d'Outre-Mer), Nouméa, who collected type and many other New Caledonian fishes

Trianectes McCulloch & Waite 1918

tri-, three; nectes, swimmer, referring to three dorsal fins

Trianectes bucephalus McCulloch & Waite 1918

bu, large; cephalus, head, referring to "large, naked" head

Trinorfolkia Fricke 1994

tri-, three, similar to Norfolkia but with three spines (instead of four) in first dorsal fin

Trinorfolkia clarkei (Morton 1888)

of Clarke Island, Bass Strait, Australia, type locality

Trinorfolkia cristata (Kuiter 1986)

crested, referring to tall first dorsal fin of males

Trinorfolkia incisa (Kuiter 1986)

notched or incised, referring to "deeply incised" membranes between adjacent spines and ray in the fins, particularly in the first dorsal fin

Tripterygion Risso 1827

tri-, three; pterygion, diminutive of pteryx, fin, referring to three dorsal fins

Tripterygion delaisi Cadenat & Blache 1970

in honor of Michel Delais, Institut fondamental d'Afrique noire (Dakar, Senegal), who collected most of the type series

Tripterygion melanurum Guichenot 1850

melanos, black; oura, tail, referring to large black patch with yellowish border at base of caudal fin

Tripterygion minor Kolombatović 1892

small, presumably referring to its size, described at <25 mm

Tripterygion tartessicum Carreras-Carbonell, Pascual & Macpherson 2007

-icum, belonging to: Tartessos, Spanish culture dating to at least 1000 BC, located on south coast of Iberian peninsula (modern-day Andalusia, Spain), where this blenny is partially distributed

Tripterygion tripteronotum (Risso 1810)

tri-, three; ptero-, fin; notus, back, referring to three dorsal fins

Ucla Holleman 1993

UCLA, acronym of University of California, Los Angeles, where Richard Rosenblatt (1930-2014), Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who coined this name in his unpublished 1959 Ph.D. dissertation, received all three of his degrees

Ucla xenogrammus Holleman 1993

xenos, strange; grammus, line, referring to unique grooved scales in posterior portion of lateral line (coined by Rosenblatt in his unpublished 1959 Ph.D. dissertation; see genus)

Family DACTYLOSCOPIDAE Sand Stargazers

9 genera · 48 species

Dactylagnus Gill 1863

combination of Dactyloscopus and Myxodagnus, two related genera it is said to resemble

Dactylagnus mundus Gill 1863

neat, allusion not explained nor evident

Dactylagnus parvus Dawson 1976

small, referring to its "diminutive" size (up to 24.5 mm SL)

Dactylagnus peratikos Böhlke & Caldwell 1961

alien, foreign or dwelling on the other side, referring to its distribution in the western Atlantic compared to *D. mundus* of the eastern Pacific

Dactyloscopus Gill 1859

dactylos, finger, referring to three articulated ventral-fin rays compared to [Urano] scopus (Uranoscopiformes: Uranoscopidae), which has one spinous and five branched rays, and which it so closely resembles "that it might be readily referred to [this] genus by a casual observer"

Dactyloscopus amnis Miller & Briggs 1962

river, referring to occurrence in lower reaches of large, sandy rivers, in strictly fresh to brackish water

Dactyloscopus boehlkei Dawson 1982

in honor of James E. Böhlke (1930-1982), Curator of Fishes, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for his contributions to our knowledge of Atlantic dactyloscopids

Dactyloscopus byersorum Dawson 1969

in honor of Major and Mrs. Joseph Byers (no other information available), for their "interest and support" of Dawson's ichthyological studies [originally spelled *byersi*; since name honors more than one person, correction to *byersorum* is mandatory]

Dactyloscopus comptus Dawson 1982

adorned or ornamented, referring to circlet of flaps or spots on eye

Dactyloscopus crossotus Starks 1913

fringed, referring to 9-12 opercular fringes

Dactyloscopus elongatus Myers & Wade 1946

elongate, referring to more slender body compared to D. zelotes

Dactyloscopus fallax Dawson 1975

deceitful or false, referring to its close resemblance to D. pectoralis

Dactyloscopus fimbriatus (Reid 1935)

fringed, referring to 13 fringes on opercle and/or fringes on lips (those on tip of lower jaw brown)

Dactyloscopus foraminosus Dawson 1982

full of holes, referring to numerous pores in the first preopercular canal of adults

Dactyloscopus heraldi Dawson 1975

in memory of friend and colleague, ichthyologist Earl S. Herald (1914-1973), who died in a scuba accident off Cabo San Lucas in Baja California, México

Dactyloscopus insulatus Dawson 1975

isolated, referring to its "isolated insular" type locality (Isla San Benedicto, Revillagigedo Islands, off western México)

Dactyloscopus lacteus (Myers & Wade 1946)

milky, referring to "milk-white" coloration in life, with fine, irregular, blackish marks

Dactyloscopus lunaticus Gilbert 1890

moonstruck, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to 10-11 "narrow pearly white cross bars" on dorsal midline and "pearly" blotches on top of head and front of mandible

Dactyloscopus metoecus Dawson 1975

stranger or resident alien, referring to its infrequent occurrence in collections, a "small, inconspicuous" species that is "overlooked easily"

Dactyloscopus minutus Dawson 1975

small, referring to its "diminutive" size (10-27 mm SL), smallest known member of genus

Dactyloscopus moorei (Fowler 1906)

in honor of Clarence B. Moore (1852-1936, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA), "well known for his valuable researches in Archaeology, and through whose interest in Zoology the expedition to the Florida Keys [type locality] was realized"

Dactyloscopus pectoralis Gill 1861

referring to longer pectoral-fin rays compared to D. poeyi and D. tridigitatus

Dactyloscopus poeyi Gill 1861

in honor of Cuban ichthyologist Felipe Poey (1799-1891), who provided type, for his "labors to elucidate the natural history of Cuba"

Dactyloscopus tridigitatus Gill 1859

tri-, three; *digitatus*, fingered, referring to three articulated ventral-fin rays, compared to one spinous and five branched rays on the very similar *Uranoscopus* (Uranoscopiformes: Uranoscopidae)

Dactyloscopus zelotes Jordan & Gilbert 1896

an imitator, referring to its resemblance to D. mundus

Gillellus Gilbert 1890

-ellus, diminutive connoting endearment: in honor of Smithsonian zoologist Theodore Gill (1837-1914), "to whom we owe our knowledge of the previously described members of this most interesting group"

Gillellus arenicola Gilbert 1890

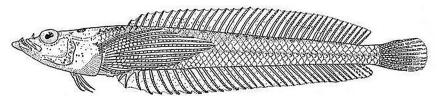
rena, sand; colere, to inhabit, referring to its habitat, where, like other sand stargazers, it spends most of its time buried in sandy substrates waiting for unsuspecting prey, with only its eyes, nose and mouth usually visible

Gillellus chathamensis Dawson 1977

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Chatham Bay, Cocos Island, off Costa Rica, type locality

Gillellus greyae Kanazawa 1952

in honor of Marion Grey (1911-1964), Division of Fishes, Chicago Natural History Museum, for her "valuable assistance" in preparing Kanazawa's manuscript



Myxodagnus sagitta. From: Myers, G. S. and C. B. Wade. 1946. New fishes of the families Dactyloscopidae, Microdesmidae, and Antennariidae from the west coast of Mexico and the Galapagos Islands, with a brief account of the use of rotenone fish poisons in ichthyological collecting. Allan Hancock Pacific Expedition 1932-40, Los Angeles v. 9 (no. 6): 151-179, Pls. 20-23.

Gillellus healae Dawson 1982

in honor of Elizabeth Heal, Technical Secretary, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (Ocean Springs, Mississispipi, USA), "in partial recognition for her years of efficient and willing assistance, without which my ichthyological studies would surely be more difficult"

Gillellus inescatus Williams 2002

baited, referring to esca-like structure on distal tip of first dorsal-fiin spine, which might be used as a bait to lure prey toward its mouth, or possibly to attract females

Gillellus jacksoni Dawson 1982

in honor of Felix N. Jackson, Museum Technician, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (Ocean Springs, Mississippi, USA), "in partial recognition for his years of competent and willing performance of myriad ichthyological chores"

Gillellus ornatus Gilbert 1892

adorned, allusion not explained, probably referring to any or all of the following: eight brown bars on upper half of sides; blackish bar at base of caudal fin; faint streak below eye; large pearly blotch on opercle

Gillellus searcheri Dawson 1977

in honor of the R/V Searcher, from which type was collected; "Collections from this vessel, owned by the Janss Foundation and destroyed by fire in May 1972, have contributed much to our knowledge of Pacific dactyloscopids"

Gillellus semicinctus Gilbert 1890

semi-, half; cinctus, belt or girdle, referring to six broad, pink crossbars along back, terminating on middle of sides

Gillellus uranidea Böhlke 1968

ouranos, sky; eidos, looking, i.e., a stargazer, referring to its large, upwardly directed eyes

Heteristius Myers & Wade 1946

hetero-, different or other; *istius*, sail, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to two anterior dorsal-fin spines widely separated from other dorsal spines compared to *Gilellus*, in which the dorsal spines are evenly spaced

Heteristius cinctus (Osburn & Nichols 1916)

girdle or belt, presumably referring to any or all of the following: conspicuous purplish black cross-bar at about middle of body (interrupted on upper part of side); a similar bar about half way between this and base of caudal fin; short bar across upper part of side just behind head

Leurochilus Böhlke 1968

leuros, smooth; cheilos, lip, referring to absence of fimbriae on lips, unlike the similar Heteristius

Leurochilus acon Böhlke 1968

Greek for dart, referring to its shape

Myxodagnus Gill 1861

etymology not explained; according to Jordan & Evermann (1898), a combination of *Myxodes* (Clinidae), and *Agnus* (an old name of *Uranoscopus scaber*: Uranoscopiformes: *Uranoscopus*), both of which it resembles in form

Myxodagnus belone Böhlke 1968

Greek for needle or any sharp point, referring to its pointed chin, which extends far forward of mouth opening when mouth is closed

Myxodagnus macrognathus Hildebrand 1946

macro-, long; gnathus, jaw, referring to long lower jaw, extending far in advance of mouth

Myxodagnus opercularis Gill 1861

opercular, allusion not explained, presumably referring to "margaritaceous" (pearly) color of operculum and/or opercular fringe "composed of six or seven short filaments"

Myxodagnus sagitta Myers & Wade 1946

arrow, allusion not explained, probably referring to overall shape: strongly projecting lower jaw and elongate body "tapering gradually" to caudal-fin base

Myxodagnus walkeri Dawson 1976

in honor of fisheries biologist Boyd W. Walker (1917-2001), University of California, Los Angeles, for his field-work, which produced most of the type material and many other eastern Pacific dactyloscopids

Platygillellus Dawson 1974

platy, wide or flat, referring to their large head; Gillellus, similar to this genus

Platygillellus altivelis Dawson 1974

altus, high; velum, sail, referring to high, sail-like dorsal finlet

Platygillellus brasiliensis Feitoza 2002

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Atlantic coast of Brazil, where it appears to be endemic

Platygillellus bussingi Dawson 1974

in honor of ichthyologist William Bussing (1933-2014), Universidad de Costa Rica, who collected type, for "many courtesies" and for making specimens available for study

Platygillellus rubellulus (Kendall & Radcliffe 1912)

diminutive of *rubellus*, reddish, presumably referring to any or all of the following: ground color in alcohol, "pale straw tinged above with pinkish"; five pinkish bars across back; pink first dorsal fin

Platygillellus rubrocinctus (Longley 1934)

rubro-, red; cinctus, girdle or belt, referring to maroon bar across interorbital space and three other bars of the "same rich color" on body

Platygillellus smithi Dawson 1982

in honor of C. Lavett Smith (1927-2015), Curator of Fishes, American Museum of Natural History, who collected holotype

Sindoscopus Dawson 1977

sindo, in honor of Dawson's Chilean field associate Gumersindo Revuelta, who collected and made available many of the specimens Dawson studied; scopus, watcher, i.e., stargazer

Sindoscopus australis (Fowler & Bean 1923)

southern, presumably referring to distribution off the coast of Chile

Storrsia Dawson 1982

-ia, belonging to: Storrs L. Olson (b. 1944), Associate Curator (now Curator Emeritus), Division of Birds, U.S. National Museum, who collected type

Storrsia olsoni Dawson 1982

in honor of Storrs L. Olson (b. 1944), Associate Curator (now Curator Emeritus), Division of Birds, U.S. National Museum, who collected type