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Annotated Checklist of Fishes of the Family Balistidae

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Abstract: A checklist of the triggerfishes (Pisces: Balistidae) is presented. The list includes: 183 nominal species grouped in 41 valid species belonging to 12 genera; 28 *nomina nuda*; 8 nominal species which are recognized in this study to belong to a different family of fishes. Some 22 nominal species are in this study regarded as new synonyms.

Keywords: Fish taxonomy, New synonyms, *Nomen oblitum*, Triggerfish, Balistidae

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Introduction

The fish family Balistidae includes a relatively small number of specialized tetraodontiform fishes, typical inhabitant of coral and rocky reefs, commonly known as triggerfishes. Almost all of the 41 valid species have been described in the XVIII and XIX centuries (Fricke *et al.*, 2021). A list of the species has been tabulated by Matsuura (2015) who included only 37 valid species, whereas Nelson *et al.* (2016) counted 42 species grouped in 12 genera. Searching for Balistidae in the on-line Eschmeyer's Catalog of Fishes (ECoF) returns 187 records of available names, including 41 valid species, 35 records of unavailable names, and 39 nominal species which most probably belong to well-known species but have their status unresolved. Therefore, the aim of this work was to check the status of all nominal species of triggerfishes and examine all the unplaced

nominal species to place them under the appropriate synonymy. Genera and species are arranged alphabetically and the records are downloaded at the web site of the ECoF.

Materials and Methods

Placement of species, date of publication, type material follows the ECoF (Fricke *et al.*, 2021). Unplaced species have been examined by reconsidering original description and when present, by type material. Genera and species are arranged alphabetically.

Results and Discussion

Family Balistidae Rafinesque, 1810:

Genus *Abalistes* Jordan and Seale, 1906:

Leiurus (subgenus of *Capriscus*) Swainson, 1839:

194, 326. Masculine. Type species, *Leiurus macrophthalmus* Swainson, 1839. Type by subsequent designation by Swain (1883:282). Objectively invalid; preoccupied by *Leiurus* Swainson, 1839 in Pisces Gasterosteidae described in the same work on p. 242.

Abalistes Jordan and Seale, 1906:364. Masculine. Type species, *Leiurus macrophthalmus* Swainson 1839. Type by being a replacement name. *Nomen novum*; replacement name for *Leiurus* Swainson, 1839-

The genus contains two species (Matsuura and Yoshino, 2004).

***Abalistes filamentosus* Matsuura and Yoshino, 2004:**

Abalistes stellatus Matsuura, 1980, p. 39 (in part); Matsuura, 1984 (in part), pl. 322-I. (misidentification).

Abalistes stellaris Matsuura, 1985, pp. 626 (misidentification).

Abalistes filamentosus Matsuura and Yoshino, 2004:190, Fig. 1a (type locality, off Itoman, south coast of Okinawa-jima Island, Ryukyu Islands, Japan). Holotype: NSMT-P 65579. Paratypes: AMS I.37974 (1); CSIRO H 1075-02 (1), H 2455-04 (1), H 3223-03 (1); HUMZ 38667 (1), 38705 (1), 38706 (1), 68923 (1), 68925 (1), 68926 (1); NSMT-P 49363 (1), 65582 (1); URM 3320 (1), 3321 (1), 3334 (1).

Distribution: known from the Ryukyu Islands in Japan, the North West Shelf of Australia to New Caledonia, and the Timor Sea.

***Abalistes stellatus* (Anonymous, 1798):**

Balistes stellatus Anonymous (ex Commerson, Lacepède), 1798:681, 685 (type locality, Mauritius). No types known. Non-type: MNHN B-1925 (1) Red Sea. The neotype designated by Fricke (1999: 577) is invalid (Fricke, 2000: 639).

Balistes stellaris Bloch and Schneider, 1801:476. (type locality, Indian Ocean). No types known. Based on Le Baliste étoilé of Lacepède, 1798.

Balistes jellaka Cuvier, 1829:372 (type locality, Vizagapatam, India). No types at MNHN. Available from footnote as, "Bal. jellaka, N., Lamayellaka, Russel, 1, 22." Unknown status (Beaunier *et al.*, 2009: 296).

Capriscus (Leiurus) macrophthalmus Swainson, 1839:326 (no type locality) Based on Russ. pl. 22 which is Russell, 1803: Pl. 22.

Capriscus (Leiurus) russellii Swainson, 1839:326 (no type locality). Based on Russell, 1803:Pl. 23.

Balistes phaleratus Richardson, 1846:484, Pl. 1 (figs. 4-5 (type locality, West coasts of Australia). Holotype (unique): BMNH 2012.11.1.5.

Balistes vachellii Richardson, 1845:129 (type locality, Canton, China?. Holotype (unique): Cambridge Philos. Soc. (apparently lost).

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Persian Gulf, Seychelles, Madagascar and western Mascarenes east to Palau, Fiji and Tonga, north to southern Japan, south to New South Wales (Australia); eastern tropical Atlantic.

Comments: frequently reported in literature as *Abalistes stellaris* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801) (e.g. Matsuura in Randall and Lim, 2000: 647; Eagderi *et al.*, 2019: 134) which is sometimes regarded as distinct species (Fricke *et al.*, 2018: 376). FishBase reports both *A. stellaris* and *A. stellatus* (Froese and Pauly, 2021). *Balistes jellaka* Cuvier, 1829 (Fig. 1) is a new synonym: the name is based on a fish described by Russell which is clearly identifiable from description and plate.

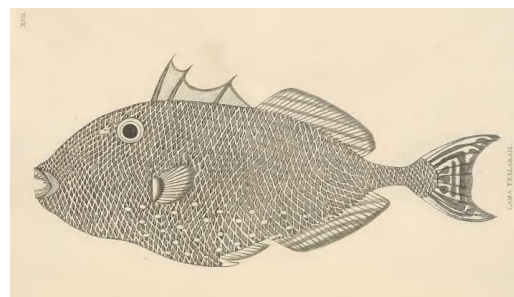


Fig. 1: The fish described by Russell as Lama Yellakah and named by Cuvier as *Balistes jellaka*.

Genus *Balistapus* Tilesius, 1820:

Balistapus Tilesius, 1820:302. Masculine. Type species, *Balistapus capistratus* Tilesius, 1820. Type by monotypy.

The genus contains a single species.

Balistapus undulatus (Park 1797)

Balistes undulatus Park, 1797:37 (type locality, Sumatræ littore [Bengkulu Province, Sumatra, Indonesia]). Holotype: BMNH 1863.11.12.1 (dry, left half skin).

Balistes minor aculeatus Forsskål, in Niebuhr 1775: xvii (deduced type locality, Red Sea). No types known.

Balistes lineatus Bloch and Schneider, 1801:466, Pl. 87 (type locality, Coast of Coromandel, India. Holotype (unique): ZMB 5902 (stuffed).

Balistapus capistratus Tilesius, 1820:306, 309, Pl. 9 (type locality, Nucha Hiwa, Marquesas Islands). No types known.

Balistes aculeatus var. *viridis* Bennett, 1828: unnum. p., Pl. 10 (type locality, South coast of Sri Lanka). No types known.

Balistes sesquilineatus Lay and Bennett, 1839:69, Pl. 21 (fig. 3) (type locality, Tahiti, Society Islands). Holotype (unique): not preserved. Based on a drawing by R. B. Beechey.

Balistesoire Bennett, 1840:262 (type locality, Raiatea, Society Islands). No types known.

Balistes porcatus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 32 (type locality, Indian seas). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.192 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin).

Balistes schmittii Bleeker, 1852: 37 (type locality, Padang, Indonesia). Holotype (unique): whereabouts unknown.

Balistes ellioti Day, 1889: 478 (type locality, Madras, India). No types known.

Balistes barffi Curtiss, 1938: 130 (type locality, Lagoon near Tautira, Tahiti, Society Islands). No types known.

Balistes theresae Curtiss, 1938:131 (type locality, Lagoon near Tautira, Tahiti, Society Islands). No types known.

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Aldabra, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Line Islands, Marquesas Islands and Tuamotu Archipelago, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Australia and New Caledonia; straying to Hawaiian Islands.

Comments: *Balistapus capistratus* Tilesius, 1820 (Fig. 2), *Balistes oire* Bennett 1840, *Balistes schmittii* Bleeker, 1852, *Balistes ellioti* Day 1889, *Balistes barffi* Curtiss, 1938 and *Balistes theresae* Curtiss, 1938 are new synonyms.

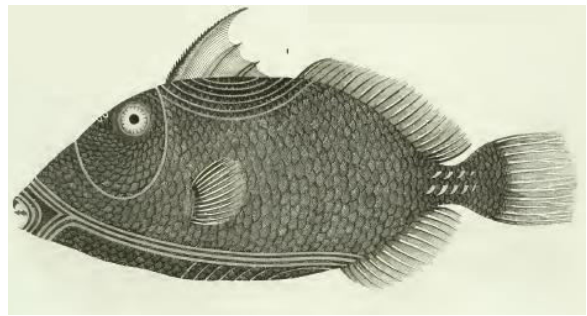


Fig. 2: Reproduction of *Balistapus capistratus* Tilesius, 1820.

Genus *Balistes* Linnaeus, 1758:

Balistes Linnaeus, 1758:327. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes vetula* Linnaeus, 1758. Type by subsequent designation by Bleeker (1865: 98).

Capriscus Rafinesque, 1810b:41, 58. Masculine. Type species, *Capriscus porcus* Rafinesque, 1810. Type by monotypy.

Ballistes Billberg, 1833: 52 Masculine. Type species, *Balistes vetula* Linnaeus, 1758. Type by being a replacement name. *Nomen novum*, unnecessary replacement name for *Balistes* Linnaeus, 1758.

Chalisoma (subgenus of *Capriscus*) Swainson, 1839: 194, 325. Neutral. Type species, *Balistes pulcherrimus* Lesson, 1830. Type by subsequent designation by Swain (1882: 282). The genus was originally spelled *Chalisomus* on p. 194 and 438

and *Chalisoma* on p. 325, but Swain selected *Chalisoma*.

Verrunculus (subgenus of *Balistes*) Jordan, 1924: 82. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes polylepis* Steindachner, 1876. Type by original designation (also monotypic).

Nematobalistes Fraser-Brunner, 1935: 659, 661. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes forcipatus* Gmelin, 1789. Type by original designation (also monotypic).

The genus contains five species.

***Balistes capriscus* Gmelin, 1789:**

Balistes carolinensis Gmelin, 1789: 1468 (type locality, Indian and American seas). No types known. See account of *Balistes capriscus* Gmelin, 1789.

Balistes capriscus Gmelin, 1789: 1471. (type locality, Western North Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean Sea). No types known. Neotype designated by Fricke (1999: 54) is invalid and it was withdrawn in Fricke (2000:639). Daudin in Cloquet, 1816 as a first reviser selected *capriscus* over *carolinensis* (Moore, 1967).

Balistes forcipatus Gmelin, 1789:1472 (type locality, Brazil). No types known.

Balistes capriscus Walbaum 1792: 465 (No locality stated). No types known. Independent of *Balistes capriscus* Gmelin, 1789 and based on *Capriscus salviani* in pre-Linnaean work by Willughby (1686: Pl. I.29)(Parenti, 2002).

Balistes spilopterygius Walbaum, 1792:455 (type locality, American Ocean). No types known.

Balistes buniva Lacepède, 1803:668, 669, Pl. 21 (fig. 1) (type locality, Nice, France). Holotype: MRSNT.

Balistes caper Giorna, 1809: 6 (type locality, Nice, France). No types known.

Balistes annularis Rafinesque, 1810: 16, Pl. 8 (fig. 1) (type locality, Sicily, Italy, Mediterranean Sea). No type known.

Capriscus porcus Rafinesque, 1810:41, 58 (type locality, Sicily, Italy, Mediterranean Sea). No type known.

Balistes fuscatus Rafinesque, 1814: 19 (type locality, Atlantic, between the Azores and U.S.A.). No types known.

Balistes lunulatus Risso, 1827:175(type locality, Nice, France). No types known.

Balistes caprinus Valenciennes, 1839:[94], Pl. 16 (fig. 3) (type locality, Canary Islands). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-1872.

Balistes fuliginosus DeKay, 1842:339, Pl. 54 (fig. 188)(type locality, New York harbor, New York, U.S.A.). No types known.

Balistes capriscus Gronow in Gray, 1854:30 (type locality, Indian and American Oceans). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.187 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin).

Balistes carolinensis Gronow in Gray, 1854:29 (type locality, in mari Carolinam Meridionalem). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.186 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin) Carolinas, U.S.A.

Balistes nebulosus Poey, 1860:328 (type locality, Cuba). No types known.

Baliste staeniopterus Poey, 1860:326 (type locality, Cuba). No types known.

Balistes powellii Cope, 1870:120 (type locality, Newport, Rhode Island, U.S.A.). Holotype (unique): ANSP 804.

Balistes moribundus Cope, 1871:478 (type locality, St. Martin Island, West Indies). Holotype (unique): ANSP 781.

Distribution: Western Atlantic; Mediterranean Sea; Sea of Marmara; Black Sea; eastern Atlantic; including São Tomé and Príncipe.

Comments: *Balistes caper* Giorna, 1809, *Balistes fuscatus* Rafinesque, 1814, *Balistes lunulatus* Risso, 1827, and *Balistes nebulosus* Poey, 1860 are new synonyms.

***Balistes polylepis* Steindachner, 1876:**

?*Balistes castaneus* Richardson, 1845: 126, Pl. 59 (figs. 5-8) (type locality, Pacific. Holotype (unique): BMNH 1848.3.18.22.

Balistes polylepis Steindachner, 1876:69 (type locality, Magdalena Bay, Baja California, Mexico). Syntypes: (several) NMW 63496-500 (1, 1, 1, 1, 2), 76426 (1).

Balistes polylepis rubicundus de Buen, 1959:158, Fig. 17 (type locality, Chile). Holotype (unique): EBMC 10.159.

Distribution: Eastern Pacific: Alaska, U.S.A. (rare) south to Chile; waifs established in Marquesas Islands (South Pacific) and Hawaiian Islands (Central Pacific).

Comments: according to Jordan and Seale (1906) *Balistes castaneus* Richardson, 1845 is a senior synonym of *Balistes polylepis* Steindachner, 1876 with evidently erroneous type locality.

***Balistes punctatus* Gmelin, 1789:**

Balistes punctatus Gmelin, 1789:1472 (type locality, Indian Ocean). No types known.

Balistes ciliaris Bloch and Schneider, 1801:471 (type locality, Marankan, Brazil). Lectotype: ZMB 5900 (1, stuffed). Lectotype selected by Paepke 1999:49.

Balistes guttatus Walbaum, 1792: 467 (No locality stated). No types known.

Balistes radiata Bowdich, 1825: 233, Fig. 45 (type locality, Porta Praya, St. Jago Island, Cape Verde Islands).

Balistes liberiensis Steindachner, 1867a: 64 (type locality, Monrovia, Liberia). Holotype (unique): NMW 63441. Later appeared in more detail in Steindachner 1867b: 525, Pl. 3.

Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Morocco south to Angola, including Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

***Balistes vetula* Linnaeus, 1758:**

Balistes vetula Linnaeus, 1758:329 (type locality, Ascension Island). Syntypes: ZMUU Linn. coll. 101

(1).

Balistes bellus Walbaum, 1792:467 (type locality, West Indies). No types known.

Balistes equestris Gronow in Gray, 1854:31 (type locality, American seas). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.190 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin).

Balistes vetulatrinitatis Nichols and Murphy, 1914:265, Fig. 3 (type locality, Trindade, Martin Vaz Islands, off southeastern Brazil, South Atlantic, 20°31'S, 29°19'W). Holotype (unique): AMNH 5071.

Distribution: Western Atlantic; southern-central Atlantic: Ascension island; eastern Atlantic: including São Tomé and Príncipe.

***Balistes willughbeii* Lay and Bennett, 1839:**

Balistes willughbeii Lay and Bennett, 1839:68, Pl. 21 (fig. 2) (type locality, Acapulco, Mexico). Holotype: Zool. Soc. London (whereabouts unknown). Paratypes: whereabouts unknown.

Distribution: Eastern Central Pacific.

Comment: validity is based on Fedoryako (1979) and Gill and Randall (1997). Not listed among the valid species by Matsuura (2014) who follows Berry and Baldwin (1966) in regarding this species as a synonym of *Canthidermis maculatus* (Bloch, 1786).

Genus *Balistoides* Fraser-Brunner, 1935:

Guaperva Sonnerat (ex Willughby), 1774: 226. Feminine. Type species, *Guaperva communis* Sonnerat, 1774. Type by subsequent designation established in the present work.

Balistoides Fraser-Brunner, 1935: 659, 662. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes viridescens* Bloch and Schneider 1801. Type by original designation.

The genus contains two species.

Comments: *Guaperva* Sonnerat, 1774 predates *Balistoides* Fraser-Brunner, 1935 but it has been never used as valid name and therefore is here regarded as *nomen oblitum* whereas *Balistoides* is here regarded as *nomen protectum*. As required by

the Art. 23.9.1.2, to produce evidence that the junior synonym has been used in at least 25 works, published by at least 10 authors in the immediately preceding 50 years and encompassing a span of not less than 10 years, the following list is presented: Matsuura, 1980, 2001, 2014; Tyler, 1980; Arai, 1983; Masuda *et al.*, 1984; Smith and Heemstra, 1986; Allen and Steene, 1988; Brum *et al.*, 1995; Chen *et al.*, 1995; Donaldson, 1996; Kulbicki and Williams, 1997; Lindberg *et al.*, 1997; Myers, 1999; Randall and Lim, 2000; Allen and Adrim, 2003; Garpe and Öhman, 2003; Randall, 2005; Allen *et al.*, 2006; Alcala *et al.*, 2008; Sahayak *et al.*, 2014, Motomura *et al.*, 2017; Fricke *et al.* 2018; Golani and Fricke, 2018; Fricke *et al.*, 2019.

***Balistoides conspicillum* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801):**

Guaperva maculata Sonnerat, 1774:443, Pl. 2 (type locality, Mauritius and Réunion). No types known.

Balistes niger Bonnaterre (ex Sonnerat), 1788: 10, Pl. 85 (fig. 152) (type locality, Mauritius). No types known. Objectively invalid; preoccupied by *Balistes niger* Bloch 1786. Based on the 'Baliste tacheté' of Sonnerat 1774.

Balistes conspicillum Bloch and Schneider, 1801:474 (type locality, Mauritius). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-3041. Lectotype selected by Paepke (1999: 49) as ZMB 5907 (stuffed) is invalid (Beunier *et al.*, 2008:288).

Balistes nummiferus Hermann, 1804: 298 (type locality, Mauritius). No types known.

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Samoa, north to central Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Australia and Lord Howe Island.

Comments: *Guaperva maculata* Sonnerat, 1774 (Fig. 3) was not used as valid after 1899; therefore reversal of priority in favor of *Balistes conspicillum* Bloch and Schneider, 1801 is followed (Art. 23.9). *Guaperva maculata* Sonnerat, 1774 is here

regarded as *nomen oblitum* and *Balistes conspicillum* Bloch and Schneider, 1801 is here regarded as *nomen protectum*. The list of works reported under the genus are here considered for application of the Code.

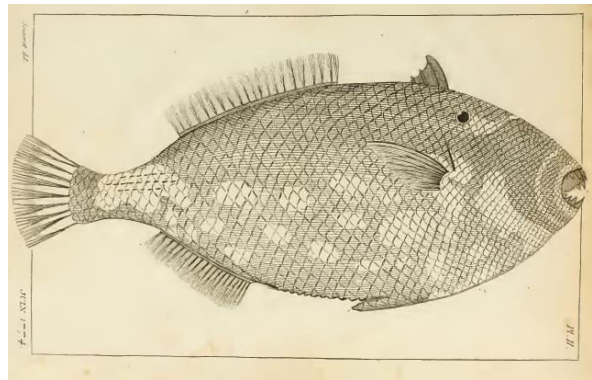


Fig. 3: *Guaperva maculata* Sonnerat 1774, Pl. 2 later reproduced by Bonnaterre (1788) as *Balistes niger* on Pl. 85, fig. 152.

***Balistoides viridescens* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801):**

Guaperva cinerea Sonnerat, 1774c:78 (no locality stated, probably Mauritius). No types known.

Balistes viridescens Bloch and Schneider, 1801:477 (No locality stated). Non-type: MNHN A-8516 (1, dry). Holotype not MNHN A-8516. Based on the 'Baliste verdatre' of Lacepède, 1798: 378.

Balistes brasiliensis Bloch and Schneider, 1801: 470 (type locality, Brazilian seas). Holotype (unique): ?ZMB 5903 (stuffed). Based on le Baliste étoilé of Lacepède, 1798:350, Pl. 15 (fig. 1).

Balistes virescens Shaw, 1804:408 (type locality, Indian Seas). Based on "le Baliste verdatre" of Lacepède.

Pachynathus nigromarginatus Tanaka 1908: 39, Pl. 1 (fig. 4) (type locality, Misaki, Japan). Holotype (unique): ZUMT 958 (lost).

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, Socotra, Seychelles, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Wake Atoll and Pitcairn Group, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Rottneest Island (Western Australia), Seal Rocks (New South Wales, Australia) and Tonga.

Comments: *Balistes virescens* Shaw, 1804 is a new synonym. *Guaperva cinerea* Sonnerat, 1774 was not used as valid after 1899; reversal of priority in favor of *Balistes viridescens* Bloch and Schneider, 1801 is followed (Art. 23.9). Therefore *Guaperva cinerea* Sonnerat, 1774 is here regarded as *nomen oblitum*, whereas *Balistes viridescens* Bloch and Schneider, 1801 is here treated as *nomen protectum*. To give evidence of this decision the following list of works published by at least 10 authors in the immediately preceding 50 years and encompassing a span of not less than 10 years is produced: Matsuura, 2001, 2014; Kyushin *et al.*, 1982; Dor, 1984; Masuda *et al.*, 1984; Smith and Heemstra, 1986; Allen and Steene, 1988; Lieske and Myers, 1994; Brum *et al.*, 1995; Chen *et al.*, 1995; Donaldson, 1996; Kulbicki and Williams, 1997; Myers, 1999; Iwatsuki *et al.*, 2000; Laboute and Grandperrin, 2000; Randall and Lim, 2000; Allen and Adrim, 2003; Randall, 2005; Allen *et al.*, 2006; Sahayak *et al.*, 2014, Motomura and Matsuura, 2010; Koeda *et al.*, 2016; Fricke *et al.*, 2018; Golani and Fricke, 2018; Fricke *et al.*, 2019.

Genus *Canthidermis* Swainson, 1839.

Canthidermis (subgenus of *Balistes*) Swainson, 1839: 194, 325. Feminine. Type species, *Balistes oculatus* Gray, 1831. Type by subsequent designation by Bleeker (1866: 11).

The genus contains four species:

***Canthidermis macrolepis* (Boulenger 1888):**

Balistes macrolepis Boulenger, 1888: 666 (type locality, Muscat, Oman, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea). Lectotype: BMNH 1887.11.11.334 (stuffed). Paralectotypes: BMNH 1887.121.11.335 (1, stuffed). Lectotype selected by Gill and Randall (1997: 27).

Canthidermis villosus Fedoryako, 1979:985 [21], Fig. 1B-C (type locality, Indian Ocean, 12°29'N, 44°23'E). Holotype: ZMMU P-15097. Paratypes: IOM (7).

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: Gulf of Aden, Socotra and southern Oman; Philippines

east to Micronesia, north to Japan.

***Canthidermis maculata* (Bloch, 1786):**

Balistes maculatus Bloch, 1786:25, Pl. 151 (type locality, Tranquebar, India). Lectotype: ZMB 5904 (stuffed). Paralectotypes: ZMB 4140-41 (1, 2). Lectotype selected by Paepke (1999:49).

Balistes americanus Gmelin, 1789: 1473 (type locality, American seas). No types known.

Balistes macropterus Walbaum, 1792: 465 (type locality, American Ocean). No types known.

Balistes bicolor Shaw, 1804: 407, Pl. 168 (top)(type locality, Indian Seas). Based on *Balistes americanus* Gmelin, 1789 and one specimen.

Balistes angulosus Quoy and Gaimard, 1824: 210(type locality, Hawaiian Islands). Holotype: MNHN B-1921. Paratypes: MNHN B-1804 (1) Hawaii, B-1867 (1) no locality, MNHN B-1869 Waigeo.

Balistes (*Canthidermis*) *gaimardii* Swainson, 1839:325. Based on Quoy and Gaimard. Frey. Zool. p. 210. *Nomen novum*; unneeded replacement name for *Balistes angulosus* Quoy and Gaimard, 1824.

Balistes angulosus Hollard, 1854:57 (type locality, Pacific). No types known. Appeared as "*Balistes angulosus* Étiq. du Mus." Apparently independent but preoccupied by *Balistes angulosus* Quoy and Gaimard, 1824; objectively invalid, *nomen praeoccupatum*.

Balistesum Montrouzier, 1857: 495 (type locality, Woodlark Island, South Pacific). No types known.

Balistes oculatus Gray, 1831:no page number, Pl. 90 (fig. 1) (type locality, India). No types known.

Balistes azureus Lesson, 1831:121, Poissons Pl. 10 (fig. 2) (type locality, New Guinea). Holotype (unique): lost. Non-types (too small): MNHN B-1809 (1) Nouvelle-Guinée, A-8520 (1, dry mounted) Bora Bora.

Balistes aureolus Richardson, 1845:126, Pl. 59 (figs. 1-4) (no locality stated). Syntypes: BMNH,

1978.2.1.3-4 (2).

Balistes adpersus Tschudi, 1846:31 (type locality, Huacho, Peru). Holotype (unique): whereabouts unknown.

Balistes senticosus Richardson, 1848: 23, Pl. 9 (figs. 5-8)(type locality, Sea of China). Syntypes: (2) BMNH 1848.3.8.17 (1).

Balistes longus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 37 (type locality, American Ocean). No types known.

Balistes rufus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 36 (type locality, American Ocean). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.193 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin).

Balistes brevissimus Hollard, 1854: 56, Pl. 3 (fig. 1)(type locality, New Guinea and Australia). Syntypes: not found at MNHN.

Balistes longissimus Hollard, 1854: 60, Pl. 3 (fig. 3) (type locality, Vanikoro Island, Santa Cruz Islands, Solomon Islands and Society Islands). Syntypes: ?MNHN B-1806 (1).

Balistes munumum Montrouzier, 1857: 496 (type locality, Woodlark Island, Papua New Guinea). No types known.

Balistes melanopterus Cope, 1871: 478 (type locality, Darien, Panama). No types known.

Canthidermis viola Herre, 1926: 534, Pl. 1 (type locality, Manukan, Cagayan Islands, Sulu Sea, Philippines). Holotype (unique): BSMP (presumed destroyed).

Canthidermis longirostris Tortonese, 1956: 77, Fig. 1 (type locality, Dahlak Island, Red Sea). Holotype (unique): MCZR [Dahlak. Mus. Civ. Zool. Roma] 20162.

Distribution: Circumglobal in tropical and temperate seas (including Gulf of Mexico, Sea of Japan).

***Canthidermis rotundata* (Marion de Procé, 1822):**

Balistus [sic] rotundatus Marion de Procé, 1822: 130 (type locality, Manila Bay, Philippines).

No types known.

Distribution: Indo-Pacific: Sri Lanka east to Society Islands.

***Canthidermis sufflamen* (Mitchill, 1815):**

Balistes sufflamen Mitchill, 1815: 467 (type locality, New York, U.S.A.). No types known.

Balistes macrops Poey, 1860:326(type locality, Cuba). No types known.

Balistes sobaco Poey, 1860: 324(type locality, Havana, Cuba). No types known.

Balistes asperrimus Cope, 1871: 478 (type locality, St. Martin Island, West Indies). Holotype (unique): ANSP 800.

Distribution: Western Atlantic; southern central Atlantic: Saint Helena; eastern Atlantic, including Azores, Madeira, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

Genus *Melichthys* Swainson, 1839:

Melichthys (subgenus of *Balistes*) Swainson, 1839: 194, 325. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes ringens* Osbeck (not of Linnaeus), 1765 (= *Balistes niger* Bloch, 1786). Type by subsequent designation by Bleeker (1866:10).

Oncobalistes Fowler, 1946:213. Masculine. Type species, *Oncobalistes erythropterus* Fowler, 1946. Type by original designation.

The genus contains three species.

***Melichthys indicus* Randall and Klausewitz, 1973:**

?*Capriscus niger* Swainson, 1839: 326 (no locality stated). Holotype (unique): dry skin (whereabouts unknown).

Melichthys indicus Randall and Klausewitz, 1973: (60) 64, Figs. 4-6 (type locality, Goy Huyong, Similian Islands, Thailand [Andaman Sea, eastern Indian Ocean], 8°29'N, 97°39'E, depth 1-4 meters). Holotype: ANSP 105837. Paratypes: BPBM 12513 [ex SMF 4328] (1); MNHN 1954-0040 (2); RMNH 7286 (1); SAIAB [formerly RUSI] 665 (1), 666 (1), 667 (1); SMF 4258 (1), 5234 (1), 8662 (3), 8751

(1), 10972 (23).

Distribution: Indian Ocean: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Seychelles, Madagascar, western Mascarenes, Maldives and Chagos Archipelago east to Myanmar and Sumatra, Java and Bali (Indonesia).

***Melichthys niger* (Bloch, 1786):**

Balistes niger Bloch, 1786: 27, Pl. 152 (fig. 2) (no locality stated). Lectotype: ZMB 5901 (stuffed). Paralectotypes: lost. Plate is labeled *Balistes ringens*. Based in part on *Balistes ringens* Linnaeus, 1758. Lectotype selected by Paepke (1999: 50).

Balistes fuscolineatus Seale, 1901: 9, Fig. 4 (type locality, Honolulu, Oahu Island, Hawaiian Islands). Holotype: BPBM 664. Paratypes: ANSP 88511 (1).

Balistes pellucidus Hermann, 1804: 299 (type locality, Ascension Island). No types known.

Balistes radula Solander in Richardson, 1848: 22 (type locality, Pacific). No types known.

Balistes kibitar Montrouzier, 1857: 494 (type locality, Woodlark Island, Papua New Guinea). No types known.

Balistes piceus Poey, 1863: 180 (type locality, Havana, Cuba). Poey specimens and/or syntypes: ZMB 5920 (1), 8192 (1).

Balistes mauritanus Regan, 1903: 414, Pl. 13 (fig. 4) (type locality, Mauritius). Holotype (unique): MHNG 665.43.

Melichthys bispinosus Gilbert, 1890:125 (type locality, Clarion and Socorro Islands). Syntypes: (many).

Distribution: Circumglobal in tropical and subtropical seas.

Comments: *Balistes pellucidus* Hermann, 1804 is a new synonym. Description of *Balistes radula* Solander is reported by Richardson on pages 22 and 23. Treated as valid as *Melichthys radula* (Solander) by Jenkins (1903:483) and Herre (1936:422). Reported by Le Danois as le *Baliste silloné* Lacepède, 1798 = *Melichthys ringens*

(Osbeck 1763); not Latinized by Le Danois (see Beaunier *et al.*, 2009).

***Melichthys vidua* (Richardson, 1845):**

Balistes vidua Richardson (ex Solander), 1845: 128, Pl. 59 (figs. 9-12) (type locality, Polynesia and Tahiti, Society Islands). Syntypes: BMNH 1972.8.16.1 (1).

Oncobalistes erythropterus Fowler, 1946: 213, Fig. 73 (type locality, Aguni Shima, Ryukyu Islands, Japan). Holotype (unique): ANSP 72087.

Pachynathus nycteris Jordan and Evermann, 1903: 199 (type locality, Honolulu, Oahu Island, Hawaiian Islands). Holotype (unique): USNM 50821.

Balistes kamoharai vidua Abe, 1958: 178 (type locality, Japan). Syntypes: ZUMT 23700 (1), 42402 (1), 44407 (1).

Distribution: Indo-Pacific: East Africa, South Africa and Réunion (western Mascarenes) east to Hawaiian Islands, Line Islands, Marquesas Islands and Gambier Islands, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Great Barrier Reef (Australia), New Caledonia and Tonga; Revillagigedo Archipelago (Mexico).

Genus *Odonus* Gistel, 1848:

Xenodon Rüppell, 1836: 52. Masculine. Type species, *Xenodon niger* Rüppell, 1836. Type by monotypy. Genus is in the part published in 1836, species in 1837. Objectively invalid; preoccupied by *Xenodon* Boie, 1827 in Reptilia, Serpentes, family Colubridae.

Zenodon (subgenus of *Capriscus*) Swainson, 1839:194, 325. Masculine. Misspelling for *Xenodon* Rüppell, 1836.

Odonus Gistel, 1848:XI. Masculine. Type species, *Xenodon (Balistes) niger* Rüppell, 1836. Type by being a replacement name. *Nomen novum*; replacement name for *Xenodon* Rüppell, 1836.

Erythrodon Rüppell, 1852:34. Masculine. Type species, *Xenodon (Balistes) niger* Rüppell, 1836. Type by being a replacement name. *Nomen novum*;

unneded replacement name for *Xenodon* Rüppell, 1836 already replaced by *Odonus* Gistel, 1848.

Pyrodon Kaup, 1855:222. Masculine. Type species, *Xenodon (Balistes) niger* Rüppell, 1836. Type by being a replacement name. *Nomen novum*; unneded replacement for *Xenodon* Rüppell, 1836 already replaced by *Odonus* Gistel, 1848.

The genus contains a single species.

***Odonus niger* (Rüppell, 1836):**

Xenodon (Balistes) niger Rüppell, 1836:53, Pl. 14 (fig. 3) (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). Lectotype: SMF 5232 (dry). Possible paralectotype: NRM 35986 (1). Dates to publication of Pl. 14 in, 1836, p. 53 in 1837. Lectotype selected by Fricke (1999: 581).

Balistes erythron Günther, 1870: 228 (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). *Nomen novum*; replacement name for *Xenodon niger* Rüppell, secondarily preoccupied by *Balistes niger* Park 1797 when both species are in *Balistes*.

Zenodon caeruleorum Fowler, 1904: 546, Pl. 24 (upper fig.) (type locality, Padang, Sumatra, Indonesia). Holotype: ANSP 27763. Paratypes: (2) ANSP 27764 (1).

Distribution: Red Sea, Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Seychelles, Madagascar and western Mascarenes east to Marquesas Islands and Society Islands, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to southern Great Barrier Reef (Queensland, Australia), New Caledonia and Tonga.

Comments: *Zenodon caeruleorum* Fowler, 1904 is a new synonym.

Genus *Pseudobalistes* Bleeker, 1865:

Pseudobalistes (subgenus of *Balistes*) Bleeker, 1865: Pls. 218, 225. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes flavimarginatus* Rüppell, 1829. Type by monotypy.

Parabalistes (subgenus of *Balistes*) Bleeker, 1865:Pl. 225. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes chrysopilos* Bleeker 1853. Type by monotypy.

The genus contains three species.

***Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus* (Rüppell, 1829):**

Balistes flavimarginatus Rüppell, 1829:33 (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). Holotype: SMF 2933 (dry). Non-types: SMF 4434 (1, skeleton).

Balistes beeri Bleeker 1860:53 (type locality, Badjoa, Sulawesi, Indonesia). Holotype (unique): whereabouts unknown.

Balistes papuensis Macleay, 1883:279 (type locality, Hood Bay, Papua New Guinea). Holotype (unique): AMS I.9110.

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Comoros, Madagascar and western Mascarenes east to Marshall Islands and Tuamotu Archipelago, north to central Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Great Barrier Reef (Queensland, Australia) and New Caledonia.

Comments: *Balistes papuensis* Macleay, 1883 is a new synonym (Fig. 4). It has been described having 26 dorsal soft rays, 25 anal soft rays, color greenish with rounded dark spots scattered over the sides of the body and one or two darkish cross bars on the soft dorsal and anal fins, and three on the roundish caudal fin.



Fig. 4: The holotype of *Balistes papuensis* Macleay 1883. Photo by Kerry Parkinson, Australian Museum Research Institute.

***Pseudobalistes fuscus* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801):**

Balistes fuscus Bloch and Schneider, 1801:471 (No

locality stated). Syntypes: MNHN B-3043 (1) Mer des Indes, B-3044 (1) Mer des Indes. Neotype designation by Fricke (1999:583) is invalid (Fricke 2000:639). Based on the "Baliste grande tache" of Lacepède (1798:378).

Balistes signatus Shaw, 1804:416 (type locality, Indian Seas). Based on "Baliste grand-tache" of Lacepède.

Balistes caeruleus Rüppell, 1829:32, Pl. 7 (fig. 2) (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). Lectotype: SMF 105. Paralectotypes: SMF 2936-37 (2), 2950 (1). Lectotype established by Dor (1984:276).

Balistes rivulatus Rüppell 1837:56, Pl. 16 (fig. 2) (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). Lectotype: SMF 279. Paralectotypes: SMF 2950 (1), 4430 (1). Lectotype established by Dor (1984:277).

Capriscus (Pachynathus) triangularis Swainson, 1839:326. (no locality stated). Based on Russell, 1803, Pl. 20. No type known.

Balistes chrysopilos Bleeker, 1853:94 (type locality, Lawajong, Solor Island, Indonesia). Bleeker specimens: ? BMNH 1864.11.28.131 (1).

Balistes reticulatus Hollard, 1854: 312 (type locality, Tongatapu, Tonga, south Pacific; Réunion). Syntypes: MNHN B-1877 (1) Tonga-Tabou, MNHN A-8509 (1, dry) Réunion.

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Seychelles, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Marshall Islands and Tuamotu Archipelago, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Australia and New Caledonia.

Comments: *Balistes signatus* Shaw, 1804 and *Capriscus (Pachynathus) triangularis* Swainson, 1839 are new synonyms. Sahayak *et al.* (2014) regarded *Parabalistes* Bleeker, 1866 as valid and used *Parabalistes fuscus* as valid combination for this species. However, this decision was not followed by most authors (e.g. Fricke *et al.*, 2019; Zajonz *et al.*, 2019; Psomadakis *et al.*, 2020).

***Pseudobalistes naufragium* (Jordan and Starks 1895):**

Balistes naufragium Jordan and Starks, in Jordan, 1895:488 (type locality, Astillero at Mazatlán, Sinaloa, western Mexico). Holotype: CAS-SU 11656. Paratypes: (4) BMNH 1895.5.27.330 (1), CAS-SU 1656 (1), ZMB 14084 (1).

Distribution: Eastern Pacific: Baja California to Ecuador.

Genus *Rhinecanthus* Swainson, 1839:

Rhinecanthus (subgenus of *Balistes*) Swainson, 1839:194, 325. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes ornatissimus* Lesson, 1831. Type by subsequent designation by Swain (1882:282).

The genus contains seven species:

***Rhinecanthus aculeatus* (Linnaeus, 1758):**

Balistes aculeatus Linnaeus, 1758:328 (type locality, Indo-West Pacific). No types known. Neotype designation by Fricke (1999: 584) is invalid (Fricke, 2000: 639).

Balistes ornatissimus Lesson, 1831: 119, Poissons Pl. 10 (fig. 1) (type locality, Bora Bora, Society Islands). Holotype (unique): Not found at MNHN. Non-types (too small): MNHN B-1796 (1), B-1800 (1), B-1802 (1), B-1876 (1).

Balistes ornatissimus Swainson, 1838: 190, Fig. 25 (no locality stated). No type known. *Nomen praecuratum* objectively invalid, preoccupied by *Balistes ornatissimus* Lesson, 1831.

Balistes striatus Gronow in Gray, 1854:32 (type locality, American Ocean). No types known.

Balistes heteracanthus Bleeker, 1859: 22 (type locality, Doreh Bay, off Manokwari, West Papua, Indonesia, New Guinea, ca. 0°53'25"S 134°05'29"E). Syntypes: RMNH 7260 (2).

Monacanthus cheverti Alleyne and Macleay, 1877:355, Pl. 17 (fig. 3) (no locality stated, but based on the Chevert Expedition it can be deduced northern Queensland, Australia, or Papua New Guinea). No types known.

Balistapus aculeatus var. *obscurus* Borodin, 1930: 62 (type locality, Oahu Island, Hawaiian Islands). Holotype: VMM 638 (now at AMNH).

Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Senegal, South Africa; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Pitcairn Group, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to southern New South Wales (Australia) and Lord Howe Island.

***Rhinecanthus abyssus* Matsuura and Shiobara, 1989:**

Rhinecanthus abyssus Matsuura and Shiobara, 1989:315, Fig. 1 (type locality, off northeastern coast of Kume-jima Island, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 26°21.0'N, 126°50.5'E, depth 150 meters). Holotype: NSMT-P 30093. Paratypes: MSM-89-37 (1), NSMT-P 30661 (1).

Distribution: Western Pacific: presently known to occur only at Ryukyu Islands.

***Rhinecanthus assasi* (Fabricius, 1775):**

Balistes assasi Fabricius in Niebuhr (ex Forsskål), 1775:75, xiv (type locality, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Red Sea). No types known.

Distribution: Red Sea; northwestern Indian Ocean: Socotra, Gulf of Oman, Persian Gulf.

***Rhinecanthus cinereus* (Bonnaterre, 1788):**

Balistes cinereus Bonnaterre (ex Sonnerat), 1788: 20, Pl. 86 (fig. 353) (type locality, Mauritius). No types known. Based on the 'Baliste cendré' of Sonnerat, 1744:78.

Balistes arcuatus Bloch and Schneider, 1801:466 (type locality, Indian Ocean). No types known.

Distribution: Western Indian Ocean: Comoro Islands, Madagascar, western Mascarenes, Maldives.

***Rhinecanthus echarpe* (Anonymous, 1798):**

Balistes echarpe Anonymous (ex Lacepède), 1798:681, 685 (type locality, Mauritius). Syntypes: MNHN B-3047 (3, dry).

Balistes rectangulus Bloch and Schneider (ex Lacepède and Commerson), 1801:465 (type locality, Mauritius). Syntypes: MNHN B-3047 (3, dry). Based on the 'Baliste écharpe' of Lacepède (1798:352).

Balistes fasciatus Shaw, 1804:409 (type locality, Indian Seas). Based on "Baliste echarpe" of Lacepède.

Balistes medinilla Quoy and Gaimard, 1824:206, Pl. 46 (fig. 2) (type locality, îles des Papous). Holotype (unique): Not at MNHN. Non-type: MNHN B-1789 (1).

Balistes erythropteron Lesson, 1831:123, Poissons Pl. 10 (fig. 3) (type locality, Bora Bora, Society Islands). Holotype (unique): Not found at MNHN. Non-types: MNHN B-1847 (1) Waigeo, 0000-3154 (1) Waigeo.

Balistes erythropterus Swainson, 1838:193, Fig. 27 (no locality stated). No types known.

Balistes cinctus Hollard, 1854:335 (type locality, Pacific Ocean). Syntypes: ?MNHN B-1847 (1) Waigeo, ?MNHN B-1789 (1) Vanikoro, ?MNHN 0000-3154 (1) Waigeo.

Balistes garnoti Castelnau, 1873: 107 (type locality, Noble Island, Torres Strait, Queensland, Australia). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-1934.

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Hawaiian Islands and Pitcairn Group, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Lord Howe Island and Kermadec Islands.

Comments: *Balistes fasciatus* Shaw, 1804 is a new synonym.

***Rhinecanthus lunula* Randall and Steene, 1983:**

Rhinecanthus lunula Randall and Steene, 1983:46, Figs. 8-10 (type locality, Outside barrier reef about 1/4 mile east of Teavaraa Pass, Papara, Tahiti, Society Islands, depth 15 meters). Holotype: BPBM 8995. Paratypes: BMNH 1981.12.31.1 (1); BPBM 17177 (1), 24459 (1); CAS 44268 (1); USNM 220357 (1).

Distribution: Western Pacific: Queensland, Australia to Pitcairn Island.

***Rhinecanthus verrucosus* (Linnaeus, 1758):**

Balistes verrucosus Linnaeus, 1758:328 (type locality, India). Holotype (unique): NRM LP 38.

Balistes viridis Bloch and Schneider, 1801:476 (type locality, Indian Ocean). No types known. Based on "Le Baliste pralin" (Lacepède, 1798:363).

Balistes unimaculatus Shaw, 1804:410 (type locality, Indian Seas). Based on "Le Baliste Pralin" of Lacepède.

Balistes praslinensis Quoy and Gaimard, 1824:205, Pl. 46 (fig. 1) (type locality, Praslin Island; Waigeo, Indonesia). Holotype: MNHN B-1769.

Balistes praslinoides Lesson, 1831:117, Pl. 9 (fig. 3) (type locality, Port Praslin, New Ireland Island, Bismarck Archipelago). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-1771.

Balistes melanopleura Bleeker, 1849:73 (type locality, Makassar, Sulawesi, Indonesia). No types known.

Balistes praslensis Hollard, 1854:332 (type locality, Mer des Indes et Polynesie). Syntypes: MNHN B-1769 (1) Waigeo, B-1771 (1) Port Praslin, B-1772 (1) Vanikoro, B-1768 (1) Waigeo, B-1844 (1) Mer des Indes, B-1901 (1) Mer des Indes. MNHN B-1769 is also the holotype of *Balistes praslinensis* Quoy and Gaimard, 1824; MNHN B-1771 is also the holotype of *Balistes praslinoides* Lesson 1831. Based on "Le Baliste Pralin" of Lacepède.

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: Gulf of Aden, East Africa, Seychelles, Mauritius (Mascarenes) and Chagos Archipelago east to Philippines, New Ireland (Papua New Guinea) and Vanuatu, north to southern Japan, south to Australia and New Caledonia.

Comments: *Balistes melanopleura* Bleeker, 1849 is a new synonym.

Genus *Sufflamen* Jordan, 1916:

Cotilla Billberg, 1833:52. Feminine. Type species, *Cotilla frenata* Billberg, 1833. Type by monotypy. Based on the "Baliste bride" of Lacepède (1798:378). Not used as valid after 1899; therefore reversal of priority in favor of *Sufflamen* Jordan 1916 is followed (ICZN Art. 23.9). Declared as *nomen oblitum* by Kullander (2016:109).

Pachynathus (subgenus of *Capriscus*) Swainson, 1839:194, 326. Masculine. Type species, *Pachynathus triangularis* Swainson 1839 (= *Balistes capistratus* Shaw 1804). Type by monotypy. Regarded as a misspelling for *Pachygnathus* (Opinion 29) and therefore preoccupied by *Pachygnathus* Dugès 1834 in Arthropoda Arachnida, Acari, family Halacaridae; replaced by *Sufflamen* Jordan 1916.

Sufflamen Jordan, 1916:27. Neutral. Type species, *Balistes capistratus* Shaw, 1804. Type by being a replacement name. Replacement for *Pachynathus* Swainson, 1839.

Hemibalistes (subgenus of *Sufflamen*) Fraser-Brunner, 1935:662. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes bursa* Bloch and Schneider, 1801. Type by subsequent designation by Smith (1949:409). Not available from Fraser-Brunner, 1935 as no type was designated: see remarks on Art. 13.3 in Appendix A in Eschmeyer (1990:648).

The genus contains five species:

***Sufflamen albicaudatum* (Rüppell, 1829):**

Balistes albicaudatus Rüppell, 1829:33 (type locality, Massawa, Eritrea, Red Sea). Lectotype: SMF 907. Paralectotypes: SMF 2941 (1, dry), 5247 (1). Lectotype established by Dor (1984:277).

Distribution: Red Sea, northwestern Indian Ocean: Gulf of Oman to Persian Gulf.

***Sufflamen bursa* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801):**

Guaperva communis Sonnerat, 1774a: 226, Pl. 1, fig. 1 (type locality, Mauritius). No type known.

Balistes communis Bonnaterra (ex Sonnerat), 1788: 19, Pl. 85 (fig. 351) (type locality,

Mauritius). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-3050. Based on Sonnerat, 1774.

Balistes bursa Bloch and Schneider (ex Sonnerat and Bonnaterre), 1801: 476 (type locality, in mare Indicum). Holotype (unique): MNHN B-3050. Based on the 'Baliste bourse' of Bonnaterre and Sonnerat; *nomen novum*; replacement name for *Balistes communis* Bonnaterre 1788.

Balistes sonneratii Shaw, 1804: 406 (type locality, Mauritius and Tahiti). No types known.

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Hawaiian Islands and Pitcairn Group, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Australia, New Caledonia and Rapa.

Comments: *Guaperva communis* Sonnerat, 1774 (Fig. 5) and *Balistes sonneratii* Shaw, 1804 are new synonyms. *Guaperva communis* Sonnerat, 1774 is erroneously treated as senior synonym of *Balistoides viridescens* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801). *Guaperva communis* Sonnerat, 1774 and *Balistes communis* Bonnaterre, 1788 were not used as valid after 1899; therefore reversal of priority in favor of *Balistes bursa* Bloch and Schneider, 1801 is followed (Art. 23.9). To give reason of this decision the following 25 works are selected as required by the Art. 23.9.1.2: Matsuura, 1980, 2001, 2014; Dor, 1984; Masuda *et al.*, 1984; Smith and Heemstra, 1986; Allen and Steene, 1988; Lieske and Myers, 1994; Brum *et al.*, 1995; Chen *et al.*, 1995; Donaldson, 1996; Kulbicki and Williams, 1997; Myers, 1999; Iwatsuki *et al.*, 2000; Laboute and Grandperrin, 2000; Randall and Lim, 2000; Allen and Adrim, 2003; Randall, 2005; Allen *et al.*, 2006; Sahayak *et al.*, 2014; Motomura and Matsuura, 2010; Koeda *et al.*, 2016; Fricke *et al.*, 2018; Golani and Fricke, 2018; Fricke *et al.*, 2019.

***Sufflamen chrysopterum* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801):**

Balistes niger Park, 1797: 37 (type locality, in Sumatræ littore). Holotype (unique): BMNH 1863.11.12.10 (dry, right half skin). Objectively

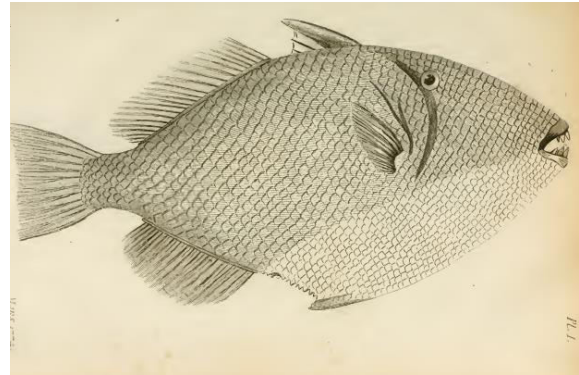


Fig. 5: *Guaperva communis* illustrated by Sonnerat (1774, Pl. 1) and by Bonnaterre (1788, Pl. 85, fig. 351) as *Balistes communis*.

invalid; *nomen praeoccupatum*, preoccupied by *Balistes niger* Bloch 1786 [= *Melichthys niger* (Bloch 1786)].

Balistes chrysopterus Bloch and Schneider, 1801:466 (type locality, Coromandel Coast, India). Syntypes: MNHN A-8542 (2, dry) Indian Seas, B-3045 (1, dry) Coromandel; ZMB 5912 (1, right skin) Tranquebar.

Balistes mungopark Lacepède 1802: 681, 682 (type locality, Sumatra, Indonesia). Replacement name for *Balistes niger* Park, 1797.

Balistes subarmatus Gray 1831:no page number, Pl. 90 (fig. 3) (type locality, not stated). Appeared as *submaratus* in list of figures and as *gubarmatus* on plate. The list of plates apparently precedes the plate (checked on BHL).

Balistes verrucosus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 33 (type locality, Indian seas). Holotype (unique): BMNH 1853.11.12.194 [Gronovius coll.] (skin). Objectively invalid; preoccupied by *Balistes verrucosus* Linnaeus, 1758.

Balistes humilis Herre, 1924: 434 (type locality, South coast of Cotabato Province, Mindanao, Philippines). Holotype: BSMP 10252 (presumed destroyed). Paratypes: BSMP (31) presumed destroyed.

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Persian Gulf, Socotra, Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Samoa, north to central Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to

Australia, Lord Howe Island and New Caledonia.

Comments: *Balistes humilis* Herre, 1924 was regarded as doubtful species by Herre (1953:827) as founded on a juvenile specimens of 25-32 mm in length. Misspelled *humilus* in the ECoF (Fricke *et al.*, 2021). Based on the examined description it is regarded as new synonym of *Sufflamen chrysopterum*.

***Sufflamen fraenatum* (Latreille, 1804):**

Balistes fraenatus Latreille, 1804: 74 (no locality stated). No types at MNHN. Neotype designation by Fricke (1999:588) is invalid (Fricke. 2000:639).

Balistes capistratus Shaw, 1804: 417 (type locality, Indian Seas). No types known. Based on "Baliste bridé" of Lacepède. Neotype designation by Fricke (1999:588) is invalid (Fricke, 2000:639).

Balistes amboinensis Gray, 1831: no page number, Pl. 90 (Fig. 2). No types known.

Balistes mitis Bennett, 1832:169 (type locality, Mauritius). No types known. Neotype designation by Fricke (1999:588) is invalid (Fricke 2000:639).

Cotilla frenata Billberg, 1833:52 (no locality stated). No types at MNHN. Based on "Le Baliste Bridé" of Lacepède, 1798: 378 [2708], which is based on the "*Balistes totus niger*" of Commerson.

?*Balistes hihpe* Richardson 1845: 127, Pl. 60 (fig. 2) (type locality, China Seas, Canton). No types known.

Distribution: Red Sea; Indo-West Pacific: East Africa, South Africa, Socotra, Madagascar and Mascarenes east to Hawaiian Islands and Pitcairn Group, north to southern Japan and Ogasawara Islands, south to Australia, New Caledonia, Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island.

***Sufflamen verres* (Gilbert and Starks, 1904):**

Balistes verres Gilbert and Starks, 1904:153, Pl. 26 (fig. 49)] (type locality, Pacific Panama). Holotype: CAS-SU 6805. Paratypes: (5) BMNH 1903.5.15.352 [from Jordan] (1), CAS-SU 6905 (1).

Distribution: Eastern Pacific: Baja California to

Ecuador, including Clipperton Island.

Genus *Xanthichthys* Kaup, 1856:

Xanthichthys Kaup in Richardson, 1856:313. Masculine. Type species, *Balistes curassavicus* Gmelin 1789. Type by monotypy.

The genus contains seven valid species.

***Xanthichthys auromarginatus* (Bennett, 1832):**

Balistes auromarginatus Bennett, 1832: 168 (type locality, Mauritius). Holotype (unique): BMNH 1856.2.15.15 [ex Zool. Soc.].

Balistes guttuerosus Hollard, 1854:63 (type locality, Réunion). Holotype (unique): Not found at MNHN (Beaunier *et al.*, 2009:296).

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific: western Mascarenes and Chagos Archipelago east to Hawaiian Islands, north to Ryukyu Islands, south to southern Australia and New Caledonia.

***Xanthichthys caeruleolineatus* Randall, Matsuura and Zama, 1978:**

Xanthichthys caeruleolineatus Randall, Matsuura and Zama, 1978:701, Figs. 2D, 7 (type locality, 4 kilometers southeast of pass, Manihi Atoll, Tuamotu Archipelago, depth 350 feet). Holotype: BPBM 13211. Paratypes: AMS IB.1889 (1); BPBM 10016 (1); CAS 38035 (1); HUMZ 35534 (1), 40586-87 (2), 41474-75 (2), 42302 (1); MTUF 21837-38 (2); TUFIL 958 (1); USNM 202851 (3), 216524 (2).

Xenobalistes punctatus Heemstra and Smith, 1983:1, Figs. 1-3 (type locality, Beach at Van Stadens River mouth, eastern Cape Province, South Africa). Holotype (unique): SAIAB [formerly RUSI] 17546.

Distribution: Indo-Pacific: Saint Brandon's Shoals, Agalega Islands and Maldives east to Central America (Galápagos Islands), north to Ryukyu Islands, Ogasawara Islands and Hawaiian Islands, south to northern Australia.

***Xanthichthys greenei* Pyle and Earle, 2013:**

Xanthichthys greenei Pyle and Earle, 2013:3, Figs.

1-2 [type locality, Kiribati Atoll, directly off fuel tanks near London, outside of freighter ship, 1°59'7884"N, 157.29'10.32"W, depth 300 feet (90 meters), Line Atoll]. Holotype: BPBM 40262. Paratypes: CAS 236267 [ex BPBM 40342] (1); BPBM 40228 (1), 40342 (2), 40342 (1).

Distribution: Kiribati Atoll, Line Islands.

***Xanthichthys lima* (Bennett, 1832):**

Balistes lima Bennett, 1832: 168 (type locality, Mauritius). No types known.

Distribution: Western Indian Ocean.

***Xanthichthys lineopunctatus* (Hollard, 1854):**

Balistes lineopunctatus Hollard, 1854: 65 (type locality, Réunion). Holotype (?): MNHN A-8529 (dry mounted). Possible type: MNHN 0000-4071 (1). Type catalog: Le Danois (1961:519) as holotype A.8529 and paratype, 4071. However, Hollard based his description on a single specimen; therefore specimen 4071 do not have a type status (Beaunier *et al.*, 2009: 290).

Distribution: Indo-West Pacific, antiequatorial: East Africa, South Africa, Comoro Islands and western Mascarenes east to Philippines and New Guinea, north to southern Japan, south to northern Australia.

***Xanthichthys mento* (Jordan and Gilbert, 1882):**

Balistes mento Jordan and Gilbert, 1882: 228 (type locality, Clarion Island, Revillagigedo Islands, off western Mexico). Holotype (unique): USNM 28387.

Xanthichthys gotonis Tanaka, 1918: 481, Pl. 131 (fig. 372) (type locality, Tokyo market, said to have come from Izu, Japan). Holotype: ZUMT 7626 (lost). Paratypes: 7627-29 (3, lost).

Xanthichthys purus Tanaka, 1918: 484, Pl. 133 (fig. 374) (type locality, Tokyo market, said to have come from Izu, Japan). Holotype (unique): ZUMT 7625 (lost).

Xanthichthys surcatus de Buen, 1963: 63, Fig. 30 (type locality, Cook Bay, Easter Island). Holotype

(unique): CIZ.

Distribution: Pacific, antitropical: southern Japan east to Hawaiian Islands and eastern Pacific from California (U.S.A.) to Colombia; Pitcairn and Easter Island.

***Xanthichthys ringens* (Linnaeus, 1758):**

Balistes ringens Linnaeus, 1758: 329 (type locality, Ascension Island). Syntypes: NRM 39 (1). Lectotype selected by Randall *et al.* (1978: 694).

Balistes nigra Osbeck, 1771:93 (type locality, Ascension Island). *Nomen novum*; unneeded new name for *Balistes ringens* Linnaeus, 1758.

Balistes curassavicus Gmelin, 1789:1472 (type locality, Curaçao). No types known.

Balistes calolepis Hollard in Guichenot, 1853:183 (type locality, Mauritius). Lectotype: MNHN B-1868. Appeared first as above with citation to Hollard [manuscript] and to Parra citation taken from Hollard. described as new in Hollard, 1854:67, Pl. 3 (fig. 5). Lectotype as MNHN B-1868 from Mauritius selected by Randall (1978:698).

Balistes elongatus Hollard, 1854:69 (type locality, Azores, northeastern Atlantic). Holotype (unique): MNHN (not found).

Balistes nitidus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 36 (type locality, American Ocean). Holotype (unique): BMNH 1853.11.12.189 [Gronovius coll.] (skin).

Balistes notatus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 36 (type locality, several localities). Syntypes: BMNH 1853.11.12.188 [Gronovius coll.] (1, skin) "Utrisque Indiis".

Balistes cicatricosus Poey, 1860: 327 (type locality, Cuba). Holotype: MCZ 11953.

Balistes heckelii Müller, 1864: 183 (type locality, Mexico). No types known.

Distribution: Western Atlantic; southern-central Atlantic: Ascension Island.

Genus *Xenobalistes* Matsuura, 1981:

Xenobalistes Matsuura, 1981:191. Masculine. Type

species, *Xenobalistes tumidipectoris* Matsuura, 1981. Type by original designation.

The genus contains a single species.

***Xenobalistes tumidipectoris* Matsuura, 1981:**

Xenobalistes tumidipectoris Matsuura, 1981:192, Figs. 1-10 (type locality, Off Marianas Islands, 20°33'N, 145°15'E; stomach content). Holotype (unique): NSMT-P 18666 (dissected, stained).

Distribution: Mariana Islands and Ryukyu Islands but believed to be widely distributed in the tropical and subtropical regions of the West Pacific (Matsuura and Toda, 2012).

Comments: some authors questioned the validity of this tiny species, hypothesizing to represent a juvenile of *Xanthichthys caeruleolineatus* (Winterbottom, pers. comm., 5 Apr. 2006 in Fricke *et al.*, 2021).

Species listed in Balistidae that do not belong to the family:

Balistes bipes Gronow in Gray, 1854: 37 (type locality, American Ocean). No types known.

Comments: here regarded a junior synonym of *Triacanthus biaculeatus* (Bloch, 1786), Triacanthidae.

Balistes hispidulus Gronow in Gray, 1854: 35 (type locality, Indian seas). No types known.

Comments: *species inquirenda* in Monacanthidae.

Balistes linguatula Gronow in Gray, 1854: 35 (type locality, Indian seas). No types known. Based on Klein, 1742, Pl. 3, Fig. 11.

Comments: the Klein's species (Fig. 6) has been described by Walbaum (1792) as *Balistes barbatus* which is a junior synonym of *Aluterus monoceros* (Linnaeus, 1758). For details see Parenti (2002). Monacanthidae.

Balistes marmoratus Marion de Procé 1822:130. (type locality, Mer des Indes). No types known.

Comments: *species inquirendae* in Monacanthidae.

Balistes pellion Quoy and Gaimard, 1824-25:211,

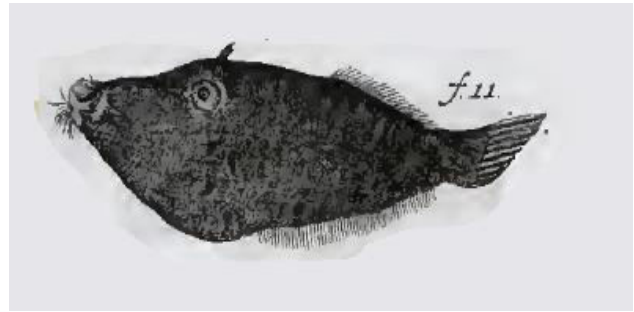


Fig. 6: The fish described by Klein (1742) as "*Capriscus capite triangulo, gutturoso, ore admodum parvo, barbatus, unico parvo aculro recurvo...*" on which the name *Balistes linguatula* Gronow in Gray, 1854 is based.

Pl. 45 (Figs. 3-8) (type locality, South Australia). Holotype: MNHN B-2028.

Comments: synonym of *Chaetoderma penicilligera* (Cuvier 1816), Monacanthidae (Fig. 7).

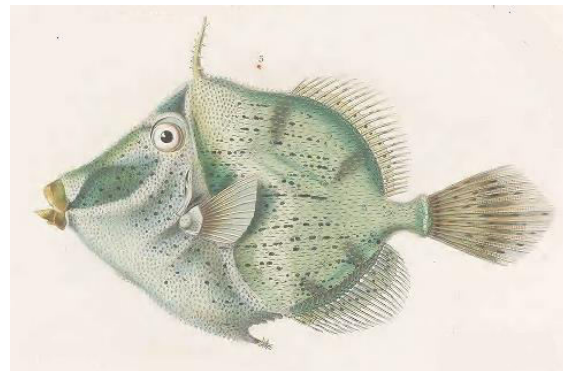


Fig. 7: Reproduction of *Balistes pellion* Quoy and Gaimard, 1824.

Balistes papillosus Linnaeus 1758: 328 (no locality stated). No types known.

May be a senior synonym of *Chaetoderma penicilligera* (Cuvier 1816). Monacanthidae.

Monacanthus villosus Hollard (ex Ehrenberg), 1854:333, Pl. 12 (fig. 2) (no locality stated). Holotype: MNHN B-2033 or B-2034.

Comments: a synonym of *Chaetoderma penicilligera* (Cuvier 1816), Monacanthidae (Fig. 8).

Genus *Tobinia* Whitley, 1933:

Tobinia Whitley, 1933. Feminine. Type species, *Tobinia paragaudata* Whitley, 1933. Type by

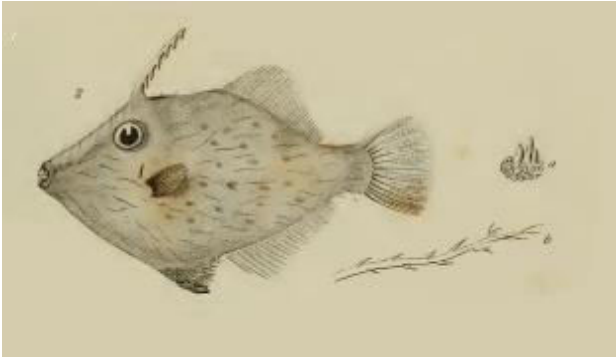


Fig. 8: *Monacanthus villosus* Hollard, 1854.

subsequent designation.

Comments: The figure published by Whitley, 1933 at p. 47, right bottom is here selected as type species. The genus is here regarded as a junior synonym of *Acanthaluteres* Bleeker, 1865, family Monacanthidae.

Tobinia paragaudata Whitley, 1933:47, fig. right bottom.(type locality, Tasmania, Australia). Based on figure and description the nominal species is a junior synonym of *Acanthaluteres spilomelanurus* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824), Monacanthidae.

Nomina nuda and names not available nomenclature being on Official Index of rejected work in zoology.

Balistes albifasciatus Kuhl and van Hasselt in Bleeker, 1851:16. Name mentioned in the synonymy of *Balistes aculeatus*.

Balistes albipunctatus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes albomarginatus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes batillium Nardo (ex Chiereghini) 1847: col. 111. Chiereghini name and description mentioned in synonymy. Also not available from Ninni (1872: 39) where Chiereghini manuscript is quoted but name not treated as valid.

Balistes cirrhosus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829: 34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes dichrostigma Duméril (ex Guichenot), 1861:261. No distinguishing features; from Gorée, Senegal. Guichenot's manuscript was based on MNHN B-1825 (Le Danois 1961:515).

Balistes fimbriatus Forster in Richardson, 1845:128. Name mentioned in synonymy of *Balistes vidua*; from Tahiti.

Balistes fuscus Commerson in Lacepède, 1798:378. No locality. Appeared as "*Balistes fuscus, maculâ pectorali maximâ, postremisque pinnarum marginibus albis,....*"; regarded as non-binominal and not available (ICZN Opinion 89).

Balistes griseus Commerson in Lacepède, 1798:350, Pl. 15 (fig. 1). Appeared as "*Balistes griseus, dorso maculis lenticularibus*"; regarded as non-binominal, mentioned in footnote, thus not available; from Mauritius (ICZN Opinion 89).

Balistes guttatus Cuvier, 1816:153. Name only; also as name only in Cuvier (1829:374).

Balistes kib Montrouzier 1857:495. Name added in synonymy of *Balistes lineatus* Bloch and Schneider, 1801.

Balistes membranaceus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes mordax Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829: 34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes niger Commerson in Lacepède, 1798: 370. Appeared as "*Balistes niger, lineâ albâ dorsi Commerson*"; regarded as non-binominal and name only, thus not available (ICZN Opinion 89).

Balistes nigricans Commerson in Lacepède, 1798:375. Appeared as "*Balistes nigricans; rostro, maculis, pinnis pectoris, dorsi, ani, dimidiâque caudâ, exalbidis;*"; regarded as non-binominal and first published in synonymy, thus not available (ICZN Opinion 89).

Balistes nigricans Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829: 34. Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes nigropunctatus Osbeck, 1765: 147. South China Sea, southwest of Macao, China. Originally as *nigro-punctatus*. Name and locality only.

Balistes punctatus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34 Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes quadrilineatus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34 Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes ruficaudus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34 Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Balistes villosus Cuvier, 1816:153. Name only, not available; also as name only in Cuvier (1829:374).

Balistes spinosus Meuschen, 1778:23. Not available, published in a rejected work (Opinion 260). Suppressed.

Balistes tamaked Montrouzier, 1857:493. Manuscript name mentioned in synonymy under species allocated by Thiollière as *Balistes verrucosus*; from Woodlark I., South Pacific.

Balistes trilineatus Ehrenberg in Rüppell, 1829:34 Name mentioned in the footnote, without description.

Capriscus rondeletii Plumierin Lacepède, 1798:372. Name only.

Capriscus variegatus Plumier in Lacepède, 1798:337. Appeared as "*Capriscus variegatus, caudâ fusinulatâ...*"; regarded as non-binominal and name only, thus not available.

Chaetodon vetula Forsskål, 1775: xviii. Name only; from Malta.

Species *incertae sedis*

Balistes armatus Bloch and Schneider, 1801:469 (type locality, Tranquebar [Tharangambadi], India). No types known.

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