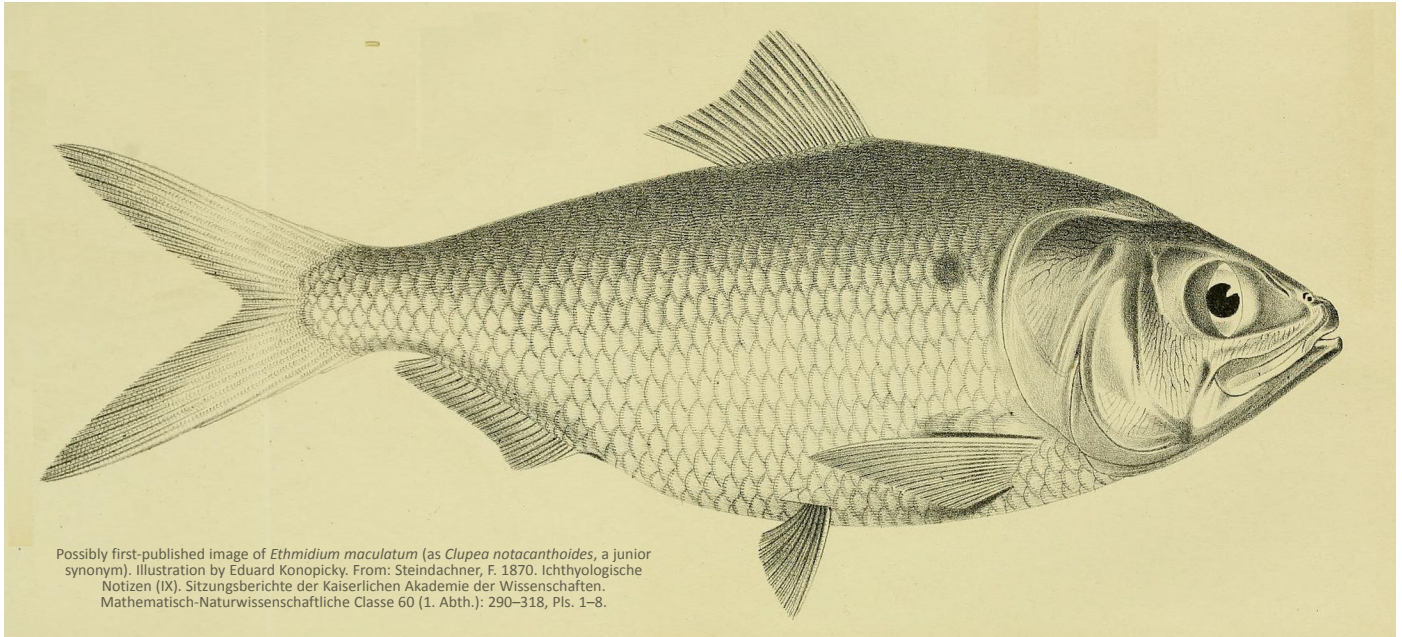


Order CLUPEIFORMES

Herrings and Sprats

Family **CLUPEIDAE**

Cuvier 1816



Clupea
Linnaeus 1758

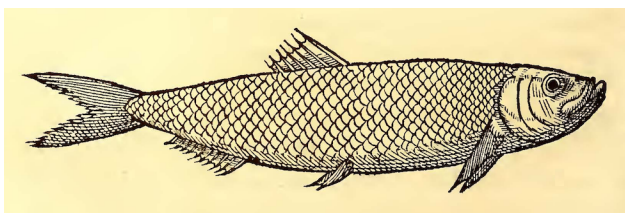
Latin vernacular for a herring-like fish, perhaps derived from Clypea or Clupea, a North African coastal town (2nd century BC) whose name was confused by Renaissance naturalists (e.g., Rondelet and Salviani) with a fish (probably a lamprey) but also applied by Giovio (1524), along with “*alosa*,” for the species now known as *Alosa alosa* (Alosidae)

Clupea harengus Linnaeus 1758 Medieval Latin for herring, probably derived from an Old English (*hæring*, *heringas*), Old Frisian (*hêreng*), Old High German (*hâring*), or similar Anglo-Saxon or Germanic vernacular¹

Clupea harengus membras Wulff 1765 Greek word for a kind of herring or anchovy (i.e., a small silvery fish that lives in the sea), dating to at least Aristotle [sometimes wrongly dated to Linnaeus 1761, who used the name as a vernacular]

Clupea pallasii Valenciennes 1847 in honor of German-born Russian explorer-naturalist Peter Simon Pallas (1741–1811), who reported this herring as a form of *C. harengus* in his 1811 *Zoographia Rosso-Asiatica*

¹ Source: “herring” entry, Oxford English Dictionary (OED). Jordan & Evermann (1896, *Fishes of North and Middle America*, vol. 1) claim that *harengus* is allied to the German *Heer*, army, “a fish that swims in armies” (schools?), but provide no etymological evidence. The OED mentions the possibility that the Old High German and Middle High German variant *hering* was influenced by the Old High German *heri*, host (i.e., a large number of people or things), as in “the fish that comes in hosts.”



“De Harengo,” possibly first-published image of *Clupea harengus*. From: Rondelet, G. 1554. *Libri de piscibus marinis, in quibus veræ piscium effigies expressæ sunt*. M. Bonhomme, Lugduni (Lyon). i–xiv (unnumbered) + 1–583 + i–xxiii (unnumbered).

Clupea pallasii marisalbi Berg 1923 *maris*, genitive of *mare* (L.), sea; *albus* (L.), white, referring to the White Sea of Russia, where it occurs, principally in the western and southern portions

Clupea pallasii suworowi Svetovidov 1973 in honor of Soviet ichthyologist Evgenii Konstantinovich Suvorov (1880–1953), the first to investigate herrings from Cheshskaya Guba (Chosha Bay), inlet of the Barents Sea, Russian, type locality [an infraspecific name coined by Rabinerson in 1927, made available by Svetovidov]

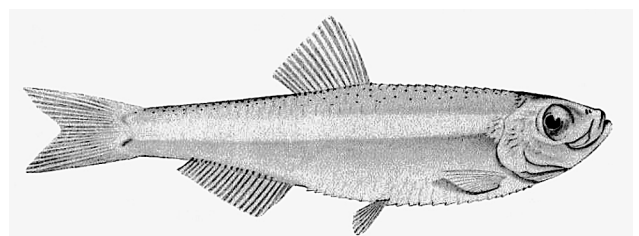
Ethmidium
Thompson 1916

etymology not explained, probably *ēthmós* (Gr. ἤθμός), sieve or strainer, referring to long and numerous gill rakers; *-idium* (L.), diminutive suffix connoting resemblance

Ethmidium maculatum (Valenciennes 1847) Latin for spotted, referring to scattered spots on silver flank

Hyperlophus
Ogilby 1892

hypér (Gr. ὑπέρ), beyond, over, above or very; *lóphos* (Gr. λόφος), mane or crest, referring to dorsal scutes between occiput and dorsal fin of *Clupea sprattellides* (= *H. vittatus*)



Hyperlophus translucidus, holotype. From: McCulloch, A. R. 1917. *Studies in Australian fishes* No. 4. *Records of the Australian Museum* 11 (7): 163–188, Pls. 29–31.

***Hyperlophus translucidus* McCulloch 1917** Latin for translucent, referring to its translucent body in life

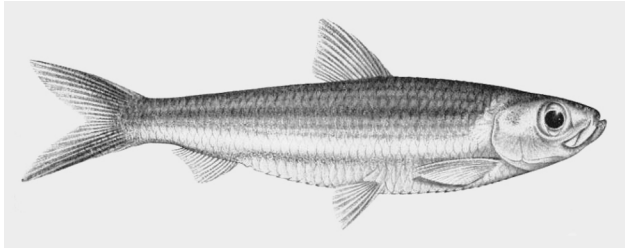
***Hyperlophus vittatus* (Castelnau 1875)** Latin for banded, referring to silvery band along flank

Potamalosa

Ogilby 1897

potamós (Gr. ποταμός), river, referring to its occurrence in fresh water; *alosa* (L.), shad, often used as a suffix in names of shads and herrings

***Potamalosa richmondia* (Macleay 1879) -ia** (L. suffix), pertaining to: Richmond River, New South Wales, Australia, type locality



Possibly first-published image of *Potamalosa richmondia*. From: McCulloch, A. R. 1917. Studies in Australian fishes No. 4. Records of the Australian Museum 11 (7): 163–188, Pls. 29–31.

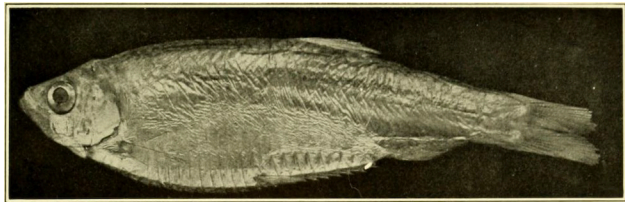
Ramnogaster

Whitehead 1965

rhámnos (Gr. ῥάμνος), a prickly shrub; *gastér* (Gr. γαστήρ), belly or stomach, referring to “strongly serrated” abdominal scutes

***Ramnogaster arcuata* (Jenyns 1842)** Latin for bent like a bow, probably referring to its deep body, “with the ventral line swelling rather more outwards than the dorsal”

***Ramnogaster melanostoma* (Eigenmann 1907) mélanos** (Gr. μέλανος), genitive of *mélas* (μέλας), black; *stóma* (Gr. στόμα), mouth (but treated as an adjective, mouthed), referring to its black upper lip



Ramnogaster melanostoma, holotype. From: Eigenmann, C. H. 1907. On a collection of fishes from Buenos Aires. Proceedings of the Washington Academy of Sciences 8 (for 1906): 449–458, Pls. 21–23.

Sprattus

Girgensohn 1846

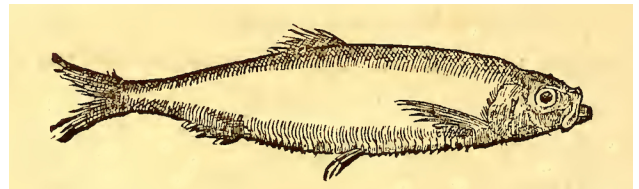
Latinization of sprat, from the Old English *sprot*, a herring or herring-like fish, from the name of *Clupea sprattus* Linnaeus 1758 (which Girgensohn apparently renamed as *Sprattus haleciformis* to avoid “Strickland tautonymy”²)

***Sprattus antipodum* (Hector 1872) antipódōn** (Gr. ἀντιπόδων), genitive plural of *antipódes* (ἀντιπόδες), antipodeans, “with feet opposite ours,” now used to denote any diametrically opposed point in Earth, referring to this sprat’s occurrence in New Zealand, figuratively the other side of the world from the British Isles

***Sprattus fuegensis* (Jenyns 1842) -ensis**, Latin suffix denoting place: Tierra del Fuego (off Cabo Santa Inés, Argentina), type locality

***Sprattus muelleri* (Klunzinger 1879)** in honor of Ferdinand von Mueller (1825–1896), German-born Australian explorer-naturalist, who donated his extensive collection of Australian plant and animal specimens, including holotype of this species, to what is now the Stuttgart State

² What is “Strickland tautonymy”? In 1842, British ornithologist Hugh Edwin Strickland was tasked with codifying the rules of zoological nomenclature (a precursor to today’s ICZN). One such rule was to prohibit names in which the same word is used for both the genus and the species, known as tautonyms. Strickland’s rule against tautonyms has since been revoked, making *Sprattus haleciformis* an unneeded replacement name.



“De Aphyha phalerica,” possibly first-published image of *Sprattus sprattus*, and illustration accompanying account upon which Risso’s description of *S. s. phalerica* is based. From: Rondelet, G. 1554. Libri de piscibus marinis, in quibus veræ piscium effigies expressæ sunt. M. Bonhomme, Lugduni (Lyon). i–xiv (unnumbered) + 1–583 + i–xxiii (unnumbered).

Museum of Natural History (Baden-Württemberg, Germany)

***Sprattus novaehollandiae* (Valenciennes 1847)** of New Holland, historic name for Australia, where type locality (Port Jackson, New South Wales) is situated

***Sprattus sprattus* (Linnaeus 1758)** Latinization of sprat, from the Old English *sprot*, a herring or herring-like fish, a word historically applied to this species

***Sprattus sprattus balticus* Schneider 1908 -icus** (L.), belonging to: Baltic Sea, where it occurs

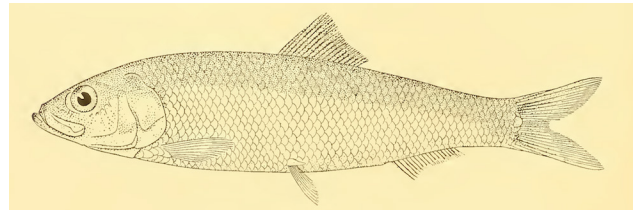
***Sprattus sprattus phalericus* (Risso 1827)** based on “De Aphyha phalerica” of Rondelet (*Libri de piscibus marinis*, 1554), a sardine-like fish mentioned by Aristotle from Phalerica (modern-day Palaio Faliro, the western harbor of Athens, Greece, although Risso’s specimen was from Nice, France); etymologically, *phalerica* has been traced back to “waves crested with white foam,” a phrase from Homer’s *Iliad* cited (without attribution) by Rondelet, indicating a connection between the bright, shiny exterior of the fish and the Greek harbor in which it supposedly occurred

Strangomera

Whitehead 1965

strangos (Gr.), bent or twisted; *meros* (Gr.), a part, referring to its bent epibranchial gill rakers

***Strangomera bentincki* (Norman 1936)** in honor of British diplomat Victor Cavendish-Bentinck (1897–1990), British Embassy, Santiago, Chile, whose “kindness” led to the donation of a “very interesting” collection of Chilean marine fishes, including holotype of this one, to the British Museum (Natural History)



First-published image of *Strangomera bentincki*, holotype. From: Norman, J. R. 1937. Coast fishes. Part II. The Patagonian region. Discovery Reports 16: 1–150, Pls. 1–5.