

# The ETYFish Project

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COMMENTS: 

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## Series Batrachoidiaria

### Order BATRACHOIDIFORMES

#### Family BATRACHOIDIDAE Toadfishes

23 genera · 84 species

##### Subfamily Porichthyinae

###### **Aphos Hubbs & Schultz 1939**

*a-*, without; *phos*, light, referring to lack of complex photophores characteristic of the subfamily

###### **Aphos porosus (Valenciennes 1837)**

full of pores, referring to numerous lines of pores on body (but fewer of them compared to *Porichthys porosissimus*, its presumed congener at the time)

###### **Porichthys Girard 1854**

*por* [*osus*], pore, referring to “series of pores extending to the whole length of body from divers regions of the head”; *ichthys*, fish

###### **Porichthys analis Hubbs & Schultz 1939**

anal, referring to greater number of anal-fin rays compared to its sympatric congener *P. notatus*

###### **Porichthys bathoiketes Gilbert 1968**

*bathos*, deep; *oiketetes*, dweller, referring to comparatively deep waters from which all specimens were collected

###### **Porichthys ephippiatus Walker & Rosenblatt 1988**

saddled, referring to prominent saddle-like dorsolateral pigment blotches

###### **Porichthys greenei Gilbert & Starks 1904**

in honor of physiologist Charles Wesley Greene (1866-1947), University of Missouri (USA), who described the sense and phosphorescent organs of this species in 1899

###### **Porichthys kymosemeum Gilbert 1968**

*kymatos*, wavy; *semeion*, sign or marking, referring to wavy line on upper part of body

###### **Porichthys margaritatus (Richardson 1844)**

adorned with pearls, referring to lines that traverse head and body, described as “bright nacry specks, looking like so many pearls”

###### **Porichthys mimeticus Walker & Rosenblatt 1988**

imitative, referring to its close resemblance to *P. notatus*

###### **Porichthys myriaster Hubbs & Schultz 1939**

*myrias*, myriad; *aster*, star, referring to its “multitudinous” photophores, which “when active shine like stars”

###### **Porichthys notatus Girard 1854**

marked, referring to “subcrescent shaped vitta [a band or stripe of color] beneath the eye”

###### **Porichthys oculellus Walker & Rosenblatt 1988**

diminutive of *oculus*, eye, referring to its relatively small eyes

###### **Porichthys oculo frenum Gilbert 1968**

*oculo*, eye; *frenum*, bridle, referring to narrow depigmented area connecting the eyes

###### **Porichthys pauciradiatus Caldwell & Caldwell 1963**

*paucus*, few; *radiatus*, rayed, referring to reduced number of dorsal- (29-31) and anal-fin (27-28) rays

###### **Porichthys plectrodon Jordan & Gilbert 1882**

*plectrum*, spur; *odon*, tooth, presumably referring to “strongly hooked” teeth, especially on lower jaw

###### **Porichthys porosissimus (Cuvier 1829)**

most porous, referring to four longitudinal series of phosphorescent pores on body

##### Subfamily Thalassophryinae Venomous Toadfishes

###### **Daector Jordan & Evermann 1898**

Greek for slayer, referring to its venomous spines

***Daector dowi* (Jordan & Gilbert 1887)**

in honor of John Melmoth Dow (1827-1892), Panama Railroad Company, ship captain and amateur naturalist, who helped Gilbert procure fishes from Panama, including first specimen of this species (destroyed in a fire at Indiana University before it was described)

***Daector gerringi* (Rendahl 1941)**

in honor of Gosta Gerring, Swedish Museum of Natural History, who collected type

***Daector quadrizonatus* (Eigenmann 1922)**

*quadri-*, fourfold; *zonatus*, banded, referring to four short bars across back

***Daector reticulata* (Günther 1864)**

reticulated, referring to network of yellowish lines on head, body and fins

***Daector schmitti* Collette 1968**

in honor of carcinologist Waldo L. Schmitt (1887-1977), the “energetic” collector of the holotype

***Thalassophryne* Günther 1861**

*thalassina*, of the sea; *phryne*, toad, i.e., sea-toad

***Thalassophryne amazonica* Steindachner 1876**

*-ica*, belonging to: referring to its occurrence in Amazon River basin of Brazil (also occurs in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru)

***Thalassophryne maculosa* Günther 1861**

spotted, referring to round black spots on pectoral fins and sides of body

***Thalassophryne megalops* Bean & Weed 1910**

*mega-*, large; *ops*, eye, referring to its “very large” eyes compared to congeners

***Thalassophryne montevidensis* (Berg 1893)**

*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: near Montevideo, Uruguay, type locality

***Thalassophryne nattereri* Steindachner 1876**

in honor of Johann Natterer (1787-1843), who explored South America and collected specimens for 18 years, including type of this species

***Thalassophryne punctata* Steindachner 1876**

spotted, referring to “small punctiform, sharply defined black spots” on head and sides of body (translation)

**Subfamily Batrachoidinae**

***Amphichthys* Swainson 1839**

etymology not explained, perhaps *amphi-*, amphibian, alluding to *Batrachus* Bloch & Schneider 1801 (= *Batrachoides*), frog, an early and widely used generic name for toadfishes; *ichthys*, fish

***Amphichthys cryptocentrus* (Valenciennes 1837)**

*cryptos*, concealed; *centron*, thorn or spine, referring to three dorsal-fin spines, hidden under the skin

***Amphichthys rubigenis* Swainson 1839**

*ruber*, red; *genys*, chin, referring to reddish spot on cheeks

***Batrachoides* Lacepède 1800**

*-oides*, having the form of: *batrachus*, frog, referring to their “vague resemblance” to that of a frog or toad

***Batrachoides boulengeri* Gilbert & Starks 1904**

in honor of ichthyologist-herpetologist George A. Boulenger (1858-1937), whose 1898 and 1899 papers on marine fishes of Ecuador and nearby areas are cited several times by the authors

***Batrachoides gilberti* Meek & Hildebrand 1928**

patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of ichthyologist and fisheries biologist Charles H. Gilbert (1859-1928), who studied the fishes of Panama, where this toadfish was collected

***Batrachoides goldmani* Evermann & Goldsborough 1902**

in honor of mammalogist Edward Alphonso Goldman (1873-1946), who helped collect type

***Batrachoides liberiensis* (Steindachner 1867)**

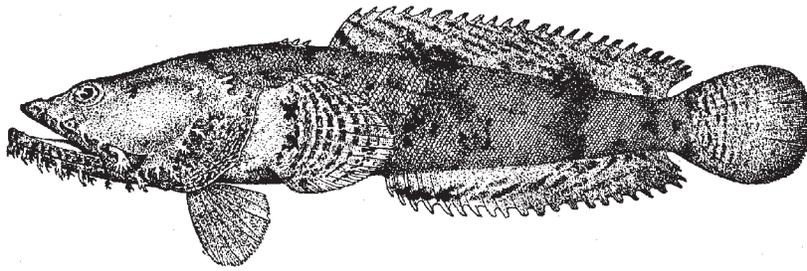
*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: Monrovia, Liberia, type locality

***Batrachoides manglae* Cervigón 1964**

etymology not explained, presumably referring to *manglar*, Spanish for mangrove, referring to its habitat (“de la laguna del manglar”) at Punta de Piedras, Nueva Esparta, Venezuela, type locality

***Batrachoides pacifici* (Günther 1861)**

of the Pacific, presumably referring to its occurrence in the eastern Pacific (Panama to Peru)



*Batrachoides goldmani*. From: Evermann, B. W. and E. L. Goldsborough. 1902. A report on fishes collected in Mexico and Central America, with notes and descriptions of five new species. *Bulletin of the U. S. Fish Commission* v. 21 [1901]: 137-159.

***Batrachoides surinamensis* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)**

*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: Suriname, type locality (occurs in western Atlantic from Honduras to Brazil)

***Batrachoides walkeri* Collette & Russo 1981**

in honor of fisheries biologist Boyd W. Walker (1917-2001), University of California, Los Angeles, and “long-term student of eastern Pacific fishes, who first recognized that the type might represent an undescribed species and who made available to us the toadfish collections at UCLA”

***Batrachoides waltersi* Collette & Russo 1981**

in honor of ichthyologist Vladimir Walters (1927-1987), “colleague and student of toadfishes, who recognized the distinctness of this species a number of years ago”

***Opsanus Rafinesque* 1818**

*ops*, eye; *ano-*, upward, i.e., looking up (per Rafinesque), referring to eyes “approximated” on top of head of *O. cerapalus* (=tau)

***Opsanus beta* (Goode & Bean 1880)**

second letter of Greek alphabet, referring to the symbol  $\beta$  Günther (1861) used for the “southern variety” of *O. tau* (Goode & Bean credited Günther with the name but “ $\beta$ ” is unavailable for either of two reasons: it does not form a word and does not use the Latin alphabet)

***Opsanus dichrostomus* Collette 2001**

*di-*, two; *chro[ma]*, color; *stomus*, mouth, referring to its bicolored mouth (posterior part of lower half of mouth usually pigmented) in specimens >70 mm SL

***Opsanus pardus* (Goode & Bean 1880)**

leopard, referring to yellowish brown body “thickly spotted” (i.e., leopard-like) with dark brown

***Opsanus phobetron* Walters & Robins 1961**

Greek for scarecrow, referring to the “menacing attitude assumed by the fish when its lair is approached”

***Opsanus tau* (Linnaeus 1766)**

the letter T, referring to how bones on head when dried show a T-shaped figure

***Potamobatrachus* Collette 1995**

*potamos*, river, referring to its occurrence in fresh water (Amazon tributaries in Brazil); *Batrachus*, “first generic name used for toadfishes” (actually, that distinction belongs to *Batrachoides*, which preceded *Batrachus* by about a year)

***Potamobatrachus trispinosus* Collette 1995**

*tri-*, three; *spinus*, thorny, the only species of toadfish with three subopercular spines

***Sanopus* Smith 1952**

etymology not explained, apparently an anagram of *Opsanus*, original genus of type species, *S. barbatus*

***Sanopus astrifer* (Robins & Starck 1965)**

*aster*, star; *fero-*, to bear, referring to numerous small, white protuberances on dark-brown head and body

***Sanopus barbatus* (Meek & Hildebrand 1928)**

bearded, presumably referring to a “row of long fringed dermal flaps on margin of chin”

***Sanopus greenfieldorum* Collette 1983**

*-orum*, commemorative suffix, plural: in honor of David W. and Teresa Arambula Greenfield, who collected type, suspected it was undescribed, and sent it to Collette for examination

***Sanopus johnsoni* Collette & Starck 1974**

in honor of John Seward Johnson I (1895-1983), founder of the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (Fort Pierce, Florida, USA) for his “generous and extensive patronage of marine science”

***Sanopus reticulatus* Collette 1983**

referring to reticulate color pattern on head and body

***Sanopus splendidus* Collette, Starck & Phillips 1974**

bright or shining, the “most brightly colored” member of the genus

***Vladichthys* Greenfield 2006**

Vlad, named for the late Vladimir Walters (1927-1987), known by his colleagues as “Vlad,” who studied toadfishes for many years and discovered that the head musculature of this genus differs from that of *Triathalassothia*; *ichthys*, fish

***Vladichthys gloverensis* (Greenfield & Greenfield 1973)**

*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: Glovers Reef, Belize, type locality

**Subfamily Halophryninae**

***Allenbatrachus* Greenfield 1997**

in honor of fisheries biologist George Allen (1923-2011), Humboldt State University (Arcata, California, USA), who introduced Greenfield to ichthyology and encouraged him to pursue a graduate education; *batrachus*, frog, an early generic term for toadfishes

***Allenbatrachus grunniens* (Linnaeus 1758)**

grunting, presumably referring to its ability to produce sounds when disturbed, especially if removed from the water

***Allenbatrachus meridionalis* Greenfield & Smith 2004**

southern, the southernmost known species of the genus (Madagascar and Reunion)

***Allenbatrachus reticulatus* (Steindachner 1870)**

net-like or netted, referring to numerous dark-brown spots, “which are interwoven like a net” (translation)

***Austrobatrachus* Smith 1949**

*auster*, south wind, referring to distribution of *A. foedus* off South America and South Africa; *batrachus*, frog, an early generic term for toadfishes

***Austrobatrachus foedus* (Smith 1947)**

foul, filthy or detestable, allusion not explained nor evident

***Austrobatrachus iselesele* Greenfield 2012**

Zulu (or isiZulu) for toad, referring to the common name of fishes in the family, and reflecting its distribution in Park Rynie, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

***Barchatus* Smith 1952**

etymology not explained, apparently an anagram of *Batrachus* (= *Batrachoides*), an early generic name for toadfishes and the genus in which type species (*B. cirrhosus*) had been placed at the time (see also *Chatrabus*)

***Barchatus cirrhosus* (Klunzinger 1871)**

full of curls, presumably referring to “very small skin cirrhi ... scattered across the body” (translation)

***Barchatus indicus* Greenfield 2014**

Indian, referring to its occurrence in the Indian Ocean

***Batrachomoeus* Ogilby 1908**

*batrachus*, frog; [*h*] *omoios*, like, i.e., referring to its frog- or toad-like appearance

***Batrachomoeus dahli* (Rendahl 1922)**

in honor of Norwegian zoologist and explorer Knut Dahl (1871-1951), who collected type

***Batrachomoeus dubius* (Shaw 1790)**

doubtful, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to ambivalence about its originally being placed in the monkfish genus *Lophius* (Lophiiformes: Lophiidae)

***Batrachomoeus occidentalis* Hutchins 1976**

western, referring to its distribution off the coast of Western Australia

***Batrachomoeus rubricephalus* Hutchins 1976**

*ruber*, red; *cephalus*, head, referring to pinkish color of head when fresh

***Batrachomoeus trispinosus* (Günther 1861)**

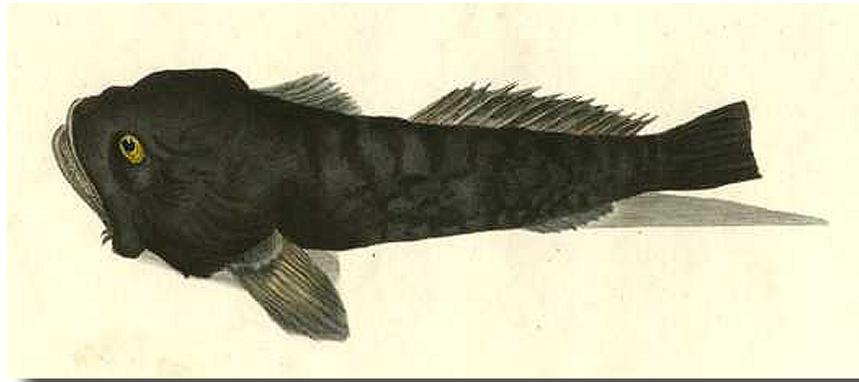
*tri-*, three; *spinosus*, spiny, referring to three spines on gill covers

***Batrachichthys* Smith 1934**

*batrachus*, frog, an early generic name for toadfishes; *ichthys*, fish, i.e., frogfish

***Batrachichthys albofasciatus* Smith 1934**

*albus*, white; *fasciatus*, banded, referring to five “slightly sinuous white cross-bars” on body, the posterior four extending to soft dorsal fin



*Batrachomoeus dubius*. From: White, J. 1790. *Journal of a voyage to New South Wales with sixty-five plates of non-descript animals, birds, lizards, serpents, curious cones of trees and other natural productions*. J. D. Piccadilly, London. i-xvi (unnumbered) + 1-299 + i-xxxv (unnumbered), Pls. 1-65. [G. Shaw authored the taxa.]

***Batrachthys apiatus* (Valenciennes 1837)**

bee-like or of bees, referring to pattern on anterior part of head, which resembles a “cake of bees” (translation), i.e., honeycomb or German bee sting cake (Bienenstich)

***Bifax* Greenfield, Mee & Randall 1994**

Latin for two-faced, referring to flaps with eye spots that extend from end of maxilla on each side of mouth, which look like a second face, and to the figurative meaning of two-faced, trying to deceive, referring to how the eye spots may make it look much larger to potential predators when viewed head on

***Bifax lacinia* Greenfield, Mee & Randall 1994**

Latin for lappet, referring to distinctive flaps with eye spots that extend from end of maxilla on each side of mouth

***Chatrabus* Smith 1949**

etymology not explained, apparently an anagram of *Batrachus* (= *Batrachoides*), an early generic name for toadfishes (see also *Barchatus*)

***Chatrabus damaranus* (Barnard 1927)**

-anus, belonging to: Damaraland, a name given to the north-central part of what is now called Namibia, and/or the Damaras, the ethnic people who lived there, referring to type locality at Walfish (now Walvis) Bay

***Chatrabus felinus* (Smith 1952)**

feline or cat-like, allusion not explained nor evident

***Chatrabus hendersoni* (Smith 1952)**

in honor of Master David Henderson, who found type specimen “thrown up by a storm” in Algoa Bay, South Africa [as used here, “Master” probably refers to a boy under age 12]

***Chatrabus melanurus* (Barnard 1927)**

*melanos*, black; *oura*, tail, referring to “dark” tail, its distal half or three-quarters with a “light” margin

***Colletteichthys* Greenfield 2006**

in honor of Bruce B. Collette (b. 1934), Director, National Marine Fisheries Service Systematics Laboratory, “who has contributed greatly to toadfish systematics over the years”; *ichthys*, fish

***Colletteichthys dussumieri* (Valenciennes 1837)**

in honor of Jean-Jacques Dussumier (1792-1883), French voyager and merchant, who collected type

***Colletteichthys flavipinnis* Greenfield, Bineesh & Akhilesh 2012**

*flavis*, yellow; *pinna*, fin, referring to its yellow-orange fins

***Colletteichthys occidentalis* Greenfield 2012**

western, the westernmost member of the genus (Arabian Peninsula and northern Arabian Sea)

***Halobatrachus* Ogilby 1908**

*halos*, sea; *batrachus*, frog, i.e., sea-frog

***Halobatrachus didactylus* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)**

*di-*, two; *daktylos*, finger, presumably referring to two rays of ventral fins (“pinnis ventralibus didactylis”), compared to three or more rays on other species then included in *Batrachus* (= *Batrachoides*)

***Halophryne* Gill 1863**

*halos*, sea; *phryne*, toad, i.e., sea-toad [often misspelled *Halophryne*]

***Halophryne diemensis* (Lesueur 1824)**

*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: off the coast of Van Diemen's Land, pre-1856 name for Tasmania, Australia, type locality

***Halophryne hutchinsi* Greenfield 1998**

in honor of ichthyologist J. Barry Hutchins (b. 1946), Western Australian Museum, for his earlier work on the genus and other toadfishes

***Halophryne ocellatus* Hutchins 1974**

ocellated, referring to white ocelli with prominent dark-brown margins scattered on head and sides, very numerous in large specimens, merging to form blotches

***Halophryne queenslandiae* (De Vis 1882)**

of Queensland, Australia, where type locality (Dunk Island) is situated

***Perulibatrachus Roux & Whitley 1972***

*perula*, pocket, referring to funnel-shaped axillary pouch; *batrachus*, frog and an old generic name for toadfishes [replacement for *Parabatrachus* Roux 1971, preoccupied by *Parabatrachus* Owen 1853 in fossil fishes]

***Perulibatrachus aquilonarius* Greenfield 2005**

northern, the northernmost member of the genus (Indian Ocean off Madras, India)

***Perulibatrachus elminensis* (Bleeker 1863)**

*-ensis*, suffix denoting place: Elmina, Guinea, type locality (occurs in eastern Atlantic from Ghana to Namibia)

***Perulibatrachus kilburni* Greenfield 1996**

in honor of Richard Kilburn (1942-2013), Natal Museum (Pietermaritzburg, South Africa), who collected type from a dredge haul during his malacological studies

***Perulibatrachus rossignoli* (Roux 1957)**

in honor of oceanographer Martial Rossignol, who collaborated with Roux on a marine faunal survey of Pointe-Noire, Republic of the Congo, where this toadfish occurs

***Riekertia* Smith 1952**

*-ia*, belonging to: Dr. C. Riekert (no other information available), Bizana, Eastern Cape, South Africa, who "sent valuable specimens"

***Riekertia ellisi* Smith 1952**

in honor of Mr. P. V. Ellis (no other information available), Bizana, Eastern Cape, South Africa, "who caught this fish"

***Triathalassothia* Fowler 1943**

*tri-*, three, referring to three strong, concealed and close-set dorsal-fin spines; *Thalassothia* (= *Thalassophryne*), presumed to be a closely related genus at the time

***Triathalassothia argentina* (Berg 1897)**

referring to country of type locality, Mar del Plata, Atlantic coast, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina

***Triathalassothia lambaloti* Menezes & Figueiredo 1998**

in honor of the late Raoul P. Lambalot, Fish Section, Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo, for depositing specimens of marine fishes he collected along the São Paulo coast