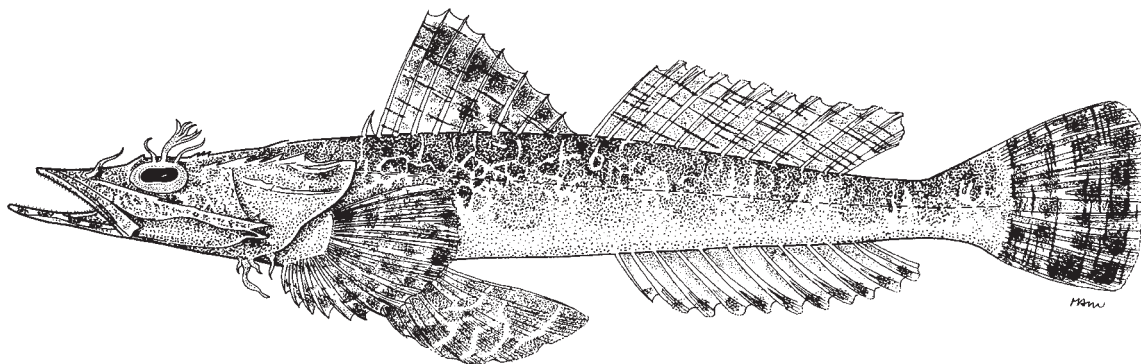
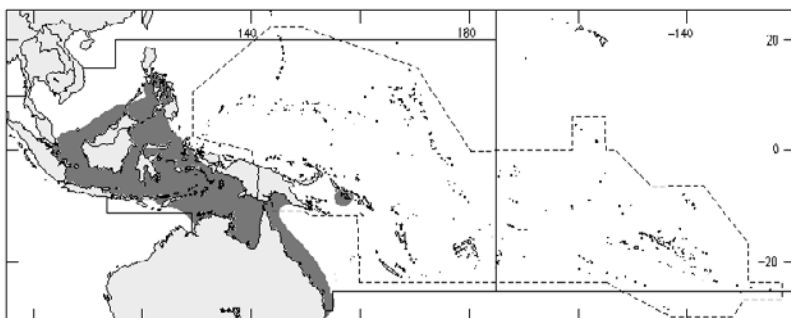


***Cymbacephalus nematophthalmus*** (Günther, 1860)**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.**FAO names:** En - Fringe-eyed flathead.

(after Bleeker, 1877-78)

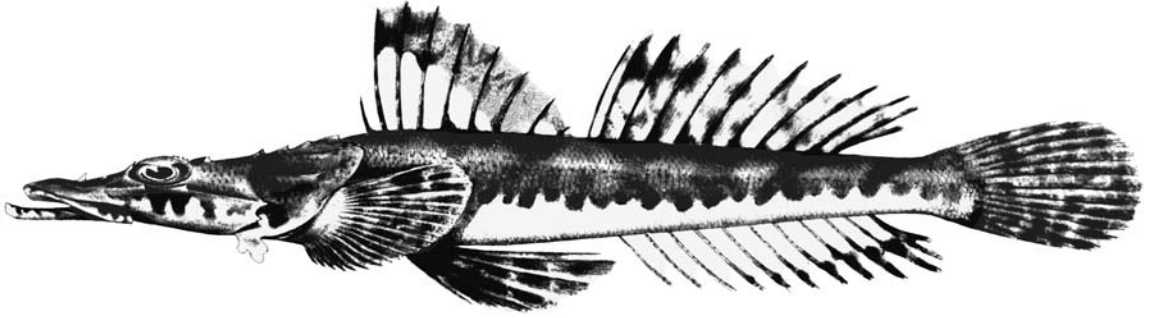
**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to or behind front of eye. **Prominent pit present behind upper eye. Preopercular spines short, upper 2 subequal**, a small third spine often present. **Supraorbital ridge usually smooth over eye**, with a few small spines posteriorly. Preorbital spines lacking; a single preocular spine; **suborbital ridge mostly smooth, bearing 1 spine below rear of eye**. Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. Iris lappet cirrose. **Dermal papillae (usually 6 to 9 in adults) on upper surface of eye, longest branched, reaching well above supraorbital ridge**. Interopercular margin bearing several flaps of varying sizes. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 to 7 (usually 6). **Dorsal-fin spines IX or I, VIII**; dorsal-fin rays 11; anal-fin rays 11; pectoral-fin rays 19 to 21 (usually 20). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line 57 to 70 (often 62 or 63). Lateral-line scales 51 to 55 (frequently 53), anterior 1 to 6 scales (usually 2 or 3), bearing a weak spine or ridge. Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior. **Colour:** upper body grey-green or brown, with about 7 dark bands crossing back and reaching far down sides; lower parts of body pale to white; fins mottled with dark and light blotches, may be yellow and green in life; **short dark streaks usually crossing rays in dorsal and caudal fins**; a broad, dark bar below eye; about 4 dark bands on lower lip.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 58 cm, commonly to 30 cm.**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabits shallow rocky coastal areas, frequently associated with weed beds and mangroves, most commonly at depths of less than 5 m.**Distribution:** From the north-western shelf of Australia to Brisbane, New Georgia, Papua New Guinea, Celebes, Borneo, Singapore, and the Philippines.

***Cymbacephalus staigeri*** (Castelnau, 1875)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Cymbacephalus parilis* (McCulloch, 1914) / None.

**FAO names:** En - Blotched flathead.



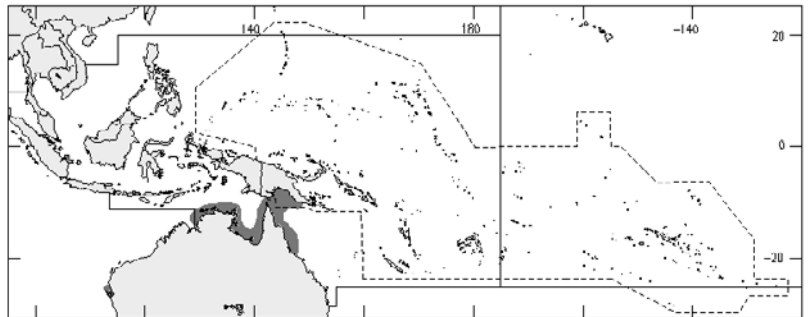
(from McCulloch, 1914)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to or behind front of eye. **A prominent pit present behind upper eye. Preopercular spines short, 2 subequal.** Supraorbital ridge smooth over most of eye, with a few small spines posteriorly. Preorbital spines lacking; a single preocular spine; **suborbital ridge mostly smooth, bearing 2 spines below eye.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. Iris lappet cirrose. No dermal papillae on upper eye. A prominent lobate interopercular flap present. Total gill rakers on first gill arch usually 6. Dorsal-fin spines IX or I,VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11; anal-fin rays 11; pectoral-fin rays 20 to 22 (usually 20 or 21). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line 59 to 71 (usually about 65). Lateral-line scales 51 to 54 (usually 52 or 53), anterior 1 or 2 scales bearing a weak spine. Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior. **Colour:** body brownish, with 6 or 7 dark bands crossing back down to lateral line; a series of dark blotches on lower side; lower body white; usually a row of dark blotches on lower cheek; spinous dorsal fin with a broad submarginal dark band widening posteriorly; soft dorsal fin dusky; anal fin with a series of large brown blotches; pectoral and pelvic fins with small brown spots; and caudal fin mottled with light streaks and dark blotches.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 50 cm, commonly to 40 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Possibly associated with aquatic vegetation. Has been taken by trawls at depths of 15 to 46 m, frequently found at depths of 10 m or less.

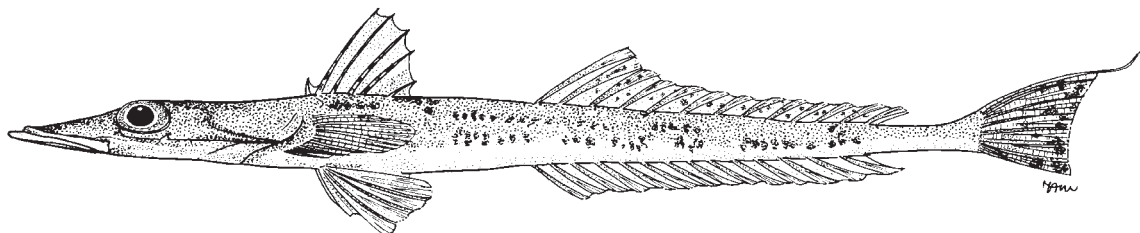
**Distribution:** From Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) and northern Queensland, Gulf of Carpentaria, Darwin, Shark Bay, to Christmas Island.



***Elates ransonnetii*** (Steindachner, 1877)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Dwarf flathead.



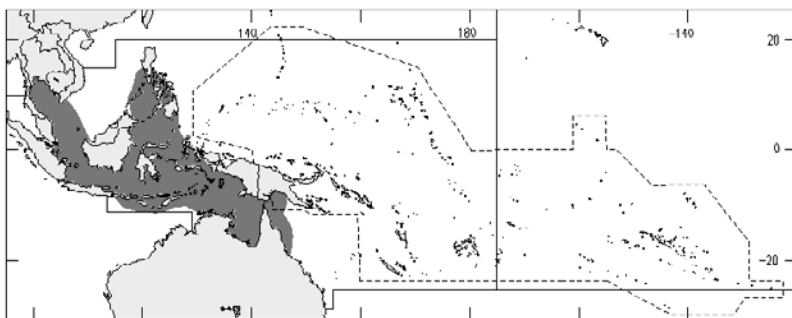
(after Allen and Swainston, 1988)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. **Rear edge of maxilla ends below anterior nostril, well in front of eye. Preopercular spine single, long, bayonet-like, reaching to or past rear opercular margin,** accessory spine lacking. **Supraorbital ridge smooth.** Preorbital spine present; a single preocular spine; suborbital ridge with 2 spines, a short spine under front of eye, and a long spine under rear of eye. Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet slightly developed as a simple lobe.** No dermal papillae on eye. Interopercular flap lacking. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 15 to 21. **Dorsal-fin spines VI;** dorsal-fin rays 12 to 14 (usually 13); anal-fin rays 12 to 14 (usually 13); pectoral-fin rays 19 to 22 (usually 20 or 21). **Caudal fin emarginate, upper lobe longest, bearing an elongate filament.** Lateral-line scales 83 to 107 (often about 94), anterior 0 to 2 scales bearing weak spines. Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior. **Colour:** head and body light tan or cream; a series of small oval dark blotches along sides; dorsal and caudal fins with scattered black spots.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 19 cm, commonly to 15 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand and mud bottoms at depths of about 5 to 53 m.

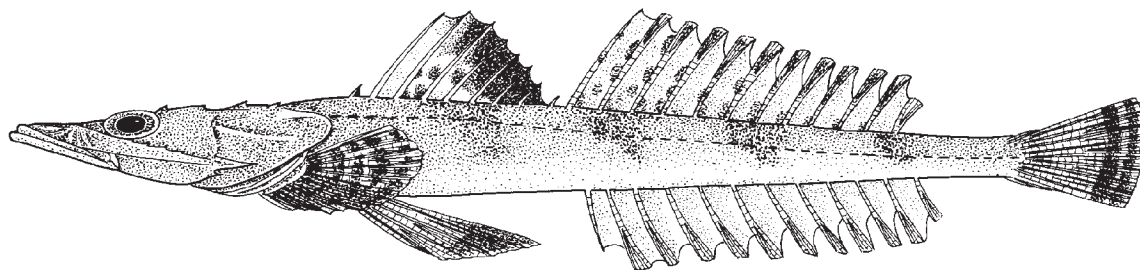
**Distribution:** From the Timor Sea off Australia to Papua New Guinea and northern Queensland, through Indonesia, to Singapore, the Gulf of Thailand, South China Sea, and the Philippines.



***Grammoplites knappi*** Imamura and Amaoka, 1994

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / *Grammoplites scaber* (Linnaeus, 1758).

**FAO names:** En - Smallspined flathead.



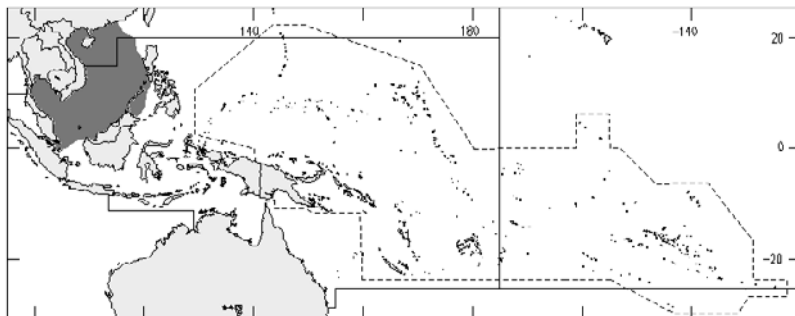
(after Imamura and Amaoka, 1994)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines 3; upper longest, not reaching to opercular margin, bearing a small accessory spine on base. Supraorbital ridge smooth anteriorly, with a few serrations posteriorly. Preorbital spine absent; a single preocular spine; suborbital ridge bearing 3 or 4 spines. Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet a simple lobe.** Interopercular flap absent. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 to 7 (usually 6). **Interorbital width less than 9% of head length.** Dorsal-fin spines IX, I,VIII, or I,VII,I (usually I,VIII); dorsal-fin rays 12; anal-fin rays 12; pectoral-fin rays 20 to 22 (usually 21 or 22). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. **Lateral-line scales 51 to 55 (frequently 53), each scale with a backward directed spine that does not extend beyond rear margin of scale on posterior part of the body. Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior.** **Colour:** head and body brown, with about 4 dark bands crossing back; spinous dorsal fin dusky or with a broad dark marginal band; soft dorsal fin with dark spots; pectoral fins with dark spots that form several vertical bands; **caudal fin frequently with 2 dark bands posteriorly.**

**Size:** Maximum total length about 30 cm, commonly to 25 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls to depths of about 32 m.

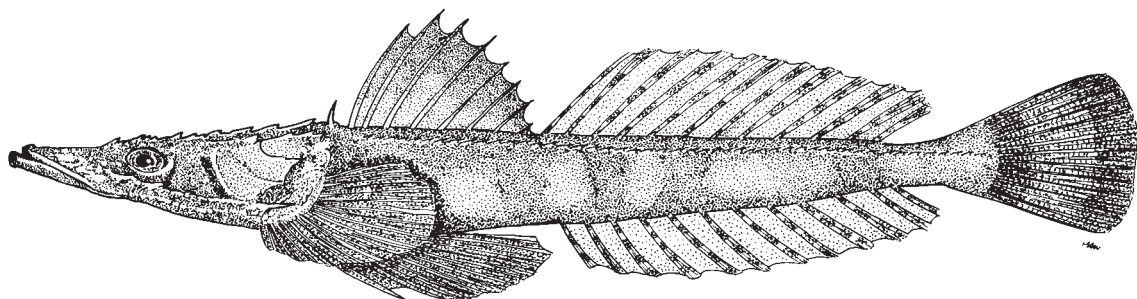
**Distribution:** Known from Hainan Island (China), the South China Sea, the Gulf of Thailand, and Johore Shoals off Malaysia.



*Grammoplites scaber* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Rough flathead.



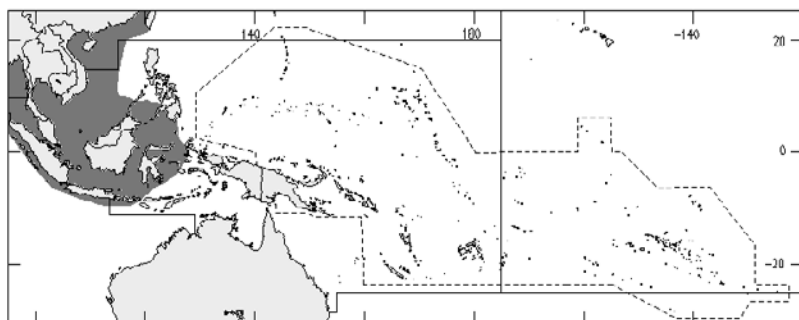
(after Day, 1878)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines 3; upper longest, not reaching to opercular margin, bearing a small accessory spine on base. Supraorbital ridge smooth anteriorly, with a few serrations posteriorly. Preorbital spine usually present; a single preocular spine; suborbital ridge bearing about 3 or 4 spines. **Interorbital width 9% or more of head length.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet a simple lobe.** Interopercular flap absent. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 6 or 7 (usually 6). Dorsal-fin spines IX, I,VIII, or I,VII,I; dorsal-fin rays 11 to 13 (usually 12); pectoral-fin rays 19 to 22 (usually 20 or 21). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. Lateral-line scales 51 to 55 (often 53), **each scale with a backward directed spine that extends beyond rear margin of scale, especially noticeable along caudal peduncle.** **Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior.** **Colour:** head and body brownish above, whitish below; back crossed by about 6 dark bands in some, obscure or absent in others; first dorsal fin and pelvic fins dusky; soft dorsal fin with dark spots on rays; anal fin white or with a submarginal row of dark spots; caudal fin dusky, some with a row of dark spots along upper edge.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 30 cm, commonly to 20 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over mud and sand at depths to about 55 m.

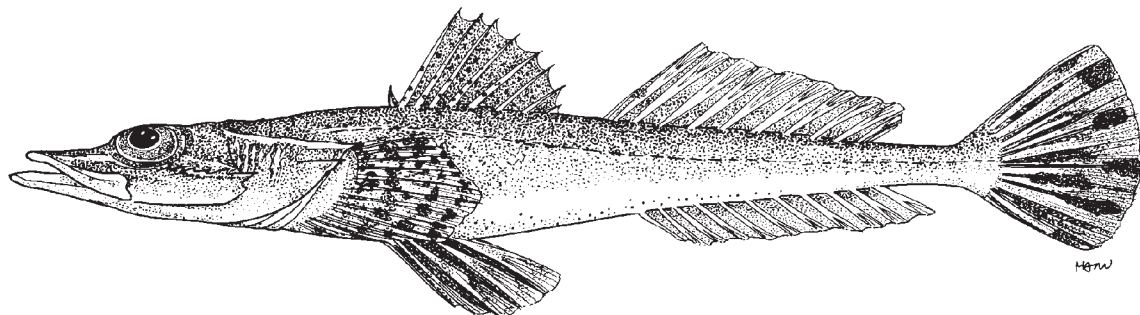
**Distribution:** From the southern Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal through Malaysia, Indonesia to Bali and Celebes, Gulf of Thailand, Viet Nam, Hong Kong, and southern Philippines.



***Inegocia harrisii*** (McCulloch, 1914)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Harris' flathead.



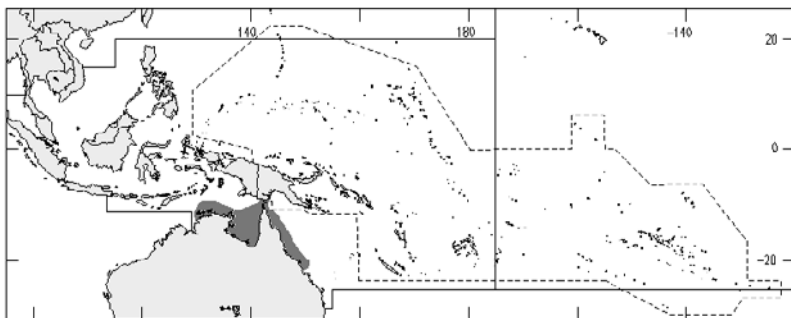
(after Gloerfelt-Tarp and Kailola, 1984)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines usually 3, **upper preopercular spine short, subequal with next; accessory spine absent.** Supraorbital ridge smooth anteriorly, with serrations over posterior half of eye. Preorbital spine absent; a single preocular spine; **suborbital ridge usually with 2 spines under eye and several more spines behind eye.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. Iris lappet cirrose. **Interopercular flap absent.** Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 to 7 (usually 6). Dorsal-fin spines I,VIII; **dorsal-fin rays 11; anal-fin rays 11; pectoral-fin-rays 22 to 25 (usually 23 or 24).** Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. Lateral-line scales 51 to 54 (frequently 52 or 53), anterior 6 to 36 scales bearing a small spine. Scale pores of lateral line with 2 openings to the exterior. **Colour:** head and body grey or brown above, with small brown spots, whitish below with dark stippling, several vague dark bands crossing back; dorsal fins dusky, with small brown spots; anal fin whitish, rays dusky, darkest posteriorly; pectoral fins dusky, with brown spots forming vertical bands; pelvic fins dusky, with a few dark spots; caudal fin dusky, with prominent elongate dark blotches.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 24 cm, commonly to 20 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken over sand and mud bottoms by trawls at depths of 8 to 64 m. Young to juvenile stages commonly found in Darwin Harbour.

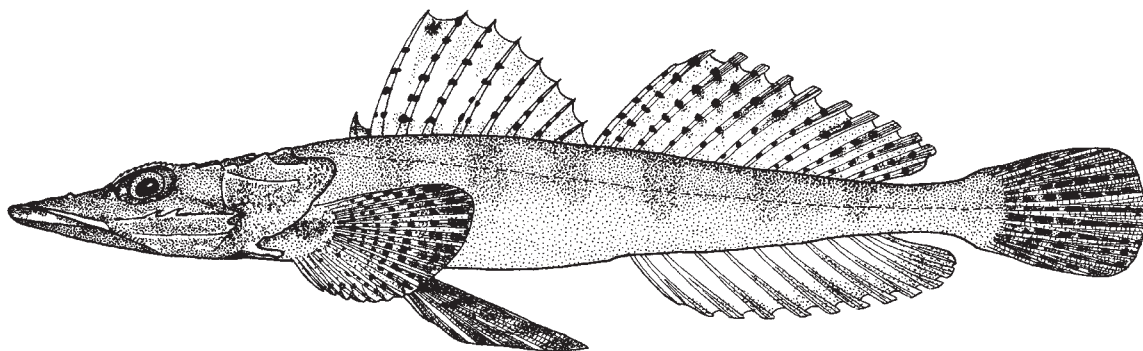
**Distribution:** Northern Australia from the northwestern shelf, Napier Broome Bay, Darwin, to the Gulf of Carpentaria and Pine Peak, Queensland; also Daru, Papua New Guinea.



*Inegocia japonica* (Tilesius, 1812)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Inegocia isacanthus* (Cuvier *in* Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1829) / None.

**FAO names:** **En** - Japanese flathead; **Fr** - Platycéphale japonais; **Sp** - Chato japones.

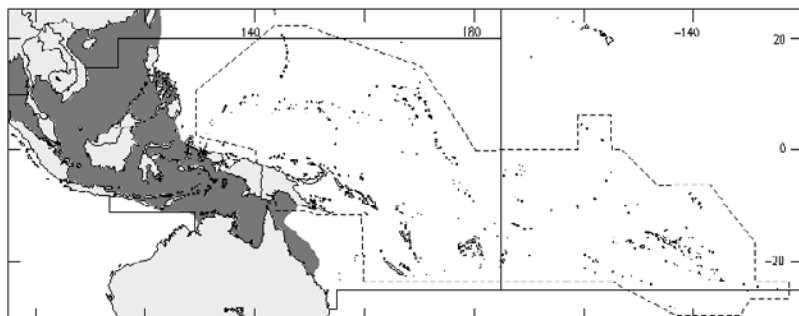


**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines usually 3, **upper preopercular spine short, subequal with next; small accessory spine usually present**. Supraorbital ridge smooth anteriorly, with serrations over posterior half of eye. Preorbital spine absent; a single preocular spine; **suborbital ridge usually smooth except for 2 spines under eye** (specimens from Indonesia and Australia frequently have a few additional small serrations). Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. Iris lappet cirrose. **Interopercular flap finger-like, pointed**. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 to 7 (usually 6). Dorsal-fin spines IX or I,VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11 to 13 (**usually 12**); anal-fin rays 11 to 13 (**usually 12**); **pectoral-fin rays 19 to 21 (frequently 19 or 20)**. Oblique scale rows slanting downward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. Lateral-line scales 51 to 55 (usually 52 or 53), anterior 2 to 21 scales bearing a small spine or ridge. Scale pores of lateral line with 2 openings to exterior. **Colour:** head and body brown or grey above, whitish below, back crossed by about 6 obscure dark bands; dorsal fins clear, with small brown spots on rays; pectoral fins with somewhat larger brown spots, pelvic fins with pale base, several vague dark bands near tip; caudal fin pale, with large dark spots, some elongated.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 25 cm, commonly to 20 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand and mud to depths of about 85 m.

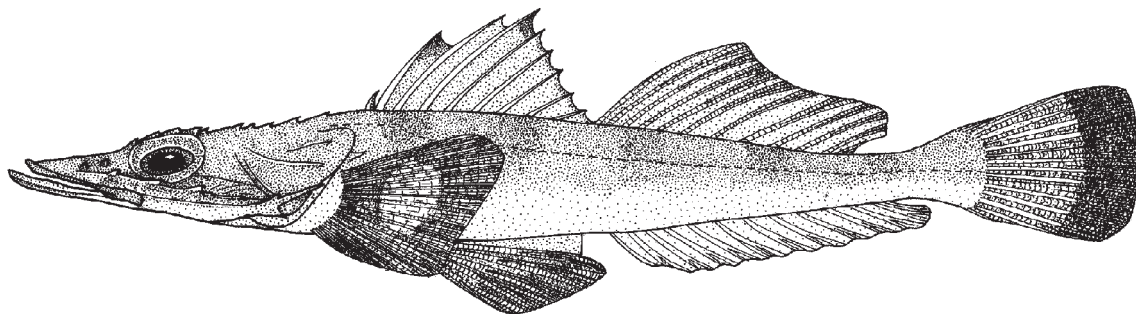
**Distribution:** Widespread, from Cockburn Sound (Western Australia) to Moreton Bay (Queensland); also Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Philippines, southern Japan, South China Sea, Gulf of Thailand to India and Sri Lanka.



***Kumococius rodericensis*** (Cuvier *in* Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1829)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Kumococius detrusus* (Jordan and Seale, 1905) / None.

**FAO names:** En - Spiny flathead; Fr - Platycéphale cocarde; Sp - Chato rodrigo.

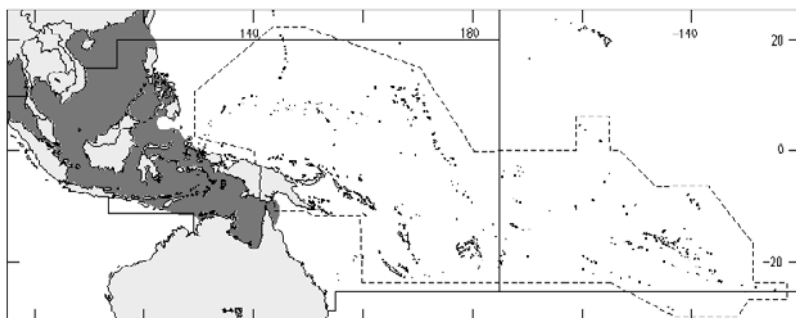


**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines 3, **upper much longer, reaching nearly to or just past opercular margin**; accessory spine present. Supraorbital ridge with stout serrations over eye. Preorbital spine present; a single preocular spine; suborbital ridge bearing numerous strong spines and serrations. Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. Lower side of head bicarinate. Iris lappet simple or slightly bilobed. **Interopercular flap present.** Total gill rakers on first gill arch 8 to 12 (usually 10 or 11). Dorsal-fin spines XI or I,VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11 or 12 (usually 11); **second dorsal-fin spine noticeably shorter than third.** Anal-fin rays 11 to 13 (usually 12); pectoral fin-rays 19 to 22 (usually 19 or 20); **pectoral fin with a falcate posterior margin.** Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. Lateral-line scales 50 to 54 (frequently 52 or 53), anterior 2 to 22 scales (mean 10.6) bearing small spines (2 specimens from the Moluccas had spines on most of the lateral-line scales). Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the exterior. **Colour:** head and body brown above, white below with scattered minute black spots, about 5 broad dark bands crossing back in some; spinous dorsal fin dusky with a black blotch frequently present distally between second and third spines and a second blotch at edge above middle of fin; anal fin whitish with a dusky margin; **pectoral fins dark brown, with a clear or whitish central area**; pelvic fins dark brown with a light edge; caudal fin dusky on posterior half.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 25 cm, commonly to 20 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand and mud bottoms at depths of 18 to 130 m.

**Distribution:** Widespread from the Gulf of Oman to the Bay of Bengal, Malaysia, Gulf of Thailand, Indonesia, northern Australia, Philippines, South China Sea, and southern Japan.

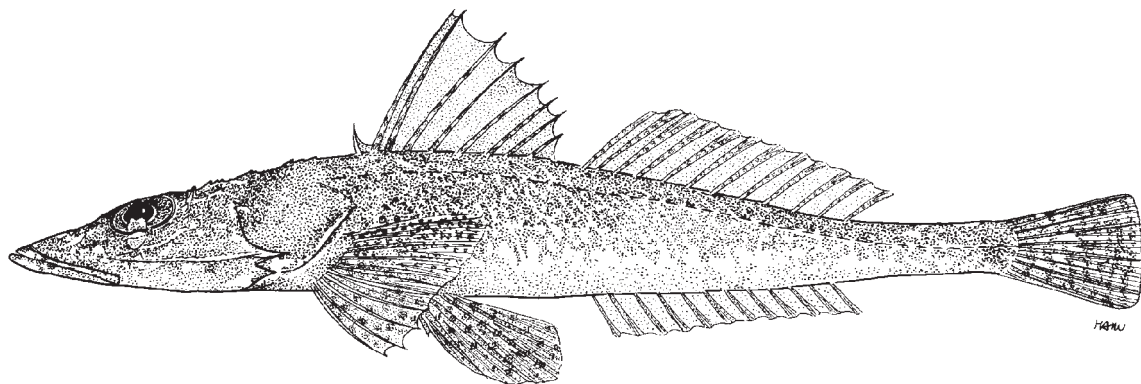




***Onigocia macrolepis*** (Bleeker, 1854)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Notched flathead.



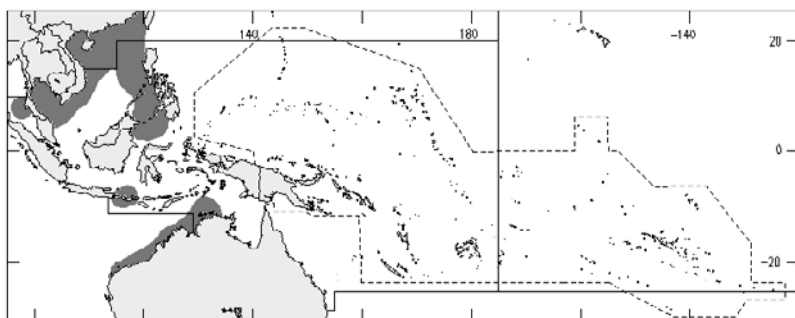
(after Masuda et al., 1984)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches behind front edge of eye. Preopercular spines 3, uppermost longest, with an accessory spine on base. **Supraorbital ridge smooth over front half of eye, serrated posteriorly.** Preorbital spines 1 to 4 (usually 2 or 3); a single preocular spine; **suborbital ridge** bearing numerous small spines or serrations, **with a distinct smooth notch below middle of eye.** **Antorbital margin with 2 antrorse spines.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. **Lower side of head uncarinate.** **Iris lappet bearing numerous short branches with bifurcate tips.** **Upper surface of eye with a short, branched cirrus.** Interopercular flap absent. Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 to 7 (usually 5 or 6). Dorsal-fin spines IX or I.VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11 or 12; anal-fin rays 11 to 13 (usually 12); pectoral-fin rays 21 to 23 (usually 21 or 22). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line closely approximate number of lateral-line scales. **Lateral-line scales 34 to 41 (frequently 37 or 38), anterior 2 to 10 (usually 2 to 5) scales bearing spines.** Scale pores of lateral line with 2 openings to the exterior. **Colour:** body light brown above, pale below; back crossed by about 4 dark bands; anal fin pale, other fins mostly with brown spots or blotches forming bands.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 15 cm, commonly to 12 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand and mud bottoms to 130 m.

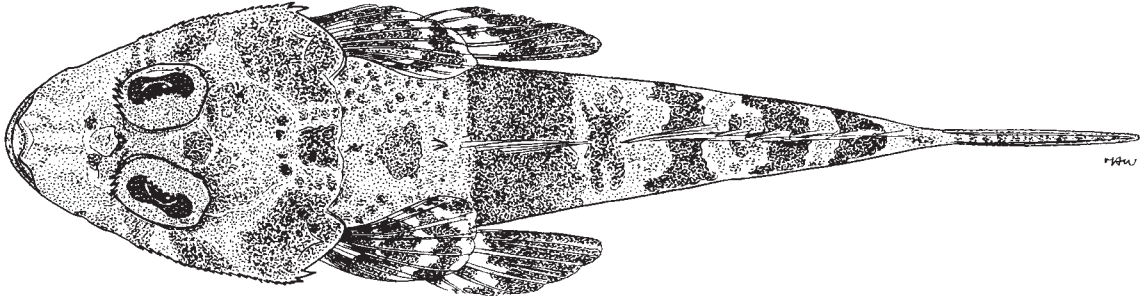
**Distribution:** Sea of Japan, Yellow Sea, South China Sea, Philippines to the northwestern shelf of Australia, Indonesia, Gulf of Thailand, and Andaman Sea.



***Onigocia pedimacula*** (Regan, 1908)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Broadband flathead.

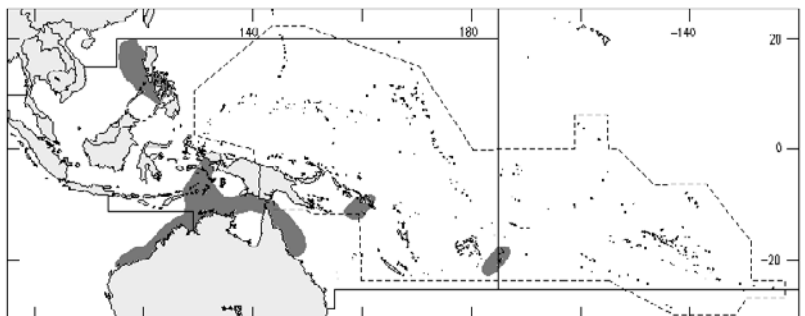


**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to or behind front edge of eye. **No supraocular cirrus present.** Preopercular spines 3, upper longest, with an accessory spine on base. **Supraorbital ridge entirely serrated over eye.** Preorbital with 2 to 6 serrations; **preocular spines 3 to 5, slanting towards midline;** suborbital ridge bearing numerous small spines or serrations, **no smooth notch under eye.** **Antorbital margin with 2 antrorse spines.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. **Lower side of head uncarinate.** **Iris lappet bilobed or crenate.** **Upper surface of eye smooth, no cirrus present.** Interopercular flap absent. **Total gill rakers on first gill arch 4 or 5 (usually 4).** Dorsal-fin spines IX or I, VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11; anal-fin rays 10 or 11 (usually 11); pectoral-fin rays 19 to 23 (usually 21 or 22). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral-line about equal to number of lateral-line scales. **Lateral-line scales 29 to 33 (frequently 30 or 31), anterior 2 to 6 (frequently 3) scales bearing spines.** Scale pores of lateral line with 2 openings to the exterior. **Colour:** head and body grey or brown above, whitish below; back crossed by 4 to 6 brown or olive dark bands, the widest under first dorsal fin; spinous dorsal-fin dusky; soft dorsal, pectoral, and caudal fins more or less with dark spots; **pelvic fins with a prominent dark blotch in middle, a smaller dark blotch near base.**

**Size:** Maximum total length about 11 cm, commonly to 7 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand or coral-rubble bottom at 15 to 110 m, also taken by scuba divers off coral or rocky slopes.

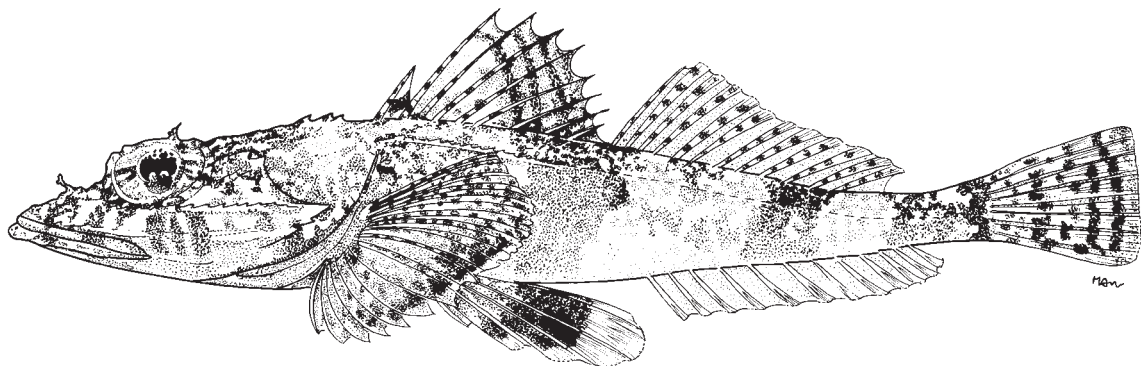
**Distribution:** Widespread, from off Natal, South Africa to Karachi, Maldives, South China Sea, Philippines, Irian Barat (Teluk Berau), north-western shelf of Australia, Timor and Arafura seas, Great Barrier Reef, Guadalcanal, and Tonga.



*Onigocia spinosa* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1843)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Largescaled spiny flathead.



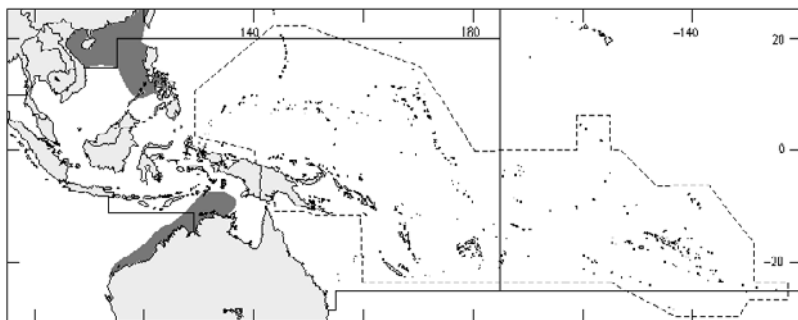
(after Masuda et al., 1984)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, head moderately depressed. Rear edge of maxilla reaches behind front of eye. Preopercular spines 3, upper longest, with an accessory spine on base. **Supraorbital ridge entirely serrated over eye.** Preorbital serrations 3 to 6; **preocular spines 3 to 5, not noticeably slanting towards midline;** suborbital ridge bearing numerous small spines; **no smooth notch under eye.** **Antorbital margin with 3 antrorse spines.** Teeth on vomer in 2 separate patches. **Lower side of head uncarinate.** Iris lappet bearing numerous short branches with bifurcate tips. **Upper surface of eye with a short, branched cirrus.** Interopercular flap absent. **Total gill rakers on first gill arch 5 or 6 (usually 5).** Dorsal-fin spines IX or I,VIII; dorsal-fin rays 11 or 12 (usually 12); anal-fin rays 11 or 12 (usually 12); pectoral-fin rays 20 to 23 (usually 21 or 22). Oblique scale rows slanting backward above lateral line are about equal to number of lateral-line scales. **Lateral-line scales 34 to 42 (frequently 37 or 38), anterior 7 to 27 bearing a small spine or ridge.** Scale pores of lateral line with 2 openings to the exterior. **Colour:** head and body tan or brown above, pale below, back crossed by 3 or 4 dark bands; anterior half of spinous dorsal with brown spots on spines, posterior half of fin with dusky blotches forming about 3 horizontal bands; soft dorsal fin with series of brown spots forming horizontal bands; pectoral fins with dark spots forming vertical bands; pelvic fins mostly dark, light distally; anal fin pale, with a faint dusky submarginal band; caudal fin with several vertical dark bands.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 13 cm, commonly to 10 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by trawls over sand and mud bottoms to about 250 m.

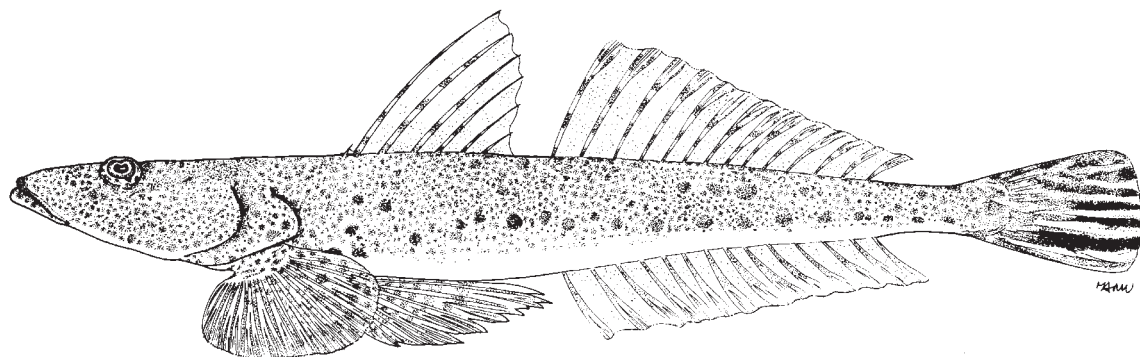
**Distribution:** Southern Japan, South China Sea, and the Philippines, through Arafura and Timor seas to the northwestern shelf of Australia.



***Platycephalus arenarius*** Ramsay and Ogilby, 1886

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Sand flathead.

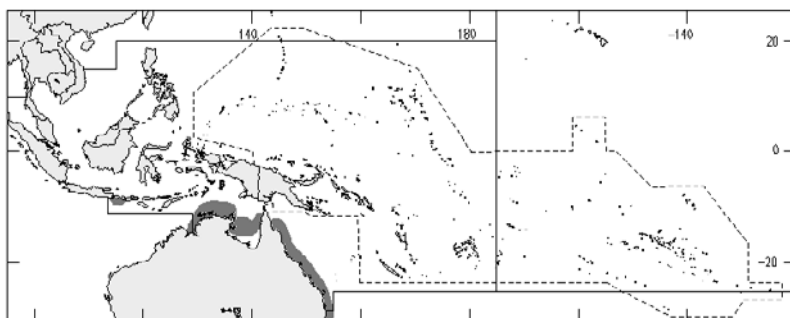


**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, **head strongly depressed**. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to about front third of eye. **Preopercular spines 2, lower distinctly longer; no accessory spine on base of upper**. Supraorbital ridge smooth. Preorbital spine lacking; a single preocular spine. Suborbital ridge smooth in adults, bearing a spine just behind eye in juveniles. **Teeth on vomer in a single transverse band**. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet a simple elongated lobe**. Interopercular flap present, finger-like in shape. **Total gill rakers on first gill arch 12 to 16**. **Dorsal-fin spines I,VI, I,VII, VII,I, or VIII; dorsal-fin rays 13 or 14 (usually 13); anal-fin rays 13 or 14 (usually 13); pectoral-fin rays 19 to 21 (frequently 20)**. **Diagonal scale rows slanting backward above lateral line 82 to 96 (mean 89)**. **Lateral-line scales 69 to 83 (mean 74), anteriormost scale usually with a small spine or ridge**. Scale pores of lateral line with 1 opening to the outside. **Colour:** head and body with many small brown blotches above, whitish below; dorsal fins with small brown spots on rays; pectoral and pelvic fins with small brown spots forming bands; anal fin whitish; **caudal fin white, with 5 or 6 dark horizontal streaks which become narrower above**.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 46 cm, commonly to 35 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by angling along sandy beaches and by trawls to depths of about 55 m, usually less. Juveniles frequently found in shallows.

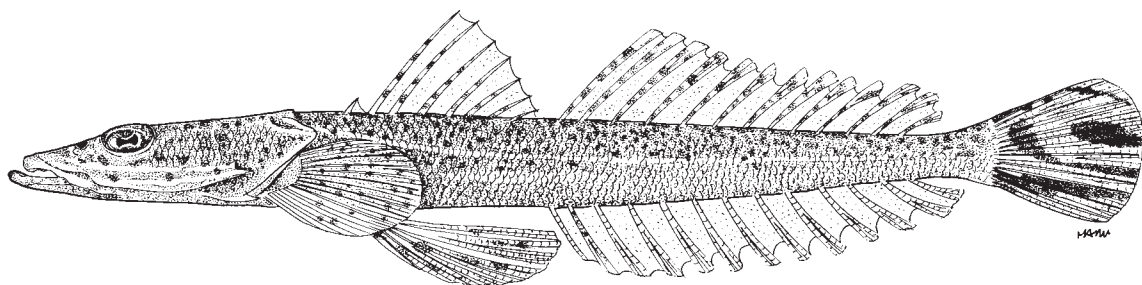
**Distribution:** From Jervis Bay (North South Wales), across northern Australia to Hamelin Bay (Western Australia); also recorded from Bali (Indonesia).



*Platycephalus endrachtensis* Quoy and Gaimard, 1825

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / *Platycephalus indicus* (Linnaeus, 1758).

**FAO names:** En - Yellowtailed flathead.



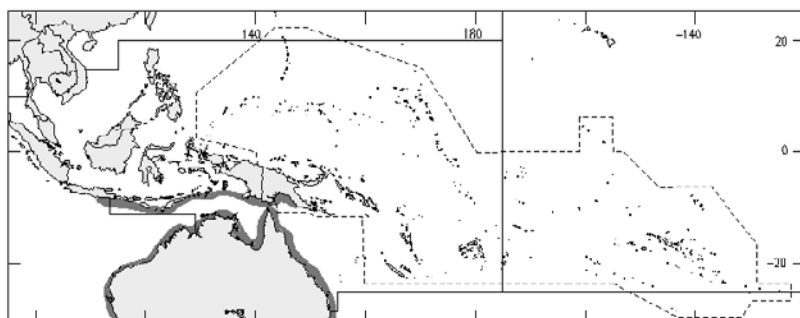
(after Taylor, 1964)

**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, **head strongly depressed**. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to about below middle of eye. **Preopercular spines 2, lower usually longest**; accessory spine usually lacking on base of upper preopercular spine. Supraorbital ridge smooth. Preorbital spine lacking; a single preocular spine, obscure in large adults. Suborbital ridge smooth in adults, bearing a spine below rear of eye in juveniles. **Teeth on vomer in a single transverse band**. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet a simple elongated lobe**. Interopercular flap present, finger-like in shape. **Total gill rakers on first gill arch 9 to 13 (usually 10 or 11)**. **Dorsal-fin spines I,I,VII,I, I,VII,I, or I,I,VII,I; dorsal-fin rays 13; anal-fin rays usually 13; pectoral-fin rays 18 to 20 (usually 19 or 20)**. **Diagonal scale rows slanting backward above lateral line 93 to 109**. **Lateral-line scales 67 to 77, anteriormost scale usually with a small spine or ridge**. Scale pores of lateral line with 1 opening to the outside. **Colour:** head and body covered with small brown flecks, whitish below, several indistinct dark bands crossing back in some; dorsal, pectoral, and pelvic fins with small brown spots on rays; **caudal fin whitish, with 3 or 4 horizontal dark bars and a prominent yellow blotch along upper margin**.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 40 cm, commonly to 3 m.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by handlines and seines in shallow coastal waters; also taken by trawls over mud and sand at shallow depths. Frequently found in estuaries.

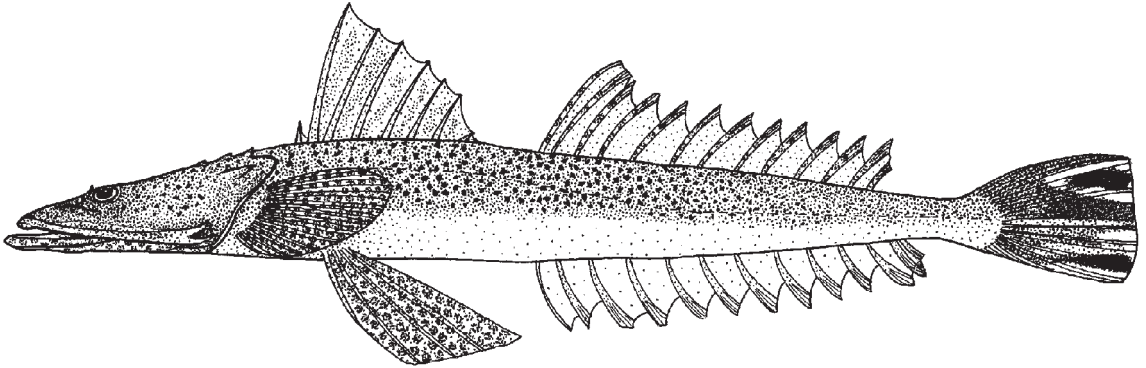
**Distribution:** Known from Freemantle (Western Australia), across northern Australia to Brisbane. Also appears to reach the southern coasts of Java and Papua New Guinea.



***Platycephalus indicus*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / None.

**FAO names:** En - Bartail flathead; Fr - Platycephale indien; Sp - Chato índico.



**Diagnostic characters:** Body elongate, **head strongly depressed**. Rear edge of maxilla reaches to about below middle of eye. **Preopercular spines 2, lower usually longest**; a trace of an accessory spine usually present on base of upper spine. Supraorbital ridge smooth. Preorbital spine lacking; a single preocular spine, obscure in large adults. Suborbital ridge smooth in adults, bearing a spine below rear of eye in juveniles. **Teeth on vomer in a single transverse band**. Lower side of head bicarinate. **Iris lappet a simple elongated lobe**. Interopercular flap present, finger-like in shape. **Total gill rakers on first gill arch 7 to 10 (usually 8 or 9)**. **Dorsal-fin spines I,VII,I, I,I,VII,I or I,VIII; dorsal-fin rays 13; anal-fin rays usually 13**; pectoral-fin rays 17 to 20 (usually 18 or 19). **Diagonal scale rows slanting backward above lateral line 83 to 107**. **Lateral-line scales 65 to 81, anteriormost scale usually with a small spine or ridge**. Scale pores of lateral line with a single opening to the outside. **Colour:** head and body covered with small brown flecks, whitish below, several indistinct dark bands crossing back in some; dorsal, pectoral, and pelvic fins with small brown spots on rays; **caudal fin with 2 or 3 horizontal dark bars, a prominent yellow blotch near middle of fin, whitish areas in upper lobe and along lower margin**.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 50 cm, commonly to 35 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Taken by handlining and seining in shallow coastal waters; taken by trawls over mud and sand at depths to 30 m, usually less. Frequently found in estuaries, small juveniles have been taken in fresh water.

**Distribution:** Widespread, from the eastern Mediterranean, Red Sea, to South Africa, northern Indian Ocean to Indonesia, Korea, southern Japan, Philippines, and northern and eastern Australia.

