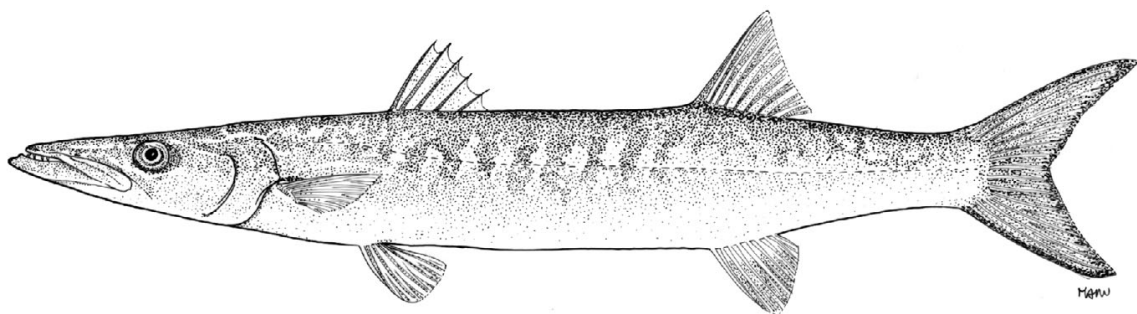


*Sphyraena jello* Cuvier, 1829

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / *Sphyraena qenie* Klunzinger, 1870.

**FAO names:** En - Pickhandle barracuda; Fr - Barracuda jello; Sp - Picuda serpentina.

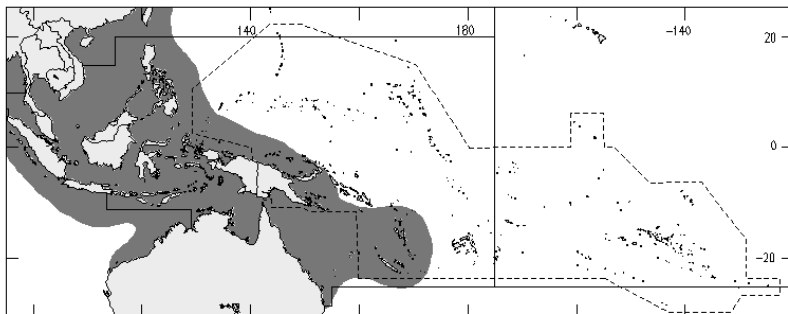


**Diagnostic characters:** A large species. Maxilla reaching to just below anterior margin of eye. **No gill rakers on first gill arch**; upper and lower gill arch with rough platelets which lack distinct spines. Last ray of second dorsal fin not elongate in comparison with penultimate ray. Caudal fin typically forked in all stages, without a pair of lobes at posterior margin. Origin of pelvic fins before first dorsal-fin origin. Lateral-line scales 130 to 140. **Colour:** many dark bars crossing lateral line on body, each bar oblique in upper half, but nearly vertical in lower half; caudal fin largely yellowish without white tips.

**Size:** Maximum total length 125 cm, commonly to 80 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabiting bays, estuaries, and turbid inner lagoon. Diurnal; solitary or in small schools. Common in the Gulf of Thailand and Great Barrier Reef. Caught by trawls, set nets, gill nets, and other fishing gear.

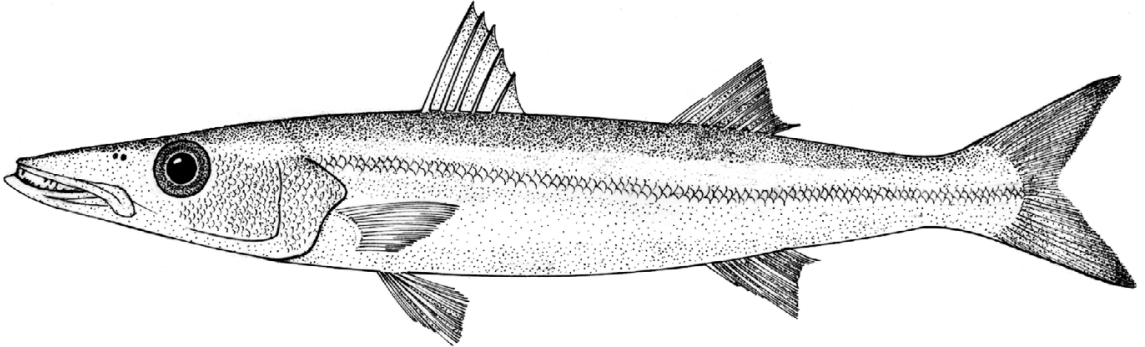
**Distribution:** Tropical and subtropical Indo-West Pacific from South Africa to New Caledonia and Vanuatu. The exact range is uncertain because of confusion with *Sphyraena qenie* and *S. putnamae*.



*Sphyraena obtusata* Cuvier, 1829

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** None / *Sphyraena chrysotaenia* Klunzinger, 1884.

**FAO names:** En - Obtuse barracuda; Fr - Bécune obtuse; Sp - Picuda obtusa.

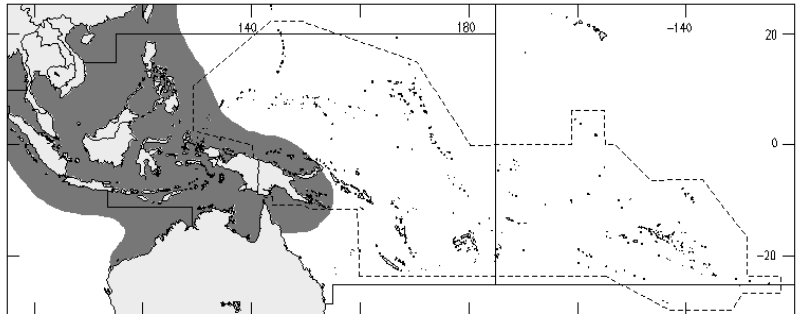


**Diagnostic characters:** A small species. Maxilla not reaching to below anterior margin of eye. **First gill arch with 2 prominent gill rakers.** Caudal fin typically forked in all stages, without a pair of lobes at posterior margin. **Tip of pectoral fins reaching past origin of first dorsal fin.** Origin of pelvic fins well before first dorsal-fin origin. Lateral-line scales 82 to 87. **Colour:** body without bars, stripes, and blotches, but a faint broad yellowish midlateral band on body (in very fresh specimens); caudal fin yellowish.

**Size:** Maximum total length about 35 cm, commonly to 30 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabiting bays and estuaries. Common in the Gulf of Thailand. Caught by trawls, set nets, and gill nets.

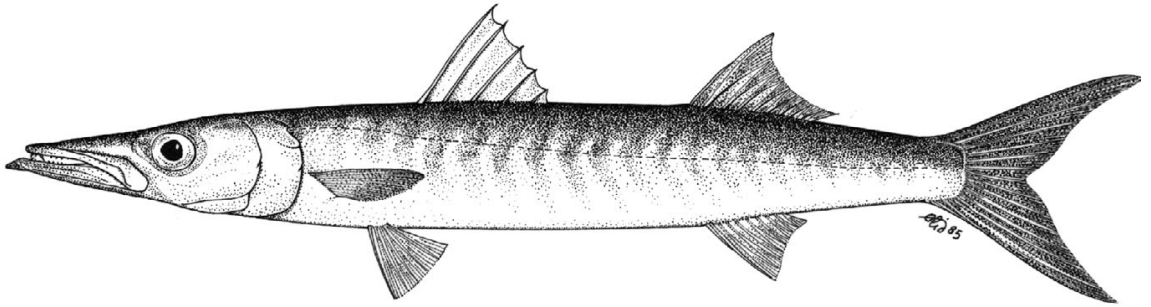
**Distribution:** Tropical and subtropical Indo-West Pacific from South Africa to New Guinea; north to southern Japan. The exact range is uncertain because of confusion with *Sphyraena flavicauda*.



*Sphyraena putnamae* Jordan and Seale, 1905

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** *Sphyraena bleekeri* Williams, 1959 / *Sphyraena jello* Cuvier, 1829; *S. genie* Klunzinger, 1870.

**FAO names:** En - Sawtooth barracuda.

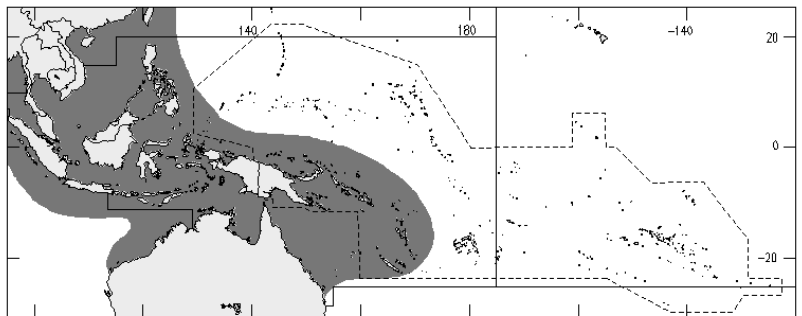


**Diagnostic characters:** A large species. Maxilla reaching to just below anterior margin of eye. **No gill rakers on first gill arch**; upper and lower gill arch with rough platelets which lack distinct spines. Last ray of second dorsal fin elongate in comparison with penultimate ray. **Caudal fin forked, in large adults with a pair of indistinct lobes at posterior margin.** Origin of pelvic fins before first dorsal-fin origin. Lateral-line scales 123 to 136. **Colour: many characteristic dark chevron markings crossing lateral line on body; caudal fin largely blackish without white tips.**

**Size:** Maximum total length 87 cm, commonly to 60 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabiting bays and turbid inner lagoons. A nocturnally active species, but occurring in relatively large schools during the day. Common in the Gulf of Thailand and Indonesia. Caught by handlines, gill nets, set nets, and other fishing gear.

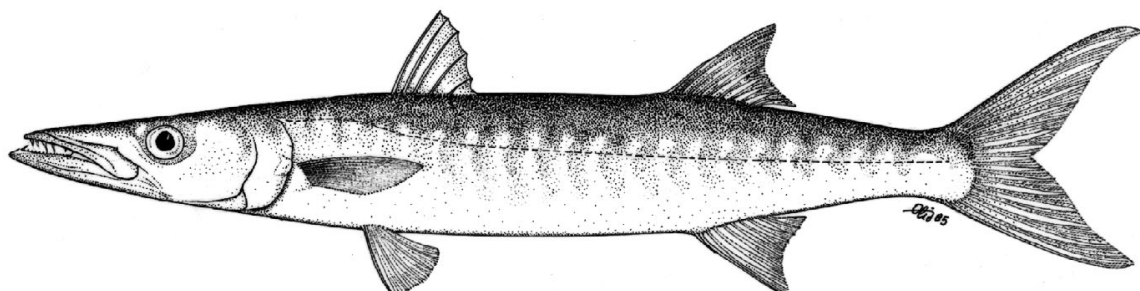
**Distribution:** Tropical and subtropical Indo-West Pacific from South Africa to New Caledonia and Vanuatu; north to southern Japan. The exact range is uncertain because of confusion with *Sphyraena jello* and *S. genie*.



***Sphyraena qenie*** Klunzinger, 1870

**Frequent synonyms / misidentifications:** ? *Sphyraena nigripinnis* Temminck and Schlegel, 1844 / *Sphyraena putnamae* Jordan and Seale, 1905.

**FAO names:** En - Blackfin barracuda.



**Diagnostic characters:** A large species. Maxilla reaching to just below anterior margin of eye. **No gill rakers on first arch;** upper and lower gill arch with rough platelets which lack distinct spines. Lateral-line scales 127 to 130. Origin of pelvic fins before first dorsal-fin origin. Last ray of second dorsal fin not elongate in comparison with penultimate ray. **Caudal fin forked, in adults with a pair of small lobes at posterior margin.** **Colour:** many dark bars crossing lateral line on body, each bar oblique in upper half, but nearly vertical in lower half; caudal fin largely blackish.

**Size:** Maximum total length 115 cm, commonly to 80 cm.

**Habitat, biology, and fisheries:** Inhabiting clear waters in the vicinity of coral reefs. Usually seen during the day in large semistationary schools. Common in Micronesia and the Great Barrier Reef.

**Distribution:** Widespread in the tropical and subtropical Indo-Pacific from South Africa to French Polynesia. The exact range is uncertain because of confusion with *Sphyraena jello* and *S. putnamae*.

