Bibliography database of living/fossil sharks, rays and chimaeras (Chondrichthyes: Elasmobranchii, Holocephali)

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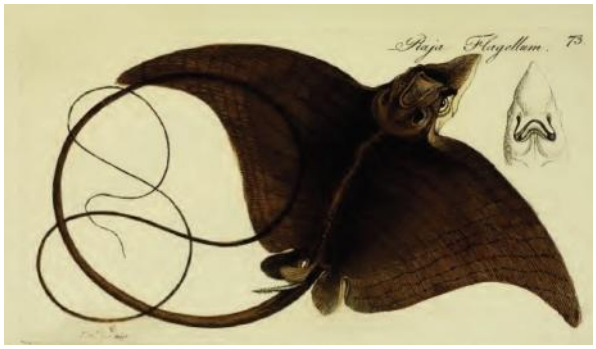

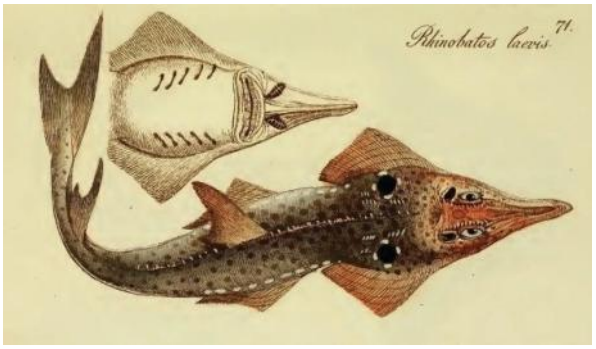

Abstract: This paper contains a collection of 786 citations (no conference abstracts) on topics related to extant and extinct Chondrichthyes (sharks, rays, and chimaeras) as well as a list of Chondrichthyan species and hosted parasites newly described in 2015. The list is the result of regular queries in numerous journals, books and online publications. It provides a complete list of publication citations as well as a database report containing rearranged subsets of the list sorted by the keyword statistics, extant and extinct genera and species descriptions from the years 2000 to 2015, list of descriptions of extinct and extant species from 2015, parasitology, reproduction, distribution, diet, conservation, and taxonomy. The paper is intended to be consulted for information. In addition, we provide information on the geographic and depth distribution of newly described species, i.e. the type specimens from the year 1990- 2015 in a hot spot analysis.

Please note that the content of this paper has been compiled to the best of our abilities based on current knowledge and practice, however, possible errors cannot entirely be excluded.

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1. Extinct Chondrichthyes, Research Articles

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3. Database Reports

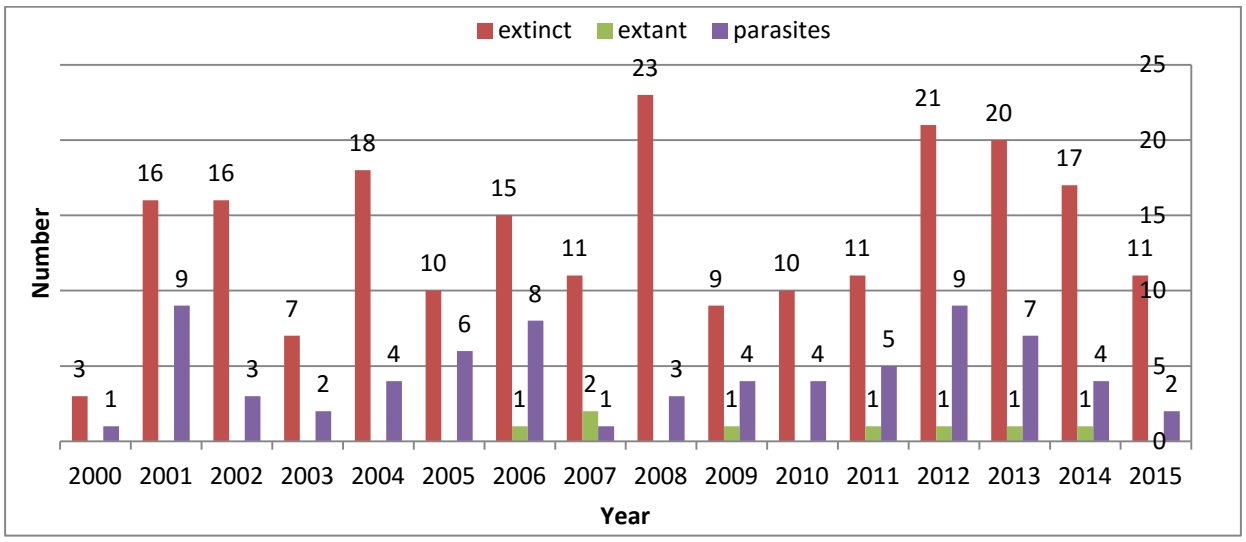
3.1 Statistics

3.1.1 Newly described genera 2000 – 2015

Table 1: Describes extinct, extant and parasite genera in the years 2000 to 2015.

year	extinct	extant	parasites
2000	3		1
2001	16		9
2002	16		3
2003	7		2
2004	18		4
2005	10		6
2006	15	1	8
2007	11	2	1
2008	23		3
2009	9	1	4
2010	10		4
2011	11	1	5
2012	21	1	9
2013	20	1	7
2014	17	1	4
2015	11		2

Figure 1: Barchart showing comparisons of genus descriptions in the three categories extinct, extant, and parasites. Extinct genus descriptions clearly dominate the descriptions record.

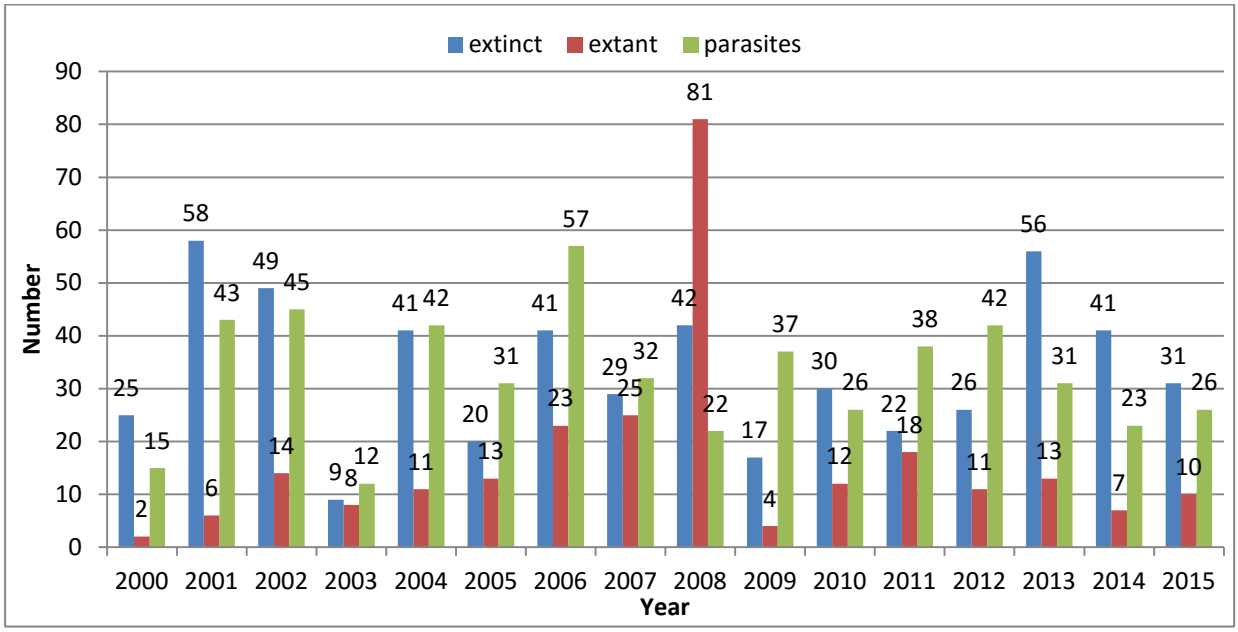


3.1.2 Newly described species 2000 – 2015

Table 2: Describes extinct, extant and parasite species in the years 2000 to 2015.

year	extinct	extant	parasites
2000	25	2	15
2001	58	6	43
2002	49	14	45
2003	9	8	12
2004	41	11	42
2005	20	13	31
2006	41	23	57
2007	29	25	32
2008	42	81	22
2009	17	4	37
2010	30	12	26
2011	22	18	38
2012	26	11	42
2013	56	13	31
2014	41	7	23
2015	31	10	26

Figure 2: Barchart showing comparisons of species descriptions in the three categories extinct, extant, and parasites. Extinct and parasite species descriptions dominate the descriptions record with the exception of the year 2008.



3.1.3 Hot spots (types)

3.1.3.1 Hot spots (types): Summary

Table 3: Summary of collection and specimen numbers of type specimens of Chondrichthyes recorded and described in the years 1990 to 2015.

Year	Number		Without coordinates		Without FAO area	
	# Zoological collection entries	# specimen	# Zoological collection entries	# specimen	# Zoological collection entries	# specimen
1990-1999	409	515	56	59	2	2
2000-2009	1736	1981	119	130	21	29
2010-2015	544	589	118	121	4	4
Total:	**2689**	**3085**	**293**	**310**	**27**	**35**

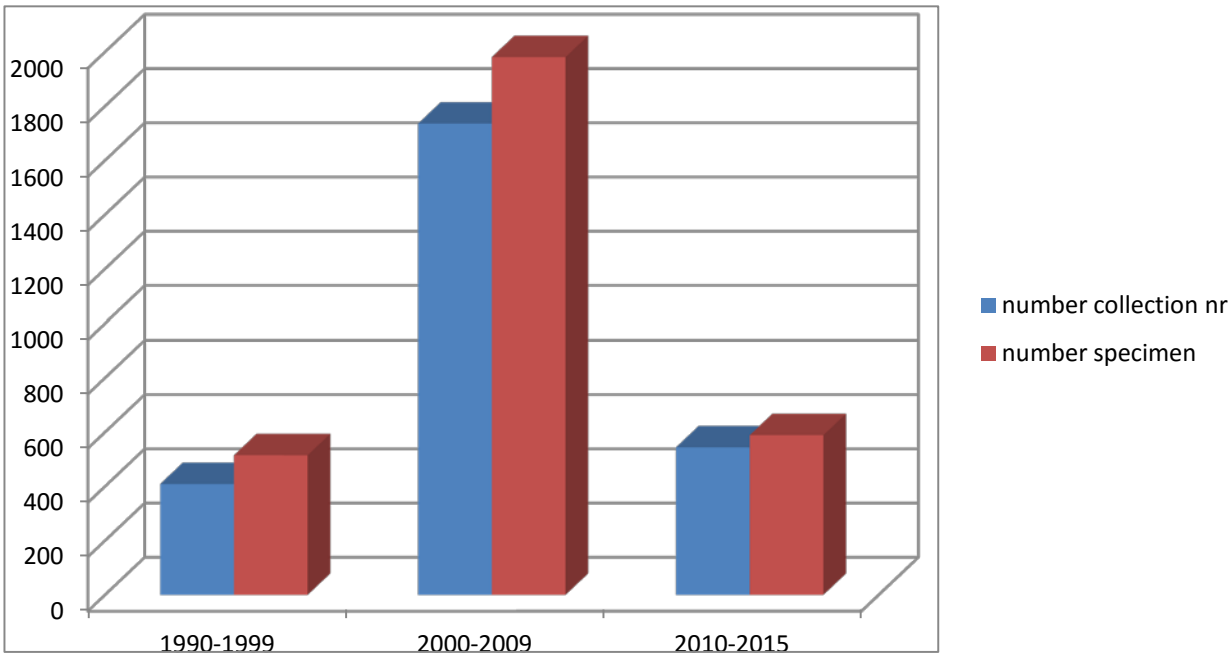


Figure 3: Barchart comparisons of zoological collection and specimen numbers from the years 1990 to 2015 from newly described extant species. Number of species descriptions peak in the years 2000-2009.

3.1.3.2 Hot spots (types): FAO areas - Map -

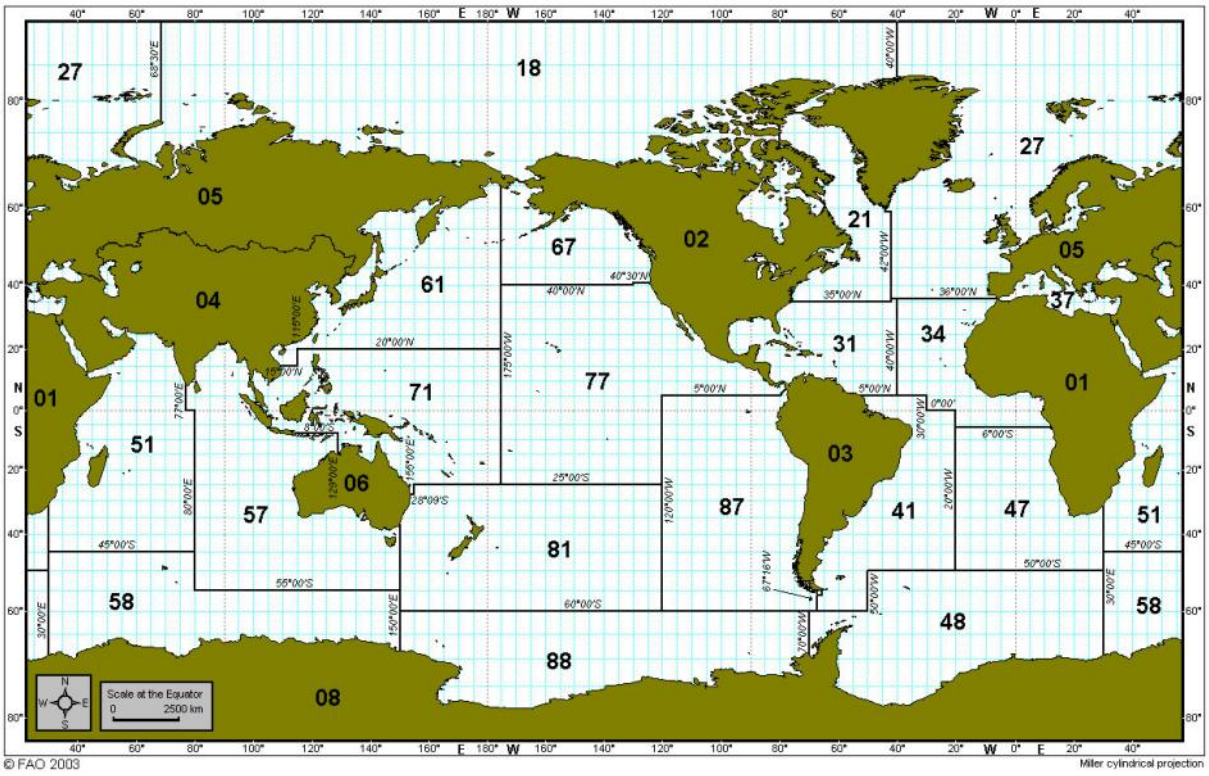


Figure 4: FAO fishing areas of the world's oceans:

Browse FAO Fishing Areas Fact Sheets by list:

Area 18 (Arctic Sea)
Area 21 (Atlantic, Northwest)
Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast)
Area 31 (Atlantic, Western Central)
Area 34 (Atlantic, Eastern Central)
Area 37 (Mediterranean and Black Sea)
Area 41 (Atlantic, Southwest)
Area 47 (Atlantic, Southeast)
Area 48 (Atlantic, Antarctic)
Area 51 (Indian Ocean, Western)
Area 57 (Indian Ocean, Eastern)
Area 58 (Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern)
Area 61 (Pacific, Northwest)
Area 67 (Pacific, Northeast)
Area 71 (Pacific, Western Central)
Area 77 (Pacific, Eastern Central)
Area 81 (Pacific, Southwest)
Area 87 (Pacific, Southeast)
Area 88 (Pacific, Antarctic)

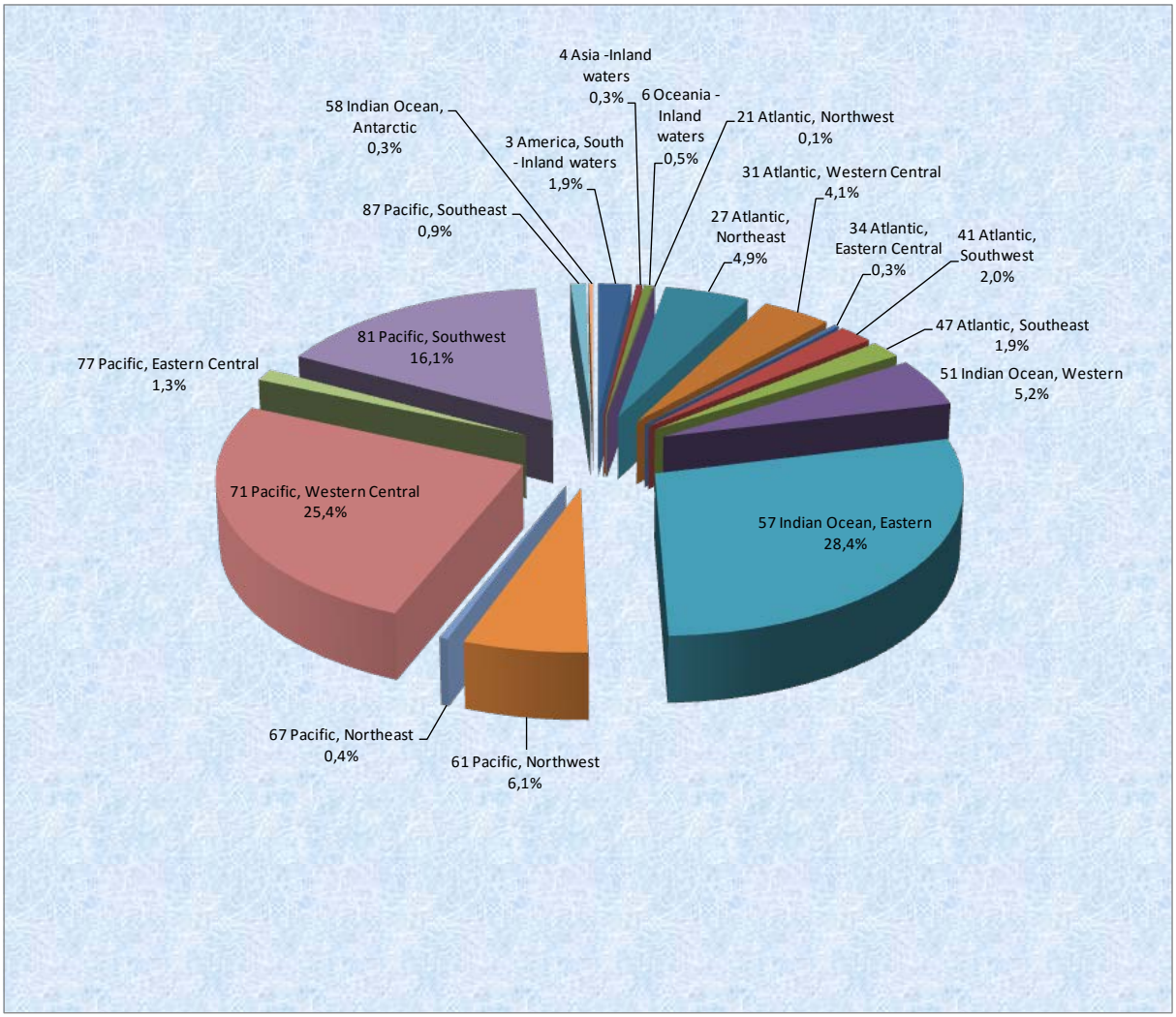
3.1.3.3 Hot spots (types): FAO areas - number of types/specimens/species/FAO area

Table 4: List of zoological collection entries, specimen and species numbers from the years 1990 to 2015 and associated FAO areas.

	nr. of FAO area	FAO area	nr. of collection numbers	nr. of specimen	nr. of species
		INLAND WATERS			
	1	Africa - Inland waters	0	0	0
	2	America, North - Inland waters	0	0	0
	3	America, South - Inland waters	51	50	9
	4	Asia -Inland waters	9	9	3
	5	Europe - Inland waters	13	13	1
	6	Oceania - Inland waters	0	0	0
	7	(Former USSR area – Inland waters)	0	0	0
	8	Antarctica - Inland waters	0	0	0
		MARINE AREAS			
Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas	18	Arctic Sea	0	0	0
	21	Atlantic, Northwest	2	4	1
	27	Atlantic, Northeast	131	148	23
	31	Atlantic, Western Central	108	162	13
	34	Atlantic, Eastern Central	8	8	5
	37	Mediterranean and Black Sea	0	0	0
	41	Atlantic, Southwest	54	55	11
	47	Atlantic, Southeast	50	55	20
Indian Ocean	51	Indian Ocean, Western	139	164	38
	57	Indian Ocean, Eastern	755	847	117
Pacific Ocean	61	Pacific, Northwest	162	176	29
	67	Pacific, Northeast	11	24	3
	71	Pacific, Western Central	676	696	95
	77	Pacific, Eastern Central	34	42	8
	81	Pacific, Southwest	428	539	58
	87	Pacific, Southeast	24	51	9
Southern Ocean	48	Atlantic, Antarctic	0	0	0
	58	Indian Ocean, Antarctic	7	7	1
	88	Pacific, Antarctic	0	0	0

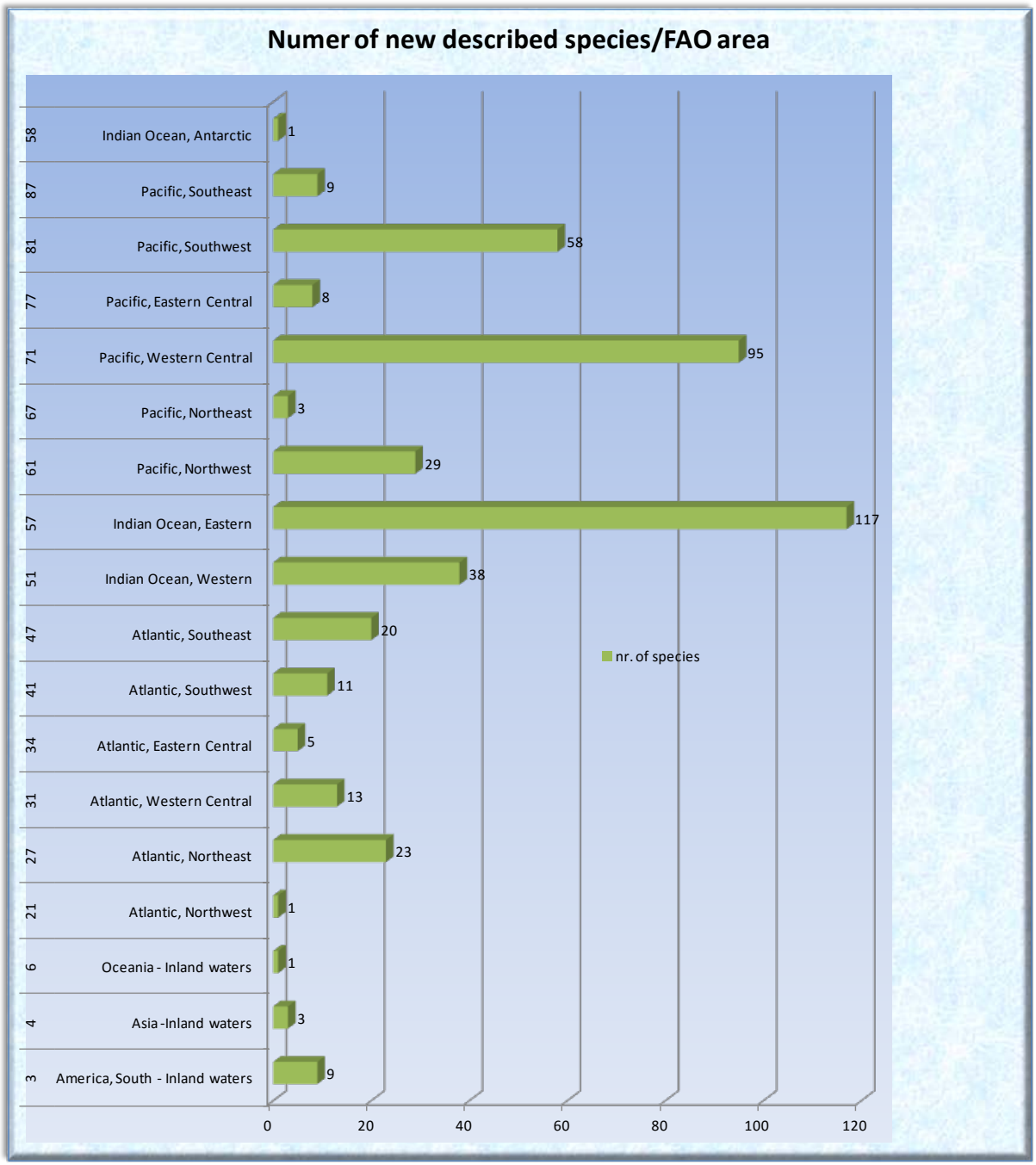
3.1.3.4 Hot spots (types): FAO areas - number of types/FAO area

Figure 5: Piechart showing percentage of all deposited type material from extant species descriptions in associated FAO fishing areas (please see Figure 4 for geographical details).



3.1.3.5 Hot spots (types): FAO areas - number of newly described species/FAO area

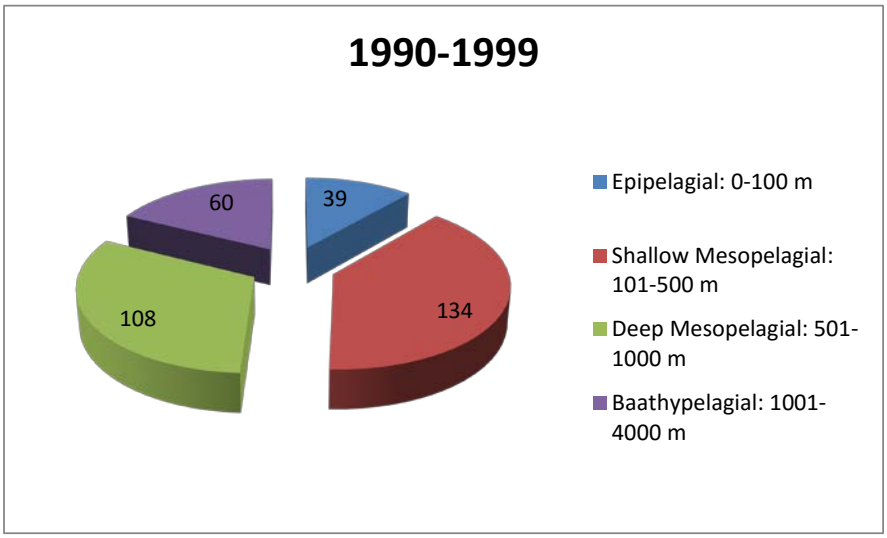
Figure 6: Numbers of newly described species and associated FAO fishing areas (please see Figure 4 for geographical explanations). FAO areas 71 (Western Central Pacific and 57 (Eastern Indian Ocean) appear as highly diverse areas.



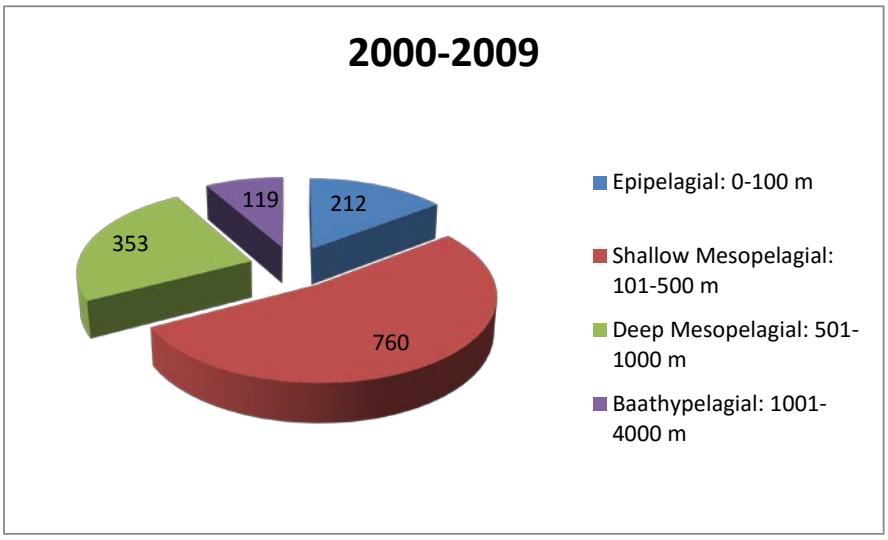
3.1.3.5 Hot spots (types): depth

Types/depth	1990-1999	2000-2009	2010-2015	Total	percentage rate
number of types	409	1735	543	2687	
number of types with depth	341	1444	293	2078	77,34%
Epipelagial: 0-100 m	39	212	86	337	16,22%
Shallow Mesopelagial: 101-500 m	134	760	56	950	45,72%
Deep Mesopelagial: 501-1000 m	108	353	78	539	25,94%
Bathypelagial: 1001-4000 m	60	119	73	252	12,13%

Figure 7:
A: distribution of type specimen in bathymetric profiles in the years 1990-1999.



B: distribution of type specimen in bathymetric profiles in the years 2000-2009.



C: distribution of type specimen in bathymetric profiles in the years 2010-2015.

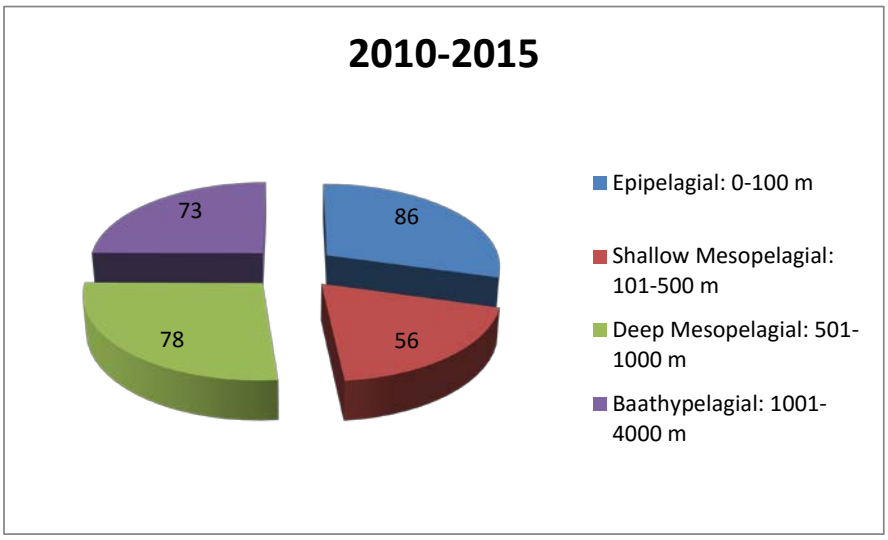
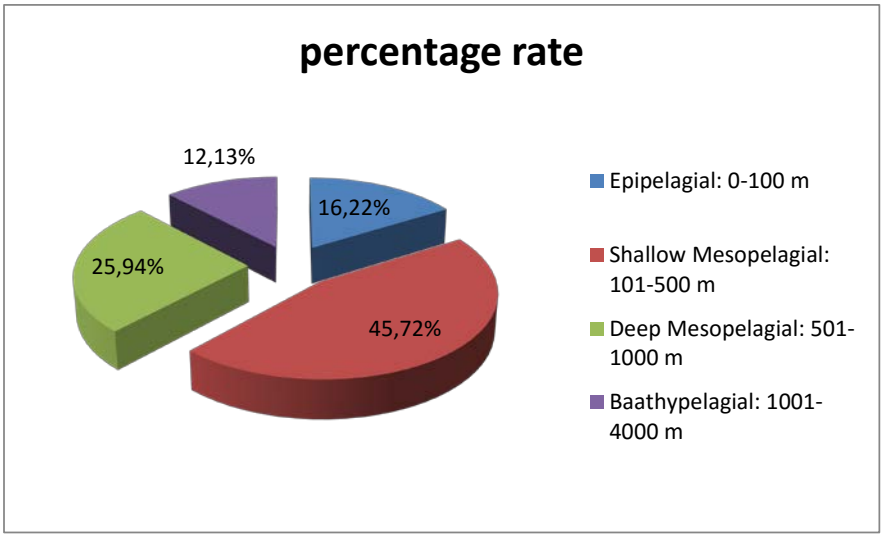
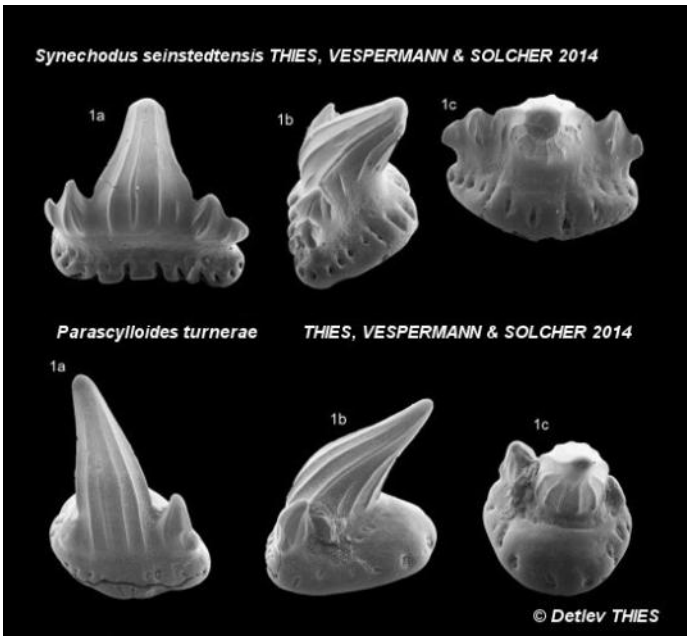


Figure 8: Percentage of type specimen in bathymetric profiles from 1990 to 2015.



3.2 Descriptions of extinct species



THIES, D. & VESPERMANN, J. & SOLCHER, J. (2014): Two new neoselachian sharks (Elasmobranchii, Neoselachii, Synechodontiformes) from the Rhaetian (Late Triassic) of Europe. *Palaeontographica, Abt. A, 303 (4-6): 137-167*

New Genus: *Parascylloides*

New species: *Synechodus seinstedtensis, Parascylloides turnerae*

Abstract: Two new Late Triassic shark species (*Synechodus seinstedtensis* sp. nov., *Parascylloides turnerae* gen. nov. sp. nov.) belonging to the extinct order Synechodontiformes DUFFIN & WARD, 1993 (Chondrichthyes, Elasmobranchii, Neoselachii) are described on isolated oral teeth from Rhaetic deposits of North Germany and England. The term "polyhemiaulacorhize" is introduced for the synechodontiform type of root architecture in order to replace the misleading term "pseudopolyaulacorhize". The teeth of *Parascylloides turnerae* gen. nov. sp. nov. were identified previously as symphyseals or parasymphyseals of *Rhomphaiodon minor* (AGASSIZ, 1837). They are considered here as belonging to a different, new species because of their frequency and their morphological differences to other Triassic neoselachian teeth. The teeth of both new species show a triple-layered enameloid microstructure consisting of an external shiny-layered enameloid (SLE), a middle parallel-bundled enameloid (PBE) and an internal tangled-bundled enameloid (TBE). In *Synechodus seinstedtensis* sp. nov. the PBE contains probably radial bundles of apatite cristallites whereas these are lacking in the PBE of *Parascylloicks turnerae* gen. nov. sp. nov.. The systematical significance of the presence or absence of radial bundles in the PBE remains unclear.

ANDREEV, P.S. & COATES, M.I. & SHELTON, R.M. & COOPER, P.R. & SMITH, M.P. & SANSOM, I.J. (2015): Upper Ordovician chondrichthyan-like scales from North America. *Palaeontology, 58 (4): 691–704*

New Order: Altholepidiformes

New family: Tezakidae, Altholepididae

New genera: *Tezakia, Canyonlepis*

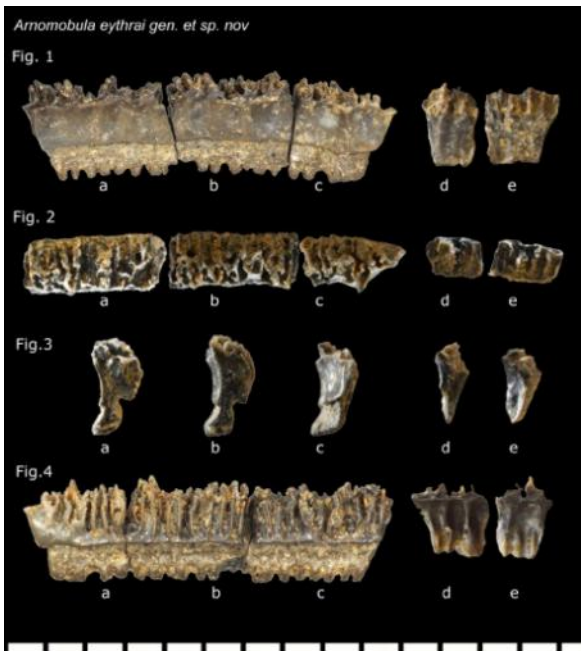
New species: *Tezakia hardingensis, Canyonlepis smithae*

Abstract: Studies of Ordovician micromeric fish scales from the Sandbian of North America have identified a number of scale-based taxa potentially referable to the chondrichthyans and therefore can be among the stratigraphically oldest representatives of the clade described to date. Two of these, *Tezakia hardingensis* gen. et sp. nov. and *Canyonlepis smithae* gen. et sp. nov., are formally described herein. *Tezakia* gen. nov. scales are composed exclusively of tubular dentine and possess polyodontocomplex crowns with a characteristically large primordial odontode. Similar scale crown architecture has been reported only in the reputed chondrichthyan *Altholepis composita* (Lower Devonian of Podolia, Ukraine), and on these grounds, the two are united within the newly erected Altholepidiformes ordo nov. Multiple odontocomplexes are also a feature of *Canyonlepis* gen. nov. scale crowns; however, the latter do not demonstrate prominent primordial odontodes and are supported by a base composed of acellular bone. Additional data suggest that both taxa possess a combination of characteristics (areal crown growth, scale symmetry, linear odontocomplex architecture and absence of enamel, osteons, cancellous bone and hard-tissue resorption) previously documented to occur only in chondrichthyan scales. This study contributes to a growing body of evidence that reveals the presence of diverse tissue types (bone, tubular and atubular dentine) and morphogenetic patterns (odontocomplex and non-odontocomplex type of scale crown growth) in the dermal skeleton of putative Ordovician chondrichthyans.

ROELOFS, B. & PLAYTON, T. & BARHAM, M. & TRINAJSTIC, K. (2015): Upper Devonian microvertebrates from the Canning Basin, Western Australia. *Acta Geologica Polonica, 65 (1): 69-100*

New species: *Diademodus dominicus*

Abstract: A diverse microvertebrate fauna is described from the Virgin Hills and Napier formations, Bugle Gap Limestone Canning Basin, Western Australia. Measured sections at Horse Spring and Casey Falls (Virgin Hills Formation) and South Oscar Range (Napier Formation) comprise proximal to distal slope carbonates ranging in age from the Late Devonian Frasnian to middle Famennian. A total of 18 chondrichthyan taxa are identified based on teeth, including the first record of *Thrinacodus tranquillus, Cladoides wildungensis, Protacrodus serra* and *Lissodus lusavorichi* from the Canning Basin. A new species, *Diademodus dominicus* sp. nov. is also described and provides the first record of this genus outside of Laurussia. In addition, the upper range of *Australolepis seddoni* has been extended to Late Devonian conodont Zone 11, making it the youngest known occurrence for this species. The Virgin Hills and Napier formations microvertebrate faunas show close affinities to faunas recovered from other areas of Gondwana, including eastern Australia, Iran, Morocco and South China, which is consistent with known conodont and trilobite faunas of the same age.

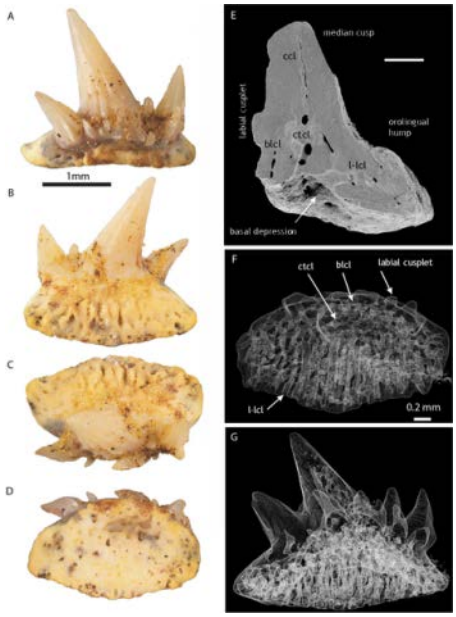


LEDER, R.M. (2015): Fossile Reste von Selachiern und Chimaeren aus dem Muschelschluff und Phosphoritknollenhorizont von Zwenkau bei Leipzig. [Fossil remains of selachiens and chimaera from the Muschelschluff and Phosphoritknollenhorizont of Zwenkau near Leipzig]. *Geologica Saxonia, 61 (1): 73 – 90*

New genera: *Arnomobula*

New species: *Argoubia arnoldmülleri, Arnomobula eythrai, Scyliorhinus kannenbergi*

Abstract: Fossil remains of selachiens and chimaera from the Muschelschluff and Phosphoritknollenhorizont (Böhlen-Formation) of Zwenkau near Leipzig were described. The findings comprise new taxa or taxa that for the appropriate strata very rare are. Beside the new described genus *Arnomobula* gen. nov., the mobuloid rays *Arnomobula eythrai* gen. et spec. nov. and *Argoubia arnoldmülleri* spec. nov. as well as the scyliorhinid shark *Scyliorhinus kannenbergi* spec. nov. were described and verified as new species. As type horizons the Phosphoritknollenhorizont and Muschelschluff were determined. Beside the first description of oral teeth of the saw shark *Pristiophorus rupeliensis* Steuerbaut & Herman 1987 for the fossil site further pretty rare rostral teeth of the species as well as a fragment of the palatinal tooth plate of *Chimaera gosseleti* Winkler 1880 could be described. The fossil samples mirror the faunal progress in a marginal sea at the maximum transgression of the North Sea.



LONG, J.A. & BURROW, C.J. & GINTER, M. & MAISEY, J.G. & TRINAJSTIC, K.M. & COATES, M.I. & YOUNG, G.C. & SENDEN, T.J. (2015): First Shark from the Late Devonian (Frasnian) Gogo Formation, Western Australia Sheds New Light on the Development of Tessellated Calcified Cartilage. *PLoS ONE, 10 (5): e0126066*

New genus: *Gogoselachus*

New species: *Gogoselachus lynnbeazleyae*

Abstract: **Background**

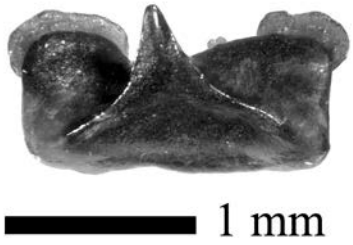
Living gnathostomes (jawed vertebrates) comprise two divisions, Chondrichthyes (cartilaginous fishes, including euchondrichthyans with prismatic calcified cartilage, and extinct stem chondrichthyans) and Osteichthyes (bony fishes including tetrapods). Most of the early chondrichthyan ('shark') record is based upon isolated teeth, spines, and scales, with the oldest articulated sharks that exhibit major diagnostic characters of the group—prismatic calcified cartilage and pelvic claspers in males—being from the latest Devonian, c. 360 Mya. This paucity of information about early chondrichthyan anatomy is mainly due to their lack of endoskeletal bone and consequent low preservation potential.

Methodology/Principal Findings

Here we present new data from the first well-preserved chondrichthyan fossil from the early Late Devonian (ca. 380–384 Mya) Gogo Formation Lägerstatte of Western Australia. The specimen is the first Devonian shark body fossil to be acid-prepared, revealing the endoskeletal elements as three-dimensional undistorted units: Meckel's cartilages, nasal, ceratohyal, basibranchial and possible epibranchial cartilages, plus left and right scapulocoracoids, as well as teeth and scales. This unique specimen is assigned to *Gogoselachus lynnbeazleyae* n. gen. n. sp.

Conclusions/Significance

The Meckel's cartilages show a jaw articulation surface dominated by an expansive cotylus, and a small mandibular knob, an unusual condition for chondrichthyans. The scapulocoracoid of the new specimen shows evidence of two pectoral fin basal articulation facets, differing from the standard condition for early gnathostomes which have either one or three articulations. The tooth structure is intermediate between the 'primitive' ctenacanthiform and symmoriiform condition, and more derived forms with a euselachian-type base. Of special interest is the highly distinctive type of calcified cartilage forming the endoskeleton, comprising multiple layers of nonprismatic subpolygonal tesserae separated by a cellular matrix, interpreted as a transitional step toward the tessellated prismatic calcified cartilage that is recognized as the main diagnostic character of the chondrichthyans.

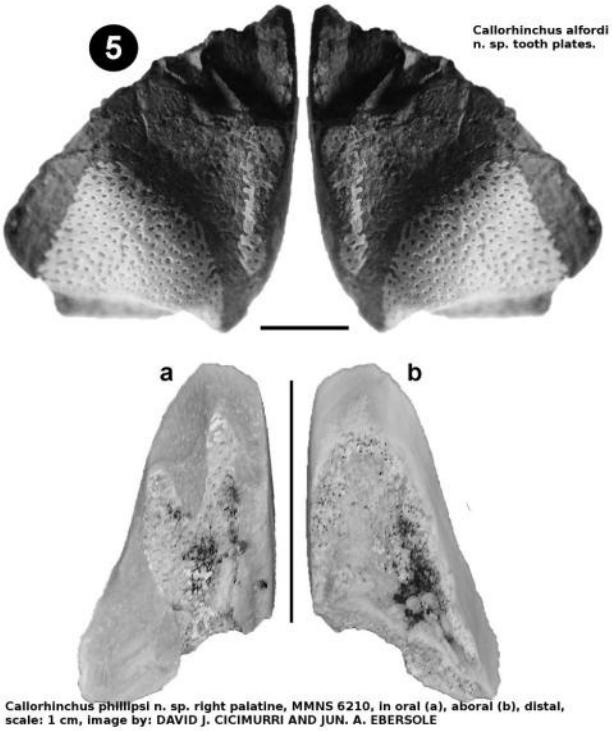


REINECKE, T. (2015): Batoids (Rajiformes, Torpediniformes, Myliobatiformes) from the Sülstorf Beds (Chattian, Late Oligocene) of Mecklenburg, northeastern Germany: a revision and description of three new species. *Palaeovertebrata, 39: e2*

New genus: *Oligoraja*

New species: *Raja thiedei, Oligoraja pristina, Torpedo chattica*

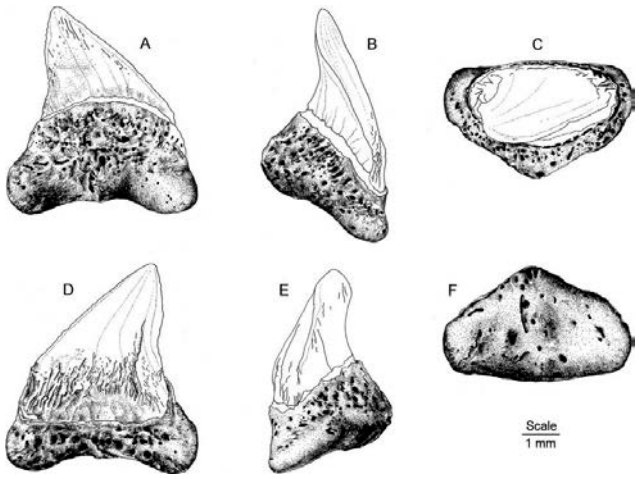
Abstract: Bulk-sampling of fossil-rich tempestites from the Chattian Sülstorf Beds of Mecklenburg, north-eastern Germany, yielded a rich selachian fauna in which batoids predominate by the abundance of teeth but are subordinate by the number of taxa. Thirteen taxa are identified, among which rajiform batoids are the most diverse (six species). One genus and three species are newly described: *Raja thiedei* sp. nov., *Oligoraja pristina* gen. et sp. nov., and *Torpedo chattica* sp. nov. Two species are reallocated: *Atlantoraja cecilae* (Steurbaut & Herman, 1978) new comb., and *Dipturus casieri* (Steurbaut & Herman, 1978) new comb. Ontogenetic heterodonty is documented for the first time in the dental pattern of *Myliobatis* sp. Stratigraphical ranges of batoid taxa in the period from Rupelian to Langhian are presented and partly discussed in context with the palaeoclimatic evolution and palaeogeographic situation of the North Sea Basin.



CICIMURRI, D.J. & EBERSOLE, J.A. (2015): Paleocene chimaeroid fishes (Chondrichthyes: Holocephali) from the eastern United States, including two new species of *Callorhinchus*. *PaleoBios, 32 (1): 1-29*

New species: *Callorhinchus phillipsi, Callorhinchus alfordi*

Abstract: Isolated tooth plates collected from Paleocene deposits of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia represent four genera of chimaeroid fishes. *Callorhinchus* is reported in the fossil record of North America for the first time and is represented by material from the Danian (early Paleocene) of Mississippi and the Thanetian (late Paleocene) of Maryland and Virginia. Specimens from both locations are identified as new species, the Danian *C. phillipsi* n. sp. and the Thanetian *C. alfordi* n. sp. New Paleocene *Elasmodus* records from North America include two partial mandibulars belonging to *E. hunteri* from the Thanetian of Maryland, and a nearly complete mandibular from the Danian of New Jersey, tentatively assigned to cf. *Elasmodus* sp. Two species of *Ischyodus* are recognized, *I. dolloi* (Danian and Thanetian) and *I. williamsae* (Danian), but the two species have not been found in the same lithostratigraphic deposits. *Edaphodon mirificus* is known from the Danian of New Jersey and Mississippi, and the genus also occurs in the Thanetian of Virginia.



WELTON, B.J. (2015): A New Species of Late Early Miocene *Cetorhinus* (Lamniformes: Cetorhinidae) from the Astoria Formation of Oregon, and Coeval Cetorhinus from Washington and California. *Contributions in Science, 523: 67–89*

New species: *Cetorhinus piersoni*

Abstract: Microphagous lamniforms of the family Cetorhinidae have a significant Cenozoic history in the North Pacific Ocean. The Late Eocene *Keasius taylori* occurs in the Keasey Formation of Oregon, and *K. parvus* may occur in the Oligocene Lincoln Creek Formation of southwestern Washington. The genus *Cetorhinus* has one extant species, *C. maximus,* and a fossil record, including the Middle Miocene *C. huddlestoni* from the middle Round Mountain Silt, Sharktooth Hill Bonebed, California, and *C. maximus* from the Late Miocene through Pleistocene of Oregon and California. An intermediate-sized cetorhinid, *Cetorhinus piersoni*, new species, is named on teeth from the late Early Miocene Astoria Formation from Lincoln County, Oregon, and coeval deposits of the lower Round Mountain Silt from the southeast part of California's San Joaquin Valley. Teeth of *C. piersoni* from California, but not Oregon, occur in association with very small teeth of an as yet undescribed species of *Keasius*. The type series of *C. piersoni* is morphologically diverse, although, many of the adult teeth have low, broadly triangular crowns, large roots, and well-developed root lobes reminiscent of the genus *Alopias*. *Cetorhinus piersoni* may have had a wider range in diet than *C. maximus*, feeding on small fishes as well as plankton. Calcified vertebrae of a small basking shark from a late Early Miocene section of the Astoria Formation in southwestern Washington are described and referred to the genus *Cetorhinus*. These vertebrae differ from those of *Keasius* in being anteroposteriorly elongated, and in having intermedialia with well-developed perforated concentric lamellae and no calcified radii extending outward from the primary double cone or peripheral to the outermost concentric lamellae. The vertebrae come from marine deposits coeval with the Oregon Astoria Formation type locality of *C. piersoni*, but without associated teeth, a specific taxonomic assignment is not possible. The depositional environments represented by the Astoria Formation in Washington and Oregon, and the Round Mountain Silt in California, indicate that *Cetorhinus piersoni*, and *C. huddlestoni* were warm-water nektopelagic feeders over both deep and shallow waters of the continental shelf.

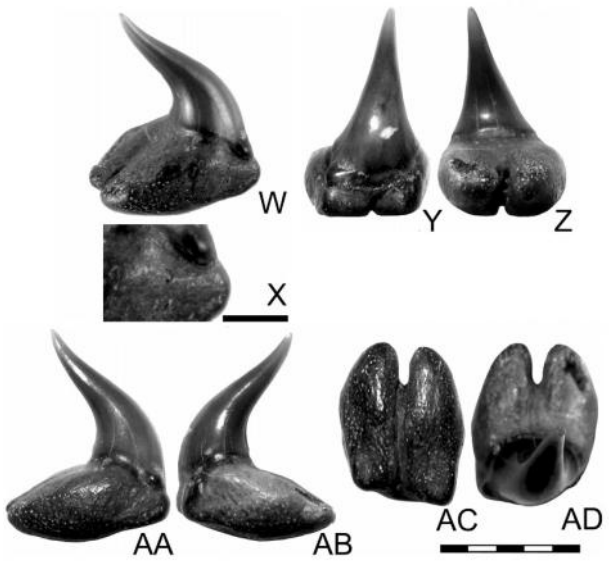


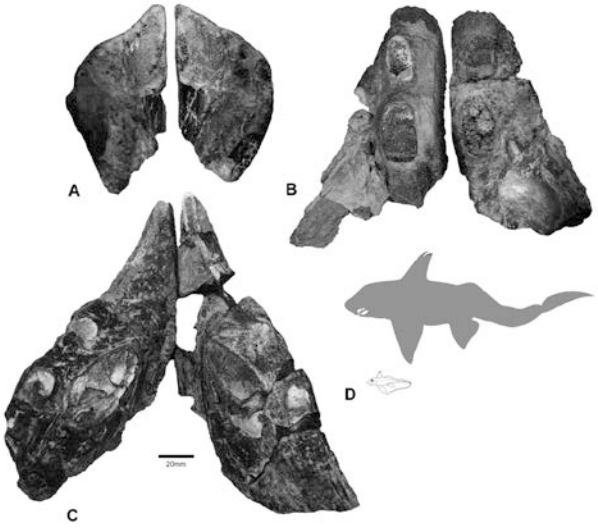
Image: *Pseudomegachasma comanchensis*, comb. nov. (Shimada, 2007), from Upper Cretaceous of the United States, In: SHIMADA, K. & POPOV, E.V. & SIVERSSON, M. & WELTON, B.J. & LONG, D.L. (2015): A new clade of putative plankton-feeding sharks from the Upper Cretaceous of Russia and the United States. Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 35 (5): e981335

SHIMADA, K. & POPOV, E.V. & SIVERSSON, M. & WELTON, B.J. & LONG, D.L. (2015): A new clade of putative plankton-feeding sharks from the Upper Cretaceous of Russia and the United States. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 35 (5): e981335*

New subfamily: Johnlonginae

New genus: *Pseudomegachasma*

Abstract: *Eorhincodon casei* from Russia and *Megachasma comanchensis* from the United States are two Cretaceous taxa initially described as putative planktivorous elasmobranchs, but the type specimens of these two taxa were subsequently reinterpreted to represent taphonomically abraded teeth of an odontaspidid, *Johnlongia* Siverson (Lamniformes: Odontaspididae). Here, we redescribe the type materials of '*E. casei*' and '*M. comanchensis*' and describe additional specimens of these species from other Late Cretaceous localities in Russia and the United States. These specimens demonstrate that (1) the two fossil taxa are valid species; (2) they warrant the establishment of a new genus of presumed planktivorous sharks, *Pseudomegachasma*, gen. nov., to accommodate the two species; and (3) the new genus is sister to *Johnlongia* and together constitute a new subfamily Johnlonginae, subfam. nov., tentatively placed in the family Odontaspididae sensu stricto. This taxonomic placement indicates that the putative planktivorous clade was derived from a presumed piscivorous form (*Johnlongia*), with an implication that *Pseudomegachasma*, gen. nov., evolved a plankton-eating habit independent of the four known planktivorous elasmobranch clades (Rhincodontidae, Megachasmidae, Cetorhinidae, and Mobulidae). It also indicates that planktivorous diets evolved independently at least three times in the order Lamniformes (i.e., Megachasmidae, Cetorhinidae, and Odontaspididae), and more significantly, *Pseudomegachasma*, gen. nov., would represent the oldest known plankton-feeding elasmobranch in the fossil record. The present fossil record suggests that *Pseudomegachasma*, gen. nov., evolved in a relatively shallow-water environment in Russia in the early Cenomanian or earlier and subsequently migrated to the North American Western Interior Seaway by the mid-Cenomanian.

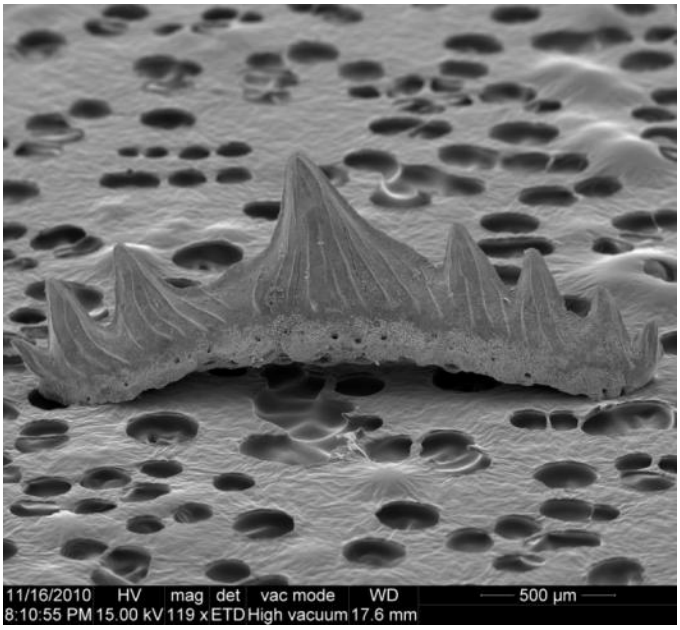


GOUIRIC-CAVALLI, S. & CABRERA, D.A. & CIONE, A.L. & O'GORMAN, J.P. & CORIA, R.A. & FERNÁNDEZ, M. (2015): The first record of the chimaeroid genus *Edaphodon* (Chondrichthyes, Holocephali) from Antarctica (Snow Hill Island Formation, Late Cretaceous, James Ross Island). *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 35 (5): e981128*

New genus: *Edaphodon snowhillensis*

Abstract: A new species of an edaphodontid holocephalian, *Edaphodon snowhillensis*, sp. nov., is described based on a complete dentition collected in the late Campanian Herbert Sound Member of the Snow Hill Island Formation of James Ross Island, Antarctica. The dentition consists of paired vomerine, mandibular, and palatine tooth plates, which are almost completely preserved. The new species is characterized by a unique character combination out of which the presence of a subquadrangular vomerine tooth plate and a horse-hoof-shaped anterior outer tritor in the mandibular tooth plates appear to be unique characters among the edaphodontids. *Edaphodon snowhillensis*, sp. nov., represents the most complete dentition of a holocephalian fish from the Southern Hemisphere and the earliest record of the genus *Edaphodon* from the Antarctic continent and the Weddellian

Biogeographic Province. Also, *E. snowhillensis*, sp. nov., is the southernmost specimen of this genus and according to the size of the tooth plates is one of the largest chimaeroid fish known.



Safrodus tozeri nov.sp., copyright by Martha Koot

KOOT, M.B. & CUNY, G. & ORCHARD, M.J. & RICHOZ, S. & HART, M.B. & TWITCHETT, R.J. (2015): New hybodontiform and neoselachian sharks from the Lower Triassic of Oman. *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology, 13 (10): 891-917*

New genus: *Safrodus, Polyfaciodus*

New species: *Omanoselache halli, Safrodus tozeri, Polyfaciodus pandus*

Abstract: Elasmobranchs are reported for the first time from Lower Triassic deposits in Oman. The well-preserved remains consist of isolated teeth, dermal denticles and fin spines, recovered from conodont residues. The low-palaeolatitude sections consist of Lopingian–Olenekian shallow and pelagic carbonates in exotics, olistoliths and breccia blocks that have been redeposited in younger allochthonous strata of the Hawasina Basin throughout the Oman Mountains at Jabal Safra (olistoliths within the Jurassic Guwayza Formation, Olenekian), as well as at Wadi Alwa (exotic Alwa Formation, Lopingian–Olenekian) and Wadi Wasit Block (slope breccia in the Al Jil Formation, Induan), both of which occur in the Ba'id region. The recovered fauna contains a small number of pre-existing genera, but is mainly composed of new hybodont and neoselachian taxa. They are identified as:*Omanoselache halli* Koot & Cuny sp. nov., cf. *Omanoselache* sp., *Safrodus tozeri* Koot & Cuny gen. et sp. nov. and *Polyfaciodus pandus* Koot & Cuny gen. et sp. nov., based on the majority of the recovered dental remains. Spine fragments are identified as cf.*Amelacanthus* sp. This fauna represents the second published record of neoselachian teeth from the Induan and the most extensive record from the Lower Triassic in terms of abundance and diversity. The fauna is dominated by Neoselachii, whereas other Early Triassic faunas are hybodont-dominated, and histological study of the neoselachian enameloid significantly adds to our knowledge of the early stages of their evolution. All described taxa are new to the Oman fossil record and that of western Neotethys, apart from *Omanoselache* and *Amelacanthus*, which have been recognized from Wordian deposits, and *Omanoselache* is the second genus from Oman known to have survived the late Permian mass extinction. The level of faunal diversity recognized here is comparable to other Early Triassic faunas but is much reduced compared to the Wordian pre-extinctions fauna.

REINECKE, T. & VON DER HOCHT, F. & DUFRAING, L. (2015): Fossil basking shark of the genus *Keasius* (Lamniforme, Cetorhindiae) from the boreal North Sea Basin and Upper Rhine Graben: evolution of dental characteristics from the Oligocene to late Middle Miocene and description of two new species. *Palaeontos, 28: 60 text-pages (incl. 24 text-figs and 2 tables).*

New species: *Keasius septemtrionalis, Keasius rhenanus*

Abstract: Basking sharks of the extinct genus *Keasius* Welton, 2013 occurred widespread during the Oligocene and Early to Middle Miocene in marine environments of the North Sea Basin, Upper Rhine Graben, Paratethys and adjacent regions. These sharks were equipped with a gill raker apparatus for filter-feeding (elongate modified denticles attached to the gill arches), and a heterodont dentition suitable for grasping/tearing small-sized prey. We have studied a comprehensive collection of teeth and gill rakers from 45 locations (quarries, borings, temporary excavations) in Rupelian to Serravallian deposits. Two new species are described:*Keasius septemtrionalis* sp. nov. from the early/middle Chattian Sülstorf Beds, Mecklenburg, northeastern Germany, and *Keasius rhenanus* sp. nov. from the late Burdigalian Lower Mica Finesand Formation, Lower Saxony, northern Germany. This study allows to document and interprete for the first time variations due to heterodonty in the dental morphology of *Keasius parvus* (Leriche, 1908) by means of abundant teeth collected from the Rupelian Alzey Formation, Mainz Basin, western Germany, and the Rupelian Boom Clay Formation, northern Belgium. Artificial tooth sets characterized by dignathic and disjunct-monognathic heterodonty,based on the „lamnoid tooth pattern“, are proposed for the three Oligo-Miocene species of *Keasius* and compared with reconstructed dentitions of the Late Eocene *Keasius taylori* proposed by Welton (2013).

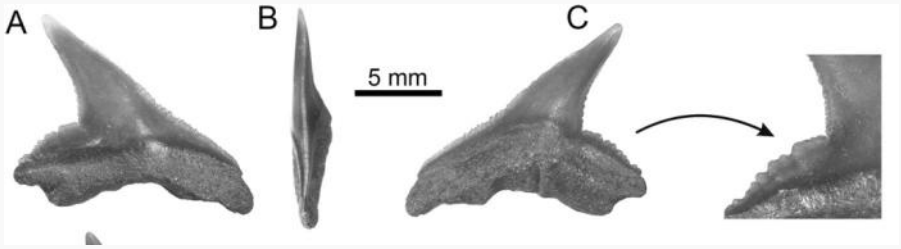
SUZUKI, H. (2015): A new genus of the Family Dalatiidae (Chondrichthyes: Elasmobranchii) from the Miocene of Japan. *Journal of Fossil Research, 47 (2): 41-47*

New genus: *Squaliomicrus*

New species: *Squaliomicrus sanadaensis*

Abstract: A new genus and species of a squaliform shark (Chondrichthyes: Elasmobranchii) *Squaliomicrus sanadaensis* gen. et sp. nov. is described. On the basis of one specimen, a fossil shark tooth discovered in the Middle Miocene Iseyama Formation (Northern Fossa Magna Region) in Ueda City. Nagano Prefecture, central Japan, Squaliomicrus differs markedly from related genera *Dalatias* Rafinesque 1810, *Euprotomicrus* Gill 1864, *Isistius* Gill 1864, *Squaliolus* Smith and Radcliffe 1912, *Acrosqualiolus* Adnet 2000, *Eosqualiolus* Adnet 2000. *Squaliodalatias* Adnet, Capetta and Reynders 2006 and *Angoumeius* Adnet, Cappetta and Reynders 2006 in the Family Dalatiidae and in the Squaliformes incertae familiae by the following lower tooth characters : tooth width larger than height, present upper axial foramen, absent basal notch, distal apron reaching the basal end. present median labial hollow with groove situated inside, and a distinct distal depress ion presents on the labial face. Judging from these differences in dental characters. this specimen is regarded as probably an

undescribed species. This paper constitutes the first discovery and description of the new genus *Squaliomicrus* belonging to the Family Dalatiidae in the Miocene of Japan.



CARRILLO-BRICEÑO, J.D. & MAXWELL, E. & AGUILERA, O.A. & SÁNCHEZ, R. & SÁNCHEZ-VILLAGRA, M.R. (2015): Sawfishes and Other Elasmobranch Assemblages from the Mio-Pliocene of the South Caribbean (Urumaco Sequence, Northwestern Venezuela). *PLoS ONE, 10 (10): e0139230*

New species: *Carcharhinus caquetius*

Abstract: The Urumaco stratigraphic sequence, western Venezuela, preserves a variety of paleoenvironments that include terrestrial, riverine, lacustrine and marine facies. A wide range of fossil vertebrates associated with these facies supports the hypothesis of an estuary in that geographic area connected with a hydrographic system that flowed from western Amazonia up to the Proto-Caribbean Sea during the Miocene. Here the elasmobranch assemblages of the middle Miocene to middle Pliocene section of the Urumaco sequence (Socorro, Urumaco and Codore formations) are described. Based on new findings, we document at least 21 taxa of the Lamniformes, Carcharhiniformes, Myliobatiformes and Rajiformes, and describe a new carcharhiniform species (†*Carcharhinus caquetius* sp. nov.). Moreover, the Urumaco Formation has a high number of well-preserved fossil *Pristis* rostra, for which we provide a detailed taxonomic revision, and referral in the context of the global Miocene record of *Pristis* as well as extant species. Using the habitat preference of the living representatives, we hypothesize that the fossil chondrichthyan assemblages from the Urumaco sequence are evidence for marine shallow waters and estuarine habitats.

3.3 Descriptions of extant species

Types in Google map
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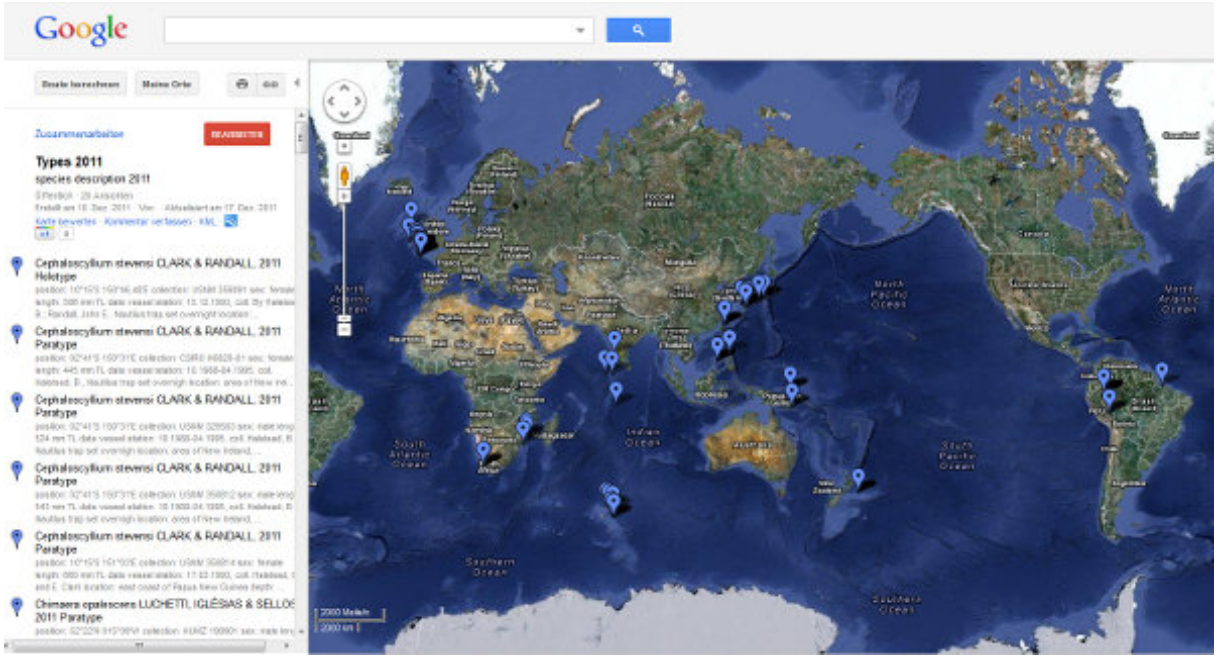
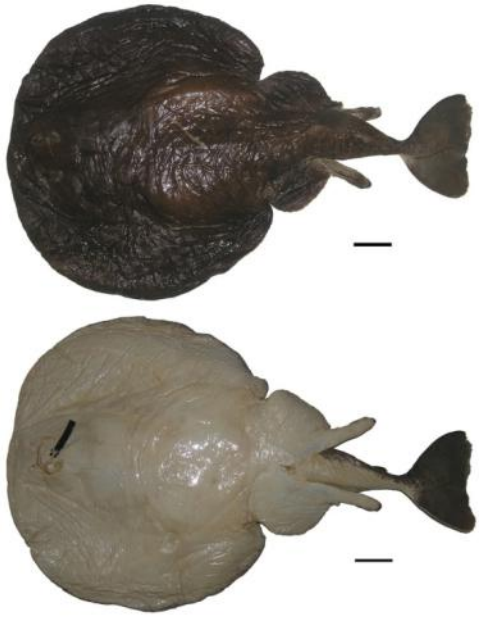


FAHMI & WHITE, W.T. (2015): *Atelomycterus erdmanni*, a new species of catshark (Scyliorhinidae: Carcharhiniformes) from Indonesia. *Journal of the Ocean Science Foundation, 14: 14-27*

New species: *Atelomycterus erdmanni*

Abstract: A new species of catshark of the genus *Atelomycterus* is described from eastern Indonesia based on two type specimens. *Atelomycterus erdmanni* is closely related to *A. baliensis* and*A. marmoratus*, being sympatric with the latter. It differs from these two species in coloration, external

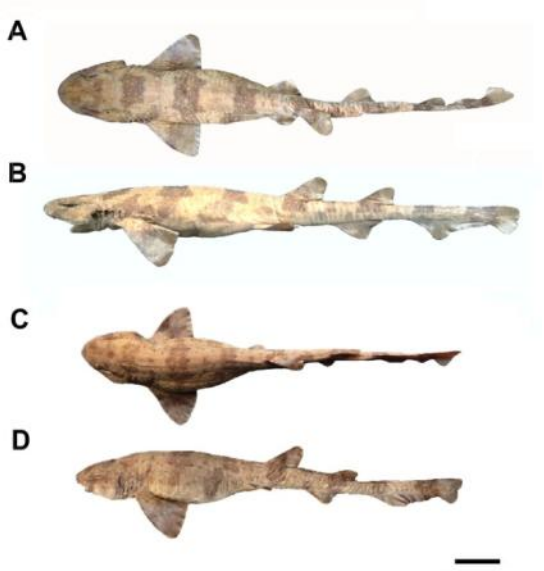
morphology, meristics and clasper morphology. *Atelomycterus erdmanni* differs from *A. baliensis* in having white spots present over the body (vs. white spots absent), a larger first dorsal fin, paired fins closer together, and pelvic fin farther apart from the ventral caudal-fin origin. It differs from *A. marmoratus* in having far less numerous white spotting, a larger first dorsal fin, and the clasper glans about half length of clasper outer margin (vs. less than half length of outer margin). Its status was also confirmed by genetic analysis with comparison of the mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1 (CO1) genetic marker utilised in DNA barcoding producing a genetic divergence of 4.8% and 5.3% between the new species and its closest congeners, *A. baliensis* and *A. marmoratus*, respectively.



EBERT, D.A. & HAAS, D.L. & DE CARVALHO, M.R. (2015): *Tetronarce cowleyi*, sp. nov., a new species of electric ray from southern Africa (Chondrichthyes: Torpediniformes: Torpedinidae). *Zootaxa, 3936 (2): 237–250*

New species: *Tetronarce cowleyi*

Abstract: A new species of torpedo ray, *Tetronarce cowleyi*, sp. nov., is described from specimens collected from the southeastern Atlantic Ocean. The new species is placed in the genus *Tetronarce* based on a uniform dorsal coloration and absence of papillae around the spiracles. The new species is distinguished from its closest congeners, the North Atlantic *Tetronarce nobiliana* Bonnaparte, 1835, and southwestern Atlantic *Tetronarce puelcha* Lahille, 1926, by a combination of morpho-logical characteristics including a shorter spiracular length, a proportionally greater head length as measured between snout margin and fifth gill openings, a proportionally greater preoral snout length, a uniform shiny black or dark gray dorsal surface, lacking any prominent markings, and a creamy white ventral color with dark edges in juveniles but fading with growth. *Teteronarce cowleyi*, sp. nov., is further distinguished from *T. nobiliana* by its more circular anterior disc shape (vs. relatively straight in T. nobiliana), fewer tooth rows (32/28 vs. 38–53/38–52 in *T. nobiliana*), greater mouth width (1.5–1.7 times as great as interorbital width vs. 0.5–0.6 times interorbital width in *T. nobiliana*), smaller distance between second dorsal and caudal fins (3.5–4.9% vs. 6.6–6.8% in *T. nobiliana*), and a clasper length extending nearly to lower caudal fin origin (claspers in *T. nobiliana* that extend only two-thirds distance between second dorsal and caudal fins). *Teteronarce cowleyi*, sp. nov., is known from Walvis Bay, Namibia to Algoa Bay, Eastern Cape, South Africa, at depths of 110 to 457 m



SOARES, K.D.A. & GADIG, O.F.B. & GOMES, U.L. (2015): *Scyliorhinus ugoi*, a new species of catshark from Brazil (Chondrichthyes: Carcharhiniformes: Scyliorhinidae). *Zootaxa, 3937 (2): 347–361*

New species: *Scyliorhinus ugoi*

Abstract: A new species of catshark (Carcharhiniformes, Scyliorhinidae), *Scyliorhinus ugoi* sp. nov., is described from off Northeastern and Southeastern Brazil. The new species is closest to the *Scyliorhinus haeckelii/besnardi* group and *S. hesperius* but differs in background coloration, head width, sexual maturity, and in cranial and body proportions.

DEL MORAL-FLORES, L.F. & ANGULO, A. & LÓPEZ, M.I. & BUSSING, W.A. (2015): Nueva especie del género *Urobatis* (Myliobatiformes: Urotrygonidae) del Pacífico oriental tropical. I*nternational Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation, 63 (2): 501-514*

New species: *Urobatis pardalis*

Abstract: A new species of *Urobatis* (Myliobatiformes: Urotrygonidae) from the tropical Eastern Pacific. A new species of round stingray, *Urobatis pardalis* sp. nov., is described from material collected in the Pacific coast of Costa Rica. This new species differs from its congeners by the color

pattern of the dorsal surface and by several proportional measurements. A key to all species of the genus is provided.

DEL MORAL-FLORES, L.F. & RAMÍREZ-ANTONIO, E. & ANGULO, A. & PÉREZ-PONCE DE LEÓN, G. (2015): *Ginglymostoma unami* sp. nov. (Chondrichthyes: Orectolobiformes: Ginglymostomatidae): una especie nueva de tiburón gata del Pacífico oriental tropical. *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad, 86: 48-58*

New species: *Ginglymostoma unami*

Abstract: A new species of shark belonging to the family Ginglymostomatidae is herein described; the new species show a wide distribution in the Tropical Eastern Pacific, where it is endemic. *Ginglymostoma unami* sp. nov. was previously recognized as *G. cirratum* exhibiting an amphi-American distribution; however that species is now considered to be restricted to the Atlantic Ocean. *Ginglymostoma unami* sp. nov. can be readily distinguished from *G. cirratum* by comparing several meristic characters such as the distance between the prebanchial and interdorsal regions, and that between posterior end of the second dorsal fin and the beginning of the caudal lobe, both being shorter; the new species also differs by the position of the insertion of the first dorsal fin with regard to the pelvic fins and in the form and number of keels on the dermal denticles and teeth morphology.

WHITE, W.T. & KAWAUCHI, J. & CORRIGAN, S. & ROCHEL, E. & NAYLOR, G.J.P. (2015): Redescription of the eagle rays *Myliobatis hamlyni* Ogilby, 1911 and *M. tobijei* Bleeker, 1854 (Myliobatiformes: Myliobatidae) from the East Indo-West Pacific. *Zootaxa, 3948 (3): 521–548*

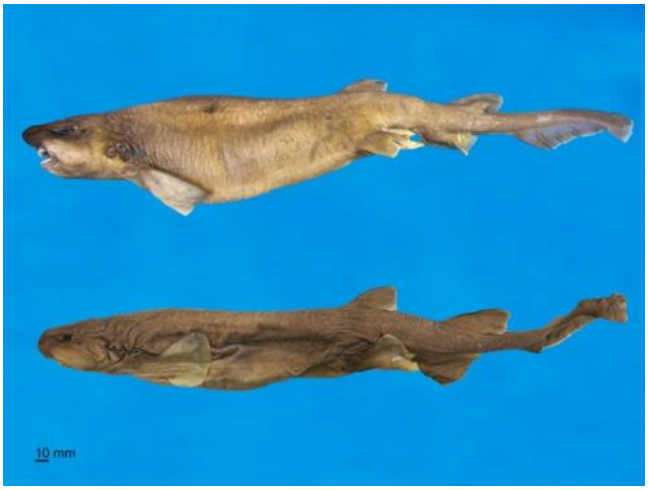
Abstract: The eagle rays *Myliobatis hamlyni* Ogilby, 1911 and *Myliobatis tobijei* Bleeker, 1854 are redescribed based on museum specimens and new material from Australia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan. These two species are closely related to *Myliobatis aquila* (L.) from the eastern Atlantic and can be distinguished from each other by a combination of their coloration, meristics, depth preferences and subtle morphometric characters. *Myliobatis hamlyni* was previously con-sidered to be an Australian endemic, but its distribution is herein extended northward to Taiwan and Okinawa. *Myliobatis tobijei* was considered to occur southwards from Japan to Indonesia, but its distribution is herein restricted to the western North Pacific, primarily Japan.

WEIGMANN, S. & STEHMANN, M.F.W. & THIEL, R. (2015): *Okamejei ornata* n. sp., a new deep-water skate (Elasmobranchii, Rajidae) from the northwestern Indian Ocean off Socotra Islands. *Deep Sea Research Part II: Topical Studies in Oceanography, 115: 18-29*

New species: *Okamejei ornata*

Abstract: A new species of the Indo-Pacific skate genus *Okamejei* is described based on 10 specimens caught around the Socotra Islands (northwestern Indian Ocean). The type series of *Okamejei ornata* n. sp. was sampled during cruise 17 of RV 'Vityaz' along the deep western Indian Ocean in 1988/89. The new species represents the fifth species of *Okamejei* in the western Indian Ocean and differs from its congeners in having a unique dorsal pattern of variable dark brown spots encircled with beige pigment and arranged into rosettes. The dorsal ground color is ocher, but the

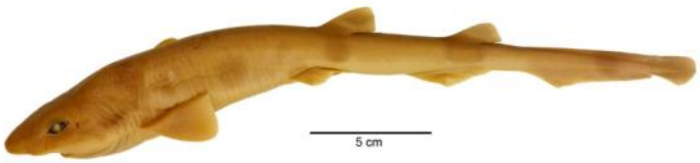
anterior snout is dusky. Compared to congeners in the western Indian Ocean, the new species has a shorter preorbital snout length, a greater orbit diameter, fewer pectoral radials, an intermediate distance between first gill slits, and an intermediate number of upper jaw tooth rows.



EBERT, D.A. & CLERKIN, P.J. (2015): A new species of deep-sea catshark (Scyliorhinidae: *Bythaelurus*) from the southwestern Indian Ocean. *Journal of the Ocean Science Foundation, 15: 53-63*

New species: *Bythaelurus naylori*

Abstract: *Bythaelurus naylori* sp. n. is described based on 41 specimens collected from seamounts in the southwestern Indian Ocean. The new species can be separated from all other *Bythaelurus* species by a combination of distinctly enlarged dermal denticles on the upper caudal-fin margin, lack of papillae on the roof of the mouth and tongue, an anal-fin base length equal to or less than 1.5 times second dorsal-fin base length, and a uniformly plain medium to dark brown body coloration, with light fin edges and a distinct dark dusky-colored snout. No other *Bythaelurus* species has the combination of a caudal crest of prominent, distinctly enlarged, comb-like dermal denticles along the upper caudal margin and lacks oral papillae. *Bythaelurus naylori* sp. n. can be distinguished from its two closest congeners, *B. giddingsi* and *B. lutarius*, by a combination of prominent comb-like dermal denticles along the upper caudal-fin margin, absence of oral papillae, uniform body coloration, and noticeable dark dusky snout; *Bythaelurus giddingsi* has oral papillae present and a variegated color pattern, while *B. lutarius* lacks a caudal crest of enlarged denticles and matures at a much smaller size than the new species.



KASCHNER, C.J. & WEIGMANN, S. & THIEL, R. (2015): *Bythaelurus tenuicephalus* n. sp., a new deep-water catshark (Carcharhiniformes, Scyliorhinidae) from the western Indian Ocean. *Zootaxa, 4013 (1): 120–138*

New species: *Bythaelurus tenuicephalus*

Abstract: A new dwarf deep-water catshark, *Bythaelurus tenuicephalus*, is described based on one adult and one juvenile male specimen from off Tanzania and Mozambique in the western Indian Ocean. The new species differs from its congeners by its slender head and snout, which is only

slightly bell-shaped in dorsoventral view without distinct lateral indention. All other *Bythaelurus* species have distinctly bell-shaped snouts with a strong lateral indention anterior to outer nostrils. Compared to its congeners in the western Indian Ocean, *B. tenuicephalus* n. sp. also has broader claspers in adult males (base width 2.1% TL vs. 1.5–1.8% TL). It further differs from *B. clevai* by attaining a smaller maximum size and having a color pattern of fewer and smaller blotches, larger oral papillae, a shorter snout, and broader claspers without knob-like apex and with a smaller envelope and a subtriangular (vs. subrectangular) exorhipidion. Compared to *B. hispidus*, the new species has a longer snout, a longer dorsal-caudal space, broader clasper without knob-like apex, and fewer vertebral centra. In contrast to B*. lutarius, B. tenuicephalus* attains a smaller maximum size and has a blotched (vs. largely plain) coloration, numerous (vs. lacking) oral papillae, shorter anterior nasal flaps, a longer caudal fin, a shorter pelvic anal space, and shorter and broader claspers.

VÁSQUEZ, V.E. & EBERT, D.A. & LONG, D.J. (2015): *Etmopterus benchleyi* n. sp., a new lanternshark (Squaliformes: Etmopteridae) from the central eastern Pacific Ocean. *Journal of the Ocean Science Foundation; 17: 43-55*

New species: *Etmopterus benchleyi*

Abstract: A new species of lanternshark, *Etmopterus benchleyi* n. sp., is described from eight specimens collected off the Pacific coast of Central America at depths ranging between 836 and 1443 meters. The new species is placed in the *Etmopterus spinax* clade by a lack of flank markings and the moderately short, slender, hook-like, conical dermal denticles distributed over the body. It can be distinguished from its closest congeners based on a combination of coloration, proportional body measurements, meristic counts, arrangement of dermal denticles, and size at maturity. The dorsal fins of the new species are either similar in size or the second dorsal fin is slightly larger than the first vs. the second dorsal fin distinctly larger than the first in *E. granulosus*, *E. princeps*, and *E. litvinovi*. The pre-oral length is shorter in the new species (6.9–9.0% TL) than in its closest congeners, *E. granulosus* (7.9-11.3% TL) and *E. princeps* (9-10% TL). The tooth count in the lower jaw is higher in *E. benchleyi* (30–36) than in *E. granulosus* (28), but lower than in *E. litvinovi* (40–50) and *E. princeps* (40–50). Photophores in *E. benchleyi* are sparse compared to other etmopterids and difficult to identify due to its uniform black color. This new species is also distinct from other members of the *E. spinax* clade in having dense concentrations of dermal denticles closely surrounding the eyes and gill openings. *E. benchleyi* is the only *Etmopterus* species presently known from the Pacific coast of Central America.

3.4 Parasitology

3.4.1 Research Articles

BERNOT, J.P. & CAIRA, J.N. & PICKERING, M. (2015): The dismantling of Calliobothrium (Cestoda: Tetraphyllidea) with erection of Symcallio n. gen. and description of two new species. *Journal of Parasitology, 101 (2): 167-181* http://dx.doi.org/10.1645/14-571.1

BURRESON, E.M. & PASSARELLI, J.K. (2015): A New Species of Pontobdella (Hirudinida: Piscicolidae) from California with a Redescription of the Genus Pontobdella. *Comparative Parasitology, 82 (2): 235-239* http://dx.doi.org/10.1654/4757.1

CADWALLADER, H.F. & TURNER, J.R. & OLIVER, S.P. (2015): Cleaner wrasse forage on ectoparasitic digeneans (phylum Platyhelminthes) that infect pelagic thresher sharks (Alopias pelagicus). *Marine Biodiversity, 45 (4): 613-614* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12526-014-0290-8

CAIRA, J.N. & JENSEN, K. (2015): Insights on the identities of sharks of the Rhizoprionodon acutus (Elasmobranchii: Carcharhiniformes) species complex based on three new species of Phoreiobothrium (Cestoda: Onchoproteocephalidea). *Zootaxa, 4059 (2): 335–350* http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4059.2.5

DALLARES, S. & PEREZ-DEL-OLMO, A. & CARRASSON, M. & KUCHTA, R. (2015): Morphological and molecular characterisation of Ditrachybothridium macrocephalum Rees, 1959 (Cestoda: Diphyllidea) from Galeus melastomus Rafinesque in the Western Mediterranean. *Systematic Parasitology, 92 (1): 45-55* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11230-015-9586-8

DIPPENAAR, S.M. & JORDAAN, A. (2015): How females of Achtheinus spp. (Pandaridae: Siphonostomatoida) attach to their elasmobranch hosts with notes on their effects on the hosts' fins. *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 005* http://dx.doi.org/10.14411/fp.2015.005

DIPPENAAR, S.M. & MOLELE, R.A. (2015): Siphonostomatoid copepods infecting Squalus acutipinnis Regan, 1908 off South Africa. *African Journal of Marine Science, 37 (4): 605-608* http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/1814232X.2015.1093024

GONZÁLEZ-SOLÍS, D. & ALI, A.H. (2015): Redescription of Paraleptus chiloscyllii Yin et Zhang, 1983 (Nematoda: Physalopteridae) from the Arabian carpetshark Chiloscyllium arabicum (Chondrichthyes: Hemiscylliidae) off Iraq. *Acta Parasitologica, 60 (4):759-766* http://dx.doi.org/10.1515/ap-2015-0108

HASELI, M. & AZAD, S. (2015): Diphyllidean cestodes from the bigeye houndshark Iago omanensis (Norman) (Carcharhiniformes: Triakidae) in the Gulf of Oman, with the description of Coronocestus ehsanentezarii sp nov (Echinobothriidae). *Acta Parasitologica, 60 (2): 308-314* http://dx.doi.org/10.1515/ap-2015-0043

HASELI, M. & PALM, H.W. (2015): Dollfusiella qeshmiensis n. sp (Cestoda: Trypanorhyncha) from the cowtail stingray Pastinachus sephen (ForsskAyenl) in the Persian Gulf, with a key to the species of Dollfusiella Campbell & Beveridge, 1994. *Systematic Parasitology, 92 (2): 161-169* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11230-015-9592-x

KODÁDKOVÁ, A. & BARTOŠOVÁ-SOJKOVÁ, P. & HOLZER, A.S. & FIALA, I. (2015): Bipteria vetusta n. sp. - an old parasite in an old host: tracing the origin of myxosporean parasitism in vertebrates. *International Journal for Parasitology, 45 (4): 269-276* http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijpara.2014.12.004

LASSO, C.A. & DONASCIMIENTO, C. & MORALES-BETANCOURT, M.A. & LASSO-ALCALA, O.M. (2015): Parasitism of freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae) by hematophagous catfishes (Vandelliinae). *Ichthyological Exploration of Freshwaters, 26 (1): 83-86*

MALEKI, L. & MALEK, M. & PALM, H.W. (2015): Four new species of Acanthobothrium van Benden, 1850(Cestoda: Onchoproteocephalidea) from the guitarfish, Rhynchobatus cf. djiddensis (Elasmobranchii: Rhynchobatidae), from the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman. *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 012* http://dx.doi.org/10.14411/fp.2015.012

MARQUES, F.P.L. & REYDA, F.B. (2015): Rhinebothrium jaimei sp. n. (Eucestoda: Rhinebothriidea: Rhinebothriidae): a new species from Neotropical freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae). *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 057* http://dx.doi.org/10.14411/fp.2015.057

MENORET, A. & IVANOV, V.A. (2015): Trypanorhynch cestodes (Eutetrarhynchidae) from batoids along the coast of Argentina, including the description of new species in Dollfusiella Campbell et Beveridge, 1994 and Mecistobothrium Heinz et Dailey, 1974. *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 058* http://dx.doi.org/10.14411/fp.2015.058

MOKUMO, P.J. & DIPPENAAR, S.M. (2015): Reports of Kroyeria species collected from South African waters with notes on the host–parasite associations. *African Zoology, 50 (2): 127-132* http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15627020.2015.1021176

MONKS, S. & ZARAGOZA-TAPIA, F. & PULIDO-FLORES, G. & VIOLANTE-GONZALEZ, J. (2015): A New Species of Serendip (Cestoda: Tetraphyllidea: Serendipeidae) in Rhinoptera steindachneri (Chondrichthyes: Myliobatidae) from the Pacific Coast of Mexico. *Comparative Parasitology, 82 (2): 262-268* http://dx.doi.org/10.1654/4745.1

NAPOLEÃO, S.R. & ANTONUCCI, A.M. & AMORIM, A.F. & TAKEMOTO, R.M. (2015): Occurrence of Rhinoptericola megacantha (CESTODA, TRYPANORHYNCHA) in new host and new location. *Arquivo Brasileiro de Medicina Veterinária e Zootecnia, 67 (4): 1175-1177*

NITTA, M. & NAGASAWA, K. (2015): Heterocotyle chinensis (Monogenea: Monocotylidae) from the Whip Stingray Dasyatis akajei in the Seto Inland Sea, Japan. *Species Diversity, 20 (1): 89-93* http://dx.doi.org/10.12782/sd.20.1.089

OTA, Y. (2015): Pigmentation patterns are useful for species identification of third-stage larvae of gnathiids (Crustacea: Isopoda) parasitising coastal elasmobranchs in southern Japan. *Systematic Parasitology, 90 (3): 269-284* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11230-015-9548-1

PODDUBNAYA, L.G. & HEMMINGSEN, W. & REED, C. & GIBSON, D.I. (2015): Ultrastructural characteristics of the caeca of basal polyopisthocotylean monogeneans of the families Chimaericolidae and Hexabothriidae parasitic on cartilaginous fishes. *Parasitology Research, 114 (7): 2599-2610* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00436-015-4464-5

PODDUBNAYA, L.G. & REED, C. & GIBSON, D.I. (2015): The surface topography of Callorhynchocotyle callorhynchi (Manter, 1955) (Monogenea: Hexabothriidae), a parasite of the holocephalan fish Callorhinchus capensis. *Parasitology Research, 114 (9): 3393-3399* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00436-015-4565-1

POLLERSPOECK, J. & STRAUBE, N. (2015): Bibliography database of living/fossil sharks, rays and chimaeras (Chondrichthyes: Elasmobranchii, Holocephali) -Host-Parasites List/Parasite-Hosts List- *www.shark-references.com, World Wide Web electronic publication, Version 04/2015 ISSN: 2195-6499* http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.3636.6887

POLYAKOVA, T.A. (2015): Description of Echinobothrium typus van Beneden, 1849 (Platyhelminthes: Diphyllidea) from Raja clavata Linnaeus, 1758 (Pisces: Rajidae) in the Black Sea. *Russian Journal of Marine Biology, 41 (4): 272-278* http://dx.doi.org/10.1134/S1063074015020091

RUHNKE, T.R. & CAIRA, J.N. & COX, A. (2015): The cestode order Rhinebothriidea no longer family-less: A molecular phylogenetic investigation with erection of two new families and description of eight new species of Anthocephalum. *Zootaxa, 3904 (1): 51-81* http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3904.1.3

UTEVSKY, A. & GORDEEV, I. (2015): New tentacled leech Ceratobdella quadricornuta n. g., n. sp (Hirudinida: Piscicolidae) parasitic on the starry skate Raja georgiana Norman from the Scotia Sea, Antarctica. *Systematic Parasitology, 91 (3): 203-210* http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11230-015-9570-3

3.4.2 Species Descriptions: Parasites of Elasmobranchs

RUHNKE, T.R. & CAIRA, J.N. & COX, A. 2015: The cestode order Rhinebothriidea no longer family-less: A molecular phylogenetic investigation with erection of two new families and description of eight new species of Anthocephalum. *Zootaxa, 3904 (1): 51–81*

New Family: Escherbothriidae

New species: *Anthocephalum decrisantisorum*, *Anthocephalum healyae*, *Anthocephalum jensenae*, *Anthocephalum mattisi*, *Anthocephalum meadowsi*, *Anthocephalum odonnellae, Anthocephalum papefay*i, *Anthocephalum philruschi*

Abstract: The spiral intestines of a total of 30 specimens of 14 species of batoids from around the world were examined for rhinebothriideans. These consisted of *Taeniura grabata, Dasyatis margaritella,* and *Dasyatis* sp. from Senegal, *Dasyatis americana* from Florida, *Dasyatis dipterura* and *Dasyatis longa* from México*, Himantura jenkinsii, Himantura leoparda, Himantura uarnak* 2, *Urogymnus asperrimus* 1, and *Neotrygon kuhlii* 4 from Australia, in addition to *Himantura uarnacoides* and *Neotrygon kuhlii* 1 from Borneo. Each of these hosted one or more species of *Anthocephalum*. Eleven of the cestode species were new to science; four represented described species. In addition, *Urotrygon aspidura* from Costa Rica hosted a species of *Escherbothrium*. Sufficient material was available for formal description of the following eight species of *Anthocephalum*: *A. decrisantisorum* n. sp., *A. healyae* n. sp., *A. jensenae* n. sp., *A. mattisi* n. sp., *A. meadowsi* n. sp., *A. odonnellae* n. sp*., A. papefay*i n. sp., and *A. philruschi* n. sp. These species differ from their nine described congeners in overall size, number of proglottids and marginal loculi, number and arrangement of testes, apical sucker size, arrangement and distribution of vitelline follicles particularly with respect in the post-poral field, and muscularity of the genital pore. The diagnosis of *Anthocephalum* is emended slightly to accommodate these new species. Material of four previously described *Anthocephalum* species, seven of the novel *Anthocephalum* species described here, 3 undescribed *Anthocephalum* species, and the species of *Escherbothrium* was preserved in 95% ethanol and partial 28S rDNA (D1-D3) and complete 18S rDNA sequence data were generated de novo. These data were combined with data from GenBank for *Anthocephalum* cf. *centrurum* (recognized as *A. mattisi* n. sp. below) and 29 species representing 12 other putative rhinebothriidean genera. Phylogenetic analyses using Bayesian Inference and Maximum Likelihood methods were conducted using a total of five representatives of the Lecanicephalidea, Cathetocephalidea and “Tetraphyllidea” as outgroups. The analyses yielded trees that were largely congruent and that supported the existence of four major subgroups of rhinebothriideans. Family designations were established for each of these clades. Echeneibothriidae was elevated from subfamily to family level to accommodate the group consisting of *Echeneibothrium* and *Pseudanthobothrium*; this family is unique in retaining the apical organ (as a myzorhynchus) into adulthood. Rhinebothriidae was elevated from subfamily to family level to accommodate the group consisting of *Rhabdotobothrium*, *Rhinebothrium*, *Rhinebothroides*, *Rhodobothrium*, *Scalithrium* and *Spongiobothrium*. This family is distinctive in its lack of apical suckers and also of a definitive anterior/posterior orientation to the bothridia. Anthocephaliidae n. fam. was established to house *Anthocephalum* and taxa identified as New Genus 1, New Genus 2, and New Genus 4 by previous authors. The bothridia of its members exhibit a conspicuous anterior/posterior orientation signaled by the presence of an apical sucker. In addition, its members bear marginal loculi or one or more rows of facial loculi and vitelline follicles that are usually interrupted by the ovary. Escherbothriidae n. fam. was established to house *Escherbothrium* and the taxon identified as New Genus 3 by previous authors. It most closely resembles Anthocephaliidae but the facial loculi are arranged in columns anteriorly and rows posteriorly, rather than arranged in multiple rows or entirely lacking. A key to the families is also provided.

KODÁDKOVÁ, A. & BARTOŠOVÁ-SOJKOVÁ, P. & HOLZER, A.S. & FIALA, I. 2015: *Bipteria vetusta* n. sp. - an old parasite in an old host: tracing the origin of myxosporean parasitism in vertebrates. *International Journal for Parasitology, in press*

New species: *Bipteria vetusta*

Abstract: Myxosporea (Myxozoa), a group of parasitic Cnidaria, use mostly bony fishes (Teleostei) as intermediate hosts; however, they can also parasitize other vertebrates such as cartilaginous fish (Chondrichthyes). Molecular data of myxosporeans from sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii) revealed these parasites to be one of the most basal representatives in the myxosporean phylogenetic tree,

suggesting their ancient evolutionary history. A new myxosporean species, *Bipteria vetusta* n. sp., was found in the gall bladder of rabbit fish, *Chimaera monstrosa* (Holocephali; Chondrichthyes), and ssrDNA-based phylogeny revealed its basal position within the marine myxosporean lineage. Molecular dating based on ssrDNA analysis suggested the origin of a stem lineage leading to the marine myxosporean lineage at the time of the origin of Chondrichthyes in the Silurian era. The two common lineages of Myxozoa, Myxosporea and Malacosporea, were estimated to have split from their common ancestor in the Cambrian era. Tracing the history of evolution of the "vertebrate host type" character in the context of molecular dating showed that cartilaginous fish represented an ancestral state for all myxosporeans. Teleosts were very likely subsequently parasitized by myxozoans four times, independently. Myxosporean radiation and diversification appear to correlate with intermediate host evolution. The first intermediate hosts of myxosporeans were cartilaginous fish. When bony fish evolved and radiated, myxosporeans switched and adapted to bony fish, and subsequently greatly diversified in this new host niche. We believe that the present study is the first attempt at molecular dating of myxozoan evolution based on an old myxosporean species - a living myxosporean fossil.

OTA, Y. (2015): Pigmentation patterns are useful for species identification of third-stage larvae of gnathiids (Crustacea: Isopoda) parasitising coastal elasmobranchs in southern Japan. *Systematic Parasitology, 90 (3): 269-284*

New species: *Gnathia rufescens*

Abstract: Previous studies from southern Japan reported larval stages of eight gnathiid isopod species parasitising coastal elasmobranchs. Since gnathiid larvae of these different species closely resembled each other, it was necessary to obtain specimens of free-living adult males for identification to the species level. This was achieved by allowing larvae of the final stage to moult into adult males. From these males, specimens of a species new to science were discovered and described here as *Gnathia rufescens* n. sp. The main differentiating characteristics of *G. rufescens*n. sp. are: (i) the apex of pleotelson is oval shaped; (ii) the dorsal sulcus is wide in the posterior part; and (iii) the article 3 of the pylopod is not reduced in the male. Additionally, this paper summarises the specific pigmentation patterns of third-stage larvae of the new species and eight previously described species. Furthermore, host records and host use by the gnathiids were summarised based on data from 158 hosts and over 4,500 gnathiid samples; these are discussed with a focus on host-specificity of the nine gnathiid species studied.

HASELI, M. & AZAD, S. (2015): Diphyllidean cestodes from the bigeye houndshark *Iago omanensis* (Norman) (Carcharhiniformes: Triakidae) in the Gulf of Oman, with the description of *Coronocestus ehsanentezarii* sp nov (Echinobothriidae). *Acta Parasitologica, 60 (2): 308-314*

New species: *Coronocestus ehsanentezarii*

Abstract: A new species of *Coronocestus* Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013 is described from *Iago omanensis* (Norman) from the Gulf of Oman. *Coronocestus ehsanentezarii* sp. nov. differs from *C. musteli* (Pintner, 1889) Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013 in that its ovary is H- rather than U-shape. The new species is easily distinguished from *C. diamanti* (Ivanov and Lipshitz, 2006) Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013 by the number of spines per column on the cephalic peduncle (24-36 vs 95-118). It differs from *C. hormozganiense* (Haseli, Malek, Palm and Ivanov, 2012) Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013 based on a greater number of spines per column on the cephalic peduncle (24-36 vs 18-21). The new species differs from *C. notoguidoi* (Ivanov 1997) Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013 in that of its scolex is craspedote rather than acraspedote. Unlike *C. coronatum* (Robinson 1959) Caira, Marques, Jensen, Kuchta and Ivanov, 2013, *C. ehsanentezarii* sp. nov. possesses 29-35 rather than 20 apical hooks in each dorso-ventral group. The new species possesses lateral hooklets with two rows (a and b designations) in each cluster. This character had been presented earlier only for *Andocadoncum* Abbott and Caira, 2014. Furthermore, a new locality record is presented for *C. diamanti* from *Iago omanensis* in the Gulf of Oman. Thus, *I. omanensis* certainly hosts two diphyllidean species simultaneously in the Gulf of Oman. The generic diagnosis of *Coronocestus* is also revised to include new data.

UTEVSKY, A. & GORDEEV, I. (2015): New tentacled leech *Ceratobdella quadricornuta* n. g., n. sp (Hirudinida: Piscicolidae) parasitic on the starry skate *Raja georgiana* Norman from the Scotia Sea, Antarctica. *Systematic Parasitology, 91 (3): 203-210*

New genus: *Ceratobdella*

New species: *Ceratobdella quadricornuta*

Abstract: A new fish leech *Ceratobdella quadricornuta* n. g., n. sp. (Hirudinida: Piscicolidae), a parasite of the Antarctic skate *Raja georgiana* Norman (Rajiformes: Rajidae) collected between the Falkland Islands and South Georgia Island in the Scotia Sea, is described and compared with related genera. *Ceratobdella quadricornuta* is characterised by an uncommon appearance of its anterior sucker bearing four well-developed tentacles and a unique combination of features of the reproductive and digestive systems: crop and intestine equally developed, posterior crop caeca separated; accessory glands, conductive tissue and external copulatory area lacking; common part of ejaculatory ducts (common atrium) voluminous and muscular, male copulatory bursa short, small ovisacs opening into female copulatory bursa (vagina).

MONKS, S. & ZARAGOZA-TAPIA, F. & PULIDO-FLORES, G. & VIOLANTE-GONZALEZ, J. (2015): A New Species of *Serendip* (Cestoda: Tetraphyllidea: Serendipeidae) in *Rhinoptera steindachneri* (Chondrichthyes: Myliobatidae) from the Pacific Coast of Mexico. *Comparative Parasitology, 82 (2): 262-268*

New species: *Serendip danbrooksi*

Abstract: A species of *Serendip* Brooks and Barriga, 1995, *Serendip danbrooksi* n. sp., is described from Mexico as a parasite of *Rhinoptera steindachneri* Evermann and Jenkins, 1891. The new species differs from *Serendip deborahae*, the type and only other known member of the genus, by having bothridia subdivided by 2 septa, 1 simple and 1 bifurcating, rather than 3 septa, 2 simple and 1 bifurcating, and by having 37–61 testes versus 64–116 testes, respectively. In general, *S. danbrooksi* n. sp. is smaller than *S. deborahae* in the number of proglottids (average 77 vs. 150, respectively) and length (maximum length 15.3 mm vs. 60.0 mm, respectively). Clarification of the details of some previously described structures is discussed.

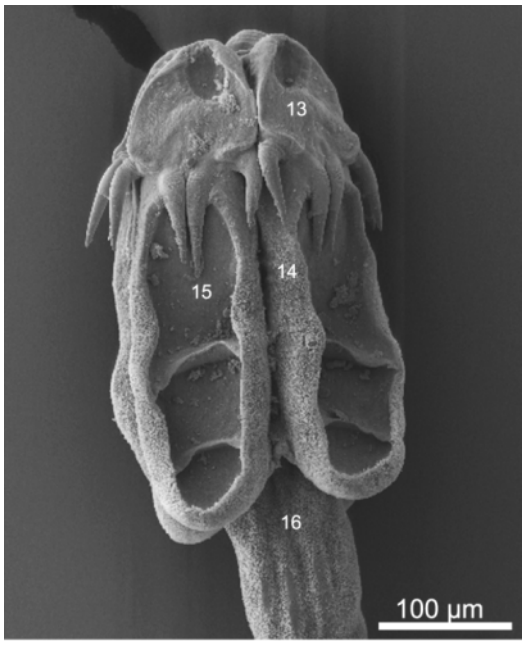


image credit by the authors (Scanning electron micrographs of *Acanthobothrium janineae* sp. n. from *Rhynchobatus* cf. *djiddensis* 1, Scolex)

MALEKI, L. & MALEK, M. & PALM, H.W. (2015): Four new species of *Acanthobothrium* van Benden, 1850 (Cestoda: Onchoproteocephalidea) from the guitarfish, *Rhynchobatus* cf. *djiddensis*

(Elasmobranchii: Rhynchobatidae), from the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman. *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 012*

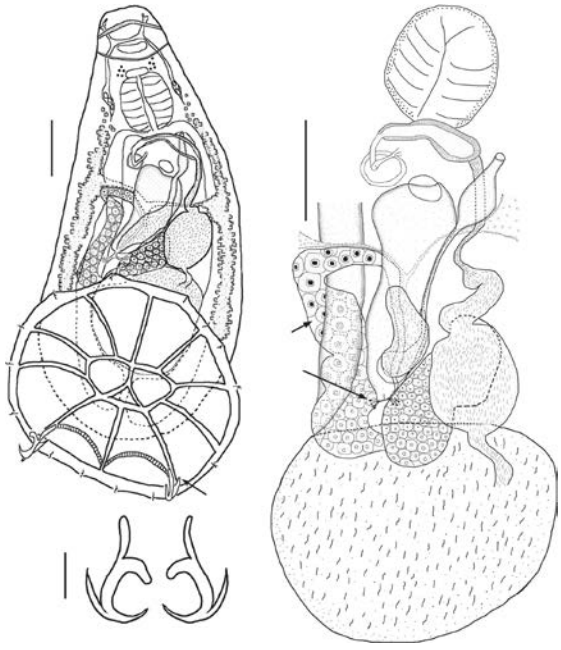
New species: *Acanthobothrium janineae, Acanthobothrium fylerae, Acanthobothrium asrinae, Acanthobothrium jamesi*

Abstract: Four new species of *Acanthobothrium* van Beneden, 1850 are described from guitarfish, *Rhynchobatus* cf. *djiddensis* (Forsskål), collected from the Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf. *Acanthobothrium janineae* sp. n., a category 1 species, differs from all congeners in category 1 by having a long vagina extending into the vas deferens and different, proglottid and testis number except *Acanthobothrium hypermekkolpos* Fyler et Caira, 2010. *Acanthobothrium fylerae* sp. n., a category 1 species, can be differentiated by a combination of characters including the total length, proglottid and testis number, cirrus sac shape, and the length of the vagina and ovarian lobes. Both new species are similar to A. hypermekkolpos reported from *Rhynchobatus laevis* (Bloch et Schneider) from Australia in their scolex proper length, hook size and muscular pad, respectively. *Acanthobothrium asrinae* sp. n., a category 1 species, differs from other category 1 species by the shape of its hooks and the position of the tubercle at the mid-length of the axial prongs; in this respect it resembles *A. bartonae* Campbell et Beveridge, 2002 reported from Australia. *Acanthobothrium jamesi* sp. n. is among six category 1 species with post-ovarian testes. It differs from these species by total length, proglottid and testis number and the extension of the ovarian lobes. Although it is thought that *R. djiddensis* occurs in the region, the identities of the hosts of the newly described *Acanthobothrium* species await verification. There are two forms of host in the region and were designated as *R.* cf*. djiddensis* 1 and *R.* cf*. djiddensis* 2. More taxonomic work and the use of molecular techniques are needed to resolve the true identity of the host species.

BURRESON, E.M. & PASSARELLI, J.K. (2015): A New Species of *Pontobdella* (Hirudinida: Piscicolidae) from California with a Redescription of the Genus *Pontobdella*. *Comparative Parasitology, 82 (2): 235-239*

New species: *Pontobdella californiana*

Abstract: *Pontobdella californiana* is described parasitizing California coastal water big skates, *Raja binoculata*, and thornback guitarfish, *Platyrhinoidis triseriata*. Leeches are large, up to 70 mm in total length. The oral sucker has 2 pairs of linear eyespots and 2 pairs of lateral papillae. The caudal sucker is small and terminal, with a diameter less than maximum body width. Annulus a2 has 4 large conical tubercles dorsally and 4 smaller conical tubercles ventrally. Annuli a1 and a3 have 4 small tubercles dorsally and ventrally and 2 small tubercles laterally for a total of 10 tubercles on each of these annuli.

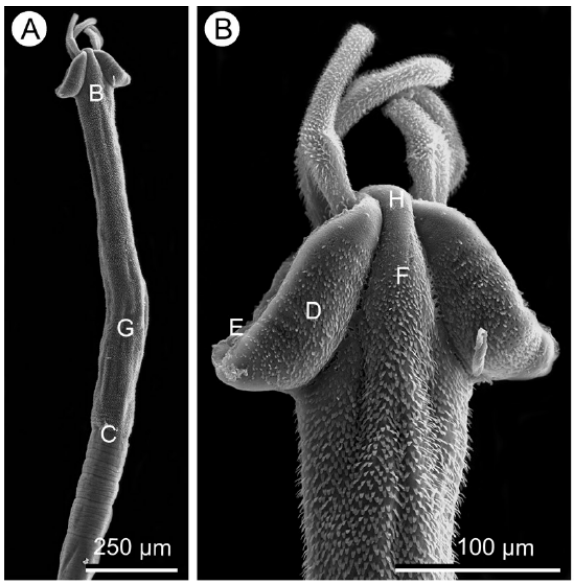


PULIDO-FLORES, G. & MONKS, S. & VIOLANTE-GONZÁLEZ, J. (2015): *Denarycotyle gardneri* n. gen., n. sp (Monogenea: Monocotylidae: Euzetiinae), from the gills of *Rhinoptera steindachneri* (Rhinopteridae) from Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad, 86 (3): 582-589*

New genus: *Denarycotyle*

New species: *Denarycotyle gardneri*

Abstract: *Denarycotyle gardneri* n. gen., n. sp. (Monogenea: Monocotylidae) is described from the gills of the stingray, *Rhinoptera steindachneri* (Myliobatidae), collected in marine waters off Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. The genus is assigned to Euzetiinae because it has a haptor with one centralloculus, one additional loculus on either side of the central loculus and 10 peripheral loculi. However, the genus described herein can be distin-guished from *Euzetia*, the only genus currently assigned to Euzetiinae, by the presence of two accessory structures on the dorsal surface of thehaptor and hamuli with a sclerotized accessory piece on each hamulus. Specimens of *D. gardneri* n. gen., n. sp. were found on the gills of 4 of18 individuals of *R. steindachneri* (22%) but were not present on *Rhinobatos glaucostigma* Jordan and Gilbert (1 individual), *Urotrygon rogersi*(Jordan and Starks) (2), *Narcine entemador* Jordan and Starks (3), *Aetobatus narinari* (Euphrasen) (1) or *Dasyatis longa* (Garman) (3). This isthe third genus and the fourth species of a monogenean recorded from *Rhinoptera* and the second member of Euzetiinae from Mexico and fromthe neotropics. Keys to the subfamilies of Monocotylidae and to the species of Euzetiinae, as well as a hypothesis of phylogenetic relationshipsbetween Heterocotylinae, Decacotylinae, and Euzetiinae are provided.

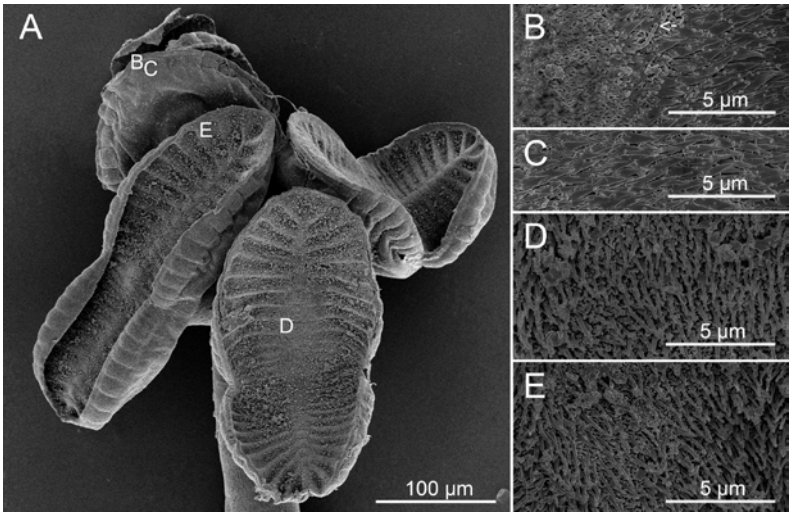


MENORET, A. & IVANOV, V.A. (2015): Trypanorhynch cestodes (Eutetrarhynchidae) from batoids along the coast of Argentina, including the description of new species in *Dollfusiella* Campbell et Beveridge, 1994 and *Mecistobothrium* Heinz et Dailey, 1974. *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 058*

New species: *Dollfusiella acuta, Mecistobothrium oblongum*

Abstract: During a recent parasitological survey of elasmobranchs along the coast of Argentina, two new species of eutetrarhynchid cestodes of the genera*Dollfusiella* Campbell et Beveridge, 1994 and *Mecistobothrium* Heinz et Dailey, 1974 were collected from batoids. *Dollfusiella acuta* sp. n. was found in four arhynchobatid skates, i.e. *Sympterygia acuta* Garman (type host), *Sympterygia bonapartii* Müller et Henle, *Atlantoraja castelnaui* (Miranda Ribeiro) and *Atlantoraja platana* (Günther), and *Mecistobothrium oblongum* sp. n. in the eagle ray *Myliobatis goodei* Garman. *Dollfusiella acuta* sp. n. has a tentacular armature consisting of basal rows of uncinate hooks, a distinct basal swelling with uncinate, falcate and bill hooks, and a heteroacanthous metabasal armature with heteromorphous hooks (bothrial uncinate hooks and antibothrial falcate hooks), hooks 1(1') not separated, testes in two columns and an internal seminal vesicle. The

tentacular armature of *M. oblongum* sp. n. is characterised by basal rows of uncinate hooks, a basal swelling with uncinate and falcate hooks, a typical heteroacanthous metabasal armature with heteromorphous hooks (uncinate and falcate to spiniform), and hooks 1(1') separated and of a constant size along the tentacle. It also possesses an elongate scolex, numerous testes arranged in 5-6 irregular columns, and an internal seminal vesicle. The discovery of *M. oblongum* in *M. goodei* represents the first record of species of *Mecistobothrium* in the southwestern Atlantic Ocean. An amended description of *Dollfusiella cortezensis* (Friggens et Duszynski, 2005) is also provided to clarify details of the scolex and tentacular armature. Members of *Dollfusiella* in the southwestern Atlantic are specific to a single host species or to a particular host family, while *M. oblongum* was found in a single host species. Although globally some plerocerci of eutetrarhynchids have been found in teleosts, extensive examination of teleosts off the coast of Argentina suggests that the transmission pathways of these species are exclusively based on invertebrates as intermediate or paratenic hosts.



MARQUES, F.P.L. & REYDA, F.B. (2015): *Rhinebothrium jaimei* sp. n. (Eucestoda: Rhinebothriidea: Rhinebothriidae): a new species from Neotropical freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae). *Folia Parasitologica, 62: 057*

New species: *Rhinebothrium jaimei*

Abstract: Neotropical freshwater stingrays (Batoidea: Potamotrygonidae) host a diversity of parasites, including some, like their hosts, that are marine-derived. Among the parasites of potamotrygonids, the cestode fauna is the most diverse, with multiple genera having been reported, including genera endemic to the freshwaters of the Neotropics and genera that have cosmopolitan distributions. Recent efforts have been made to document the diversity of cestodes of this host-parasite system and to refine the taxonomy of parasite lineages. The present study contributes to our knowledge of *Rhinebothrium* Linton, 1890, a diverse cosmopolitan genus of rhinebothriidean cestode, with 37 species reported from marine batoids, one species from a freshwater stingray in Borneo and six species from potamotrygonids. *Rhinebothrium jaimei* sp. n. is described from two species of potamotrygonids, *Potamotrygon orbignyi* (Castelnau) (type host) and *Potamotrygon scobina* Garman, from Bahía de Marajó of the lower Amazon region. It can be distinguished from most of its marine congeners via multiple attributes, including its possession of two, rather than one, posteriormost loculi on its bothridia and the lomeniform shape of its bothridium that is wider anteriorly. In addition, *R. jaimei* sp. n. can be distinguished from the six *Rhinebothrium* species described previously from potamotrygonids based on a unique combination of morphological features. Despite extensive stingray cestode sampling efforts throughout all major Neotropical river systems, we found that unlike most species of potamotrygonid *Rhinebothrium* species, which are widespread, *R. jaimei* sp. n. is restricted to the Bahía de Marajó. The discovery of this new species of *Rhinebothrium* in Bahía de Marajó, an area in which potamotrygonids occur sympatrically with some species of euryhaline batoids (e.g. *Dasyatis* spp.) and share some trophic resources, suggest that modern ecological processes may be contributing to the distribution patterns of cestodes infecting potamotrygonids.

CAIRA, J.N. & JENSEN, K. (2015): Insights on the identities of sharks of the *Rhizoprionodon acutus* (Elasmobranchii: Carcharhiniformes) species complex based on three new species of *Phoreiobothrium* (Cestoda: Onchoproteocephalidea). *Zootaxa, 4059 (2): 335–350*

New species: *Phoreiobothrium jahki, Phoreiobothrium nadiae, Phoreiobothrium swaki*

Abstract: Recent molecular work on milk sharks (*Rhizoprionodon acutus* [Rüppell]) suggests that, rather than a single widely distributed species, *R. acutus* represents a complex of four narrowly distributed cryptic species. Examination of the cestodes in three of the four members of that complex globally led to the discovery and description of three new species in the onchoproteocephalidean genus *Phoreiobothrium* Linton, 1889. The host associations and geographic distributions of the new species are fully congruent with the geographic distributions and species boundaries inferred for the sharks from molecular data: *Phoreiobothrium jahki* n. sp. parasitizes *Rhizoprionodon cf. acutus* 3 off Borneo, *P. nadiae* n. sp. parasitizes *R. cf. acutus* 1 off Senegal, and *P. swaki* n. sp. parasitizes *R. cf. acutus* 2 off northern Australia. The new cestodes differ from one another and from their 11 valid congeners in morphological features such as sublocular configuration and number, hook size, and testis number. Given the notoriously oioxenous nature of elasmobranch-hosted onchoproteocephalidean cestodes, these results provide further support for recognition of the milk shark species complex. This work also raises questions about the *Phoreiobothrium* species reported in cursory descriptions from India; further examination of these cestodes is key because they are potentially hosted by the fourth member of the *R. acutus* complex. To encourage future taxonomic work on the morphology of sharks in this complex, comparative photographs of representatives of the four potential host species are provided.

3.5 Distribution

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4. Index (Genera only)