Order PLEURONECTIFORMES (part 1 of 3)

Suborder Psettodoidei

Family PSETTODIDAE Spiny Turbots

*Psettodes* Bennett 1831

`oides`, having the form of: allusion not explained, perhaps *poeta*, Greek for flatfish, i.e., like other flatfishes but with spines in dorsal and anal fins

*Psettodes belcheri* Bennett 1831

in honor of Edward Belcher (1799-1877), British naval officer, hydrographer and explorer, who presented type to the Zoological Society of London

*Psettodes bennetti* Steindachner 1870

in honor of zoologist Edward Turner Bennett (1797-1836), who proposed the genus in 1831

*Psettodes erumei* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)

from *Erumei naku*, local name for this fish in Tharangambadi, India, type locality (but widely occurs in Indo-West Pacific, Persian Gulf and Red Sea)

Suborder Pleuronectoidei

Family CITHARIDAE Largescale Flounders

5 genera · 6 species

*Brachypleura* Günther 1862

`brachys`, short; `pleura`, side, allusion not explained nor evident [preoccupied by *Brachypleura* Angelin 1854 in trilobites; replacement name needed]

*Brachypleura novaezeelandiae* Günther 1862

of New Zealand, type locality (although not currently known to occur there; occurs in Indo-West Pacific from Maldives east to Philippines, north to northern Viet Nâm and southern China)

*Citharoides* Hubbs 1915

`oides`, having the form of: *Citharus*, a closely related genus from Europe

*Citharoides macrolepidotus* Hubbs 1915

`macro-`, long or large; `lepidotus`, scaled, referring to “very large, weakly ctenoid” scales, 40 along lateral line

*Citharoides orbitalis* Hoshino 2000

of the orbit, referring to longer orbit compared to *C. macrolepidotus*

*Citharus* Artedi 1793

harp, lyre or lute, a name dating to Pliny (“citharus, the least esteemed of all the turbots”), possibly referring to vaguely lyre-like shape of this or related species [authorship sometimes attributed to Röse, who reprinted Artedi’s 1738 publication]

*Citharus linguatula* (Linnaeus 1758)

of the tongue, name dating to Belon (1553) and Willughby (1686), presumably referring to its round and long tongue

*Leptoblepharon* Weber 1913

`lepidus`, scaled; `blepharon`, eyelid, referring to upper parts of eye covered with scales

*Leptoblepharon opthalmolepis* Weber 1913

`ophthalmos`, eye; `lepis`, scale, referring to upper parts of eye covered with scales

*Paracitharus* Regan 1920

`para-`, near, presumably referring to similarity to and/or close relationship with *Citharus* [often treated as a junior synonym of *Citharoides*]

*Paracitharus macrolepis* (Gilchrist 1904)

`macro-`, long or large; `lepis`, scale, presumably referring to their size, 47 along lateral line)
Family SCOPHTHALMIDAE  Turbots
3 genera · 9 species

Lepidorhombus Günther 1862
proposed as a scaled (lepido-) subgenus of Rhombus (=Scophthalmus), referring to ciliated scales of Rhombus megastoma (=Lepidorhombus chiisagonis)

Lepidorhombus boscii (Risso 1810)
in honor of the "modest" (translation) French naturalist Louis-Augustin Bosc d’Antic (1759-1828)

Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis (Walbaum 1792)
-ī, genitive singular of: iago, latinization of iago, referring to Rev. George Jago (d. 1726), minister of Looe in Cornwall, England; he researched and illustrated Cornish fishes wherein he noted that the local name for this species is whiff (literally, “Jago’s whiff”)

Scophthalmus Rafinesque 1810
etymology not explained, perhaps scop [scop], watcher and opthalmus, eye, referring to upwardly pointed eyes of adult S. rhombus (and of all adult flatfishes in general)

Scophthalmus aquosus (Mitchill 1815)
watery, referring to its pellucid or semi-transparent body, for which it is sometimes called the “watery flounder”

Scophthalmus maeoticus (Pallas 1814)
-ica, belonging to: Maeotis, ancient name for Sea of Azov, type locality (also occurs in Black Sea)

Scophthalmus maximus (Linnaeus 1758)
largest, presumably referring to its size (type specimen is 190 cm SL and 240 cm TL, which is far smaller than the largest flatfish, Hippoglossus hippoglossus, which can reach 470 cm TL)

Scophthalmus rhombus (Linnaeus 1758)
diamond-shaped, presumably referring to shape of body

Zeugopterus Gottsche 1835
zeus, pair or team; pterus, fin, referring to ventral fins united with anal fin

Zeugopterus norvegicus (Günther 1862)
Norwegian, referring to type locality off west coast of Norway

Zeugopterus punctatus (Bloch 1787)
spotted, referring to dark spots or round blotches on brownish body

Zeugopterus regius (Bonnaterre 1788)
royal, based on "Le Calimande Royale" of Duhamel (1781), who said this fish "would be esteemed, both for its beauty and its good taste, if it were larger and less rare" (calimande is a French word for sole or plaice, derived from limanda, old name for the pleuronectid Limanda limanda, which may be derived from the French lima and/or the Latin lima, meaning file [tool used to smooth metal], referring to rough ctenoid scales on eyed side; another explanation is that name is derived from the Latin limus, meaning mud)

Family PARALICHTHYIDAE  Sand Flounders
10 genera · 64 species

Ancylopsetta Gill 1864
ankylos, bent, hooked or crooked, probably referring to “falciform arch” (italics in original) of lateral line of A. quadricellata (=ommata); poëta, Greek for flatfish

Ancylopsetta antillarum Gutherz 1966
of the Antilles, referring to type locality in the north Bahamas

Ancylopsetta cycloidea Tyler 1959
named for cycloid scales on both sides of body (not just blind side)

Ancylopsetta dendritica Gilbert 1890
branched (like a tree), referring to “branched” lateral-line tubes

Ancylopsetta dilecta (Goode & Bean 1883)
per Goode & Bean (1896), admired or beloved, “in allusion to the beauty of the species”

Ancylopsetta kumpeae Tyler 1959
in honor of Tyler’s wife at the time, Helga O. Kumpera

Ancylopsetta microctenus Gutherz 1966
micro-, small; ctenus, comb, referring to microscopic ctenii on scales of eyed side
Ancylopsetta ommata (Jordan & Gilbert 1883)
eyed, referring to four large, oblong, ocellated spots (eyespots) on eyed side of body

Cephalopsetta Dutt & Rao 1965
ccephalo-, head, described as having a larger head than any other genus in the family; psetta, Greek for flatfish

Cephalopsetta ventrocellatus Dutt & Rao 1965
ventro-, ventral or pelvic; ocellatus, with eye-like spots, referring to distinct ocellus (black spot enclosed by creamy ring) between 3rd and 5th rays of pelvic fin on eyed side

Gastropsetta Bean 1895
gaster, belly, allusion not explained, presumably referring to produced ventral fin of eyed side, ending in a long filamentous ray in the young; psetta, Greek for flatfish

Gastropsetta frontalis Bean 1895
pertaining to forehead, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to dorsal fin beginning in front of eyes

Hippoglossina Steinbacher 1876
diminutive of Hippoglossus, i.e., a small halibut, possibly referring to small size (35 cm TL) of H. macrops compared to H. hippoglossus (470 cm TL)

Hippoglossina bollmani Gilbert 1890
in honor of naturalist Charles Harvey Bollman (1868-1889), who reported this flounder (with his mentor David Starr Jordan) as H. macrops in 1889

Hippoglossina macrops Steinbacher 1876
macr-, large; opsis, eye, referring to its very large eyes (“Augen sehr gross”)

Hippoglossina montemaris de Buen 1961
-itis, genitive singular of: near Montemar, Chile, type locality

Hippoglossina mystacium Ginsburg 1936
mustachioed, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to three embedded cycloid scales on maxillary

Hippoglossina stomata Eigenmann & Eigenmann 1890
large mouthed, maxillary extending to posterior margin of eye, as long as or longer than pectoral fin

Hippoglossina tetraphthalmus (Gilbert 1890)
tetra, four; ophthalmus, eye, referring to two pairs of eye-like spots on eyed side of body

Paralichthys Girard 1858
parallens, parallel, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to oblong body of P. maculosus (=californicus)

Paralichthys adspersus (Steindachner 1867)
bespinkled, referring to “numerous black points, spots, and rings on the whole body” (translation)

Paralichthys aestivalis Gilbert & Scofield 1898
occurring in estuarine (brackish) waters, referring to type locality, Shool Point, Gulf of California, at mouth of Colorado River, Sonora, México

Paralichthys albigutta Jordan & Gilbert 1882
albus, white; gutta, spot, referring to “very small pale spots” on dark greenish body (eyed side)

Paralichthys brasiliensis (Ranzani 1842)
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Bahia, Brazil, type locality

Paralichthys californicus (Ayres 1859)
Californian, referring to San Francisco Bay, California, USA, type locality (occurs along eastern Pacific from Washington south to México)

Paralichthys delfini Pequeño & Plaza 1987
in honor of Federico T. Delfin, Museo de Valparaíso, “just over 80 years after his death” (translation), for his contributions to Chilean ichthyology

Paralichthys dentatus (Linnaeus 1766)
toothed, referring to large canine teeth

Paralichthys dentatus Steindachner 1903
-dentatus, belonging to: of Juan Fernández Islands, Chile, type locality (also occurs at Desventuradas Islands)

Paralichthys isosceles Jordan 1891
named for three black eyespots or ocelli on eyed side, “in the form of an isosceles triangle”

Paralichthys lethostigma Jordan & Gilbert 1884
lethos, to forget; stigma, mark or spot, referring to absence of spots compared to the spotted P. dentatus, which it otherwise resembles
**Paralichthys microps** (Günther 1881)

micro-, small; ops, eyes, referring to smaller eyes compared to *Hippoglossina macrops*, its presumed congener at the time

**Paralichthys oblongus** (Mitchill 1815)

oblong, allusion not explained, presumably referring to four oblong blackish ocelli or eyespots on eyed side

**Paralichthys olivaceus** (Temminck & Schlegel 1846)

olive-colored, referring to olive-green color of eyed side, “a little grayish, and dotted with black spots” (translation)

**Paralichthys orbignyanus** (Valenciennes 1839)

-anus, belonging to: naturalist Alcide d’Orbigny (1802-1857), who collected type

**Paralichthys patagonicus** Jordan 1889

Patagonian, referring to eastern coast of Patagonia, type locality

**Paralichthys squamilentus** Jordan & Gilbert 1882

scaly, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to small scales compared to the similar *P. albigutta*, described in the same publication

**Paralichthys triocellatus** Miranda Ribeiro 1903

tri-, three; ocellatus, with eye-like spots, referring to three large ocelli or eyespots on eyed side of body

**Paralichthys tropicus** Ginsburg 1933

tropical, presumably referring to type locality off Trinidad in the West Indies

**Paralichthys woolmani** Jordan & Williams 1897

in honor of Albert J. Woolman (1861-1918), science teacher in Duluth, Minnesota, for his “work on the fresh-water fishes of Mexico and Florida” [biographical footnote: his son founded Delta Airlines]

**Pseudorhombus** Bleeker 1862

pseudo-, false, i.e.: although this genus may resemble *Rhombus* (=*Scophthalmus*, Scophthalmidae), with three of its species previously placed in it, such an appearance is false

**Pseudorhombus annulatus** Norman 1927

ringed, referring to numerous dark rings on eyed side

**Pseudorhombus argus** Weber 1913

Argus, mythical hundred-eyed guardian of Io, whose eyes after death where transformed into the feathers of a peacock, referring to five peacock-like ocelli or eyespots on eyed side

**Pseudorhombus arsius** (Hamilton 1822)

latinization of arsi, local name for this flatfish in Calcutta, India (but widely occurs in Red Sea and Indo-West Pacific from east Africa and Persian Gulf east to Marshall Islands and Fiji, north to southern Japan, south to Australia)

**Pseudorhombus bini** Tortonese 1955

in honor of Giorgio Bini (1906-?), Laboratorio Centrale di Pesca, Piscicoltura e Idrobiologia (Rome), who collected type

**Pseudorhombus cinnamoneus** (Temminck & Schlegel 1846)

cinnamon colored, referring to cinnamon brown (“brun de canelle”), predominant color of eyed side

**Pseudorhombus ctenosquamis** (Oshima 1927)

teno-, tenoid; squamis, scale, referring to tenoid scales on eyed side (cycloid scales on blind side)

**Pseudorhombus diplospilus** Norman 1926

diplo-, double; spilos, mark or spot, referring to four double eyespots (two ocelli in one ring) on eyed side

**Pseudorhombus dupliciocellatus** Regan 1905

duplico-, double; ocellatus, having eye-like spots, referring to 3-5 double eyespots (two ocelli in one ring) on eyed side of body

**Pseudorhombus elevatus** Ogilby 1912

raised, referring to “exceptional depth of the body”

**Pseudorhombus javanicus** (Bleeker 1853)

Javanese, referring to Jakarta, Java, Indonesia, type locality (but widely occurring in Indo-West Pacific from eastern India east to New Guinea, north to Viet Nam and China)

**Pseudorhombus jenynsii** (Bleeker 1855)

in honor of English clergyman and naturalist Leonard Jenyns (1800-1893), who provisionally described but did not name this species in 1842

**Pseudorhombus levisquamis** (Oshima 1927)

laevis, smooth; squamis, scale, referring to cycloid scales on both eyed and blind sides

**Pseudorhombus malayanus** Bleeker 1865

-anus, belonging to: Malay, presumably referring to its occurrence throughout the Malay Archipelago
Pseudorhombus megalops Fowler 1934  
megalo-, large; ops, eye, referring to its “very large and conspicuous eyes, not like those of any related species”

Pseudorhombus micrognathus Norman 1927  
micro-, small; gnathus, jaw, referring to shorter maxillary compared to P. elevatus, “scarcely reaching middle of eye”

Pseudorhombus natalensis Gilchrist 1904  
-ensis, suffix denoting place: off Cape Natal, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, type locality

Pseudorhombus neglectus Bleeker 1865  
sexually neglected or unnoticed, referring to how Bleeker initially overlooked this species, preserved in the same jar as P. malayanus and P. russellii (= arsius)

Pseudorhombus oculocirris Amaoka 1969  
oculus, eye; cirris, tendril, referring to dermal tentacle usually present on lower eye

Pseudorhombus oligodon (Bleeker 1854)  
oligo-, few;odon, tooth, referring to fewer teeth in lower jaw (6) compared to P. cinnamoneus (>20)

Pseudorhombus pentophthalmus Günther 1862  
pento-, five; ophthalmus, eye, referring to five violet, white-edged eyespots on eyed side

Pseudorhombus quinquocellatus Weber & de Beaufort 1929  
quini-, five; ocellatus, having eye-like spots, referring to five black blotches surrounded by a brown ring on eyed side

Pseudorhombus spinosus McCulloch 1914  
thorny, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to 4–6 “projecting spinules” on free margins of palmate gill rakers and/or strong preanal spine (actually tip of large interhaemal spine that perforates skin)

Pseudorhombus tenuirastreum (Waite 1899)  
tenuis, thin; rostrum, rake, referring to narrow gill rakers in contrast to broad gill rakers of P. arsius and Paralichthys novaecambriae (a taxon of uncertain status)

Pseudorhombus triocellatus (Bloch & Schneider 1801)  
tri-, three; ocellatus, with eye-like spots, referring to three eyepots or ocelli on eyed side of body

Tarphops Jordan & Thompson 1914  
tarphys, close; ops, eye, referring to eyes of T. oligolepis “very close together”

Tarphops elegans Amaoka 1969  
fin or well proportioned, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to slender, rather elongate body compared to the ovate T. oligolepis

Tarphops oligolepis (Bleeker 1858)  
oligo-, few; leptis, scales, referring to larger and therefore smaller number of scales (40–45) in lateral line compared to presumed congeners (60–80) at the time
Tephrinectes Günther 1862
Tephrinectes, an ash-colored stone, presumably referring to brownish color scattered with black or blue dots; nectes, swimmer [replacement name for Tephritis Günther 1862, preoccupied in Diptera]

Tephrinectes sinensis (Lacepède 1802)
-nensis, suffix denoting place: Sinica (China), referring to occurrence in western Pacific off China (and Taiwan)

Thysanopsetta Günther 1880
Thysanopsetta, fringe or tassel, referring to fringed margin of gill opening on eyed side; psetta, Greek for flatfish

Thysanopsetta naresi Günther 1880
patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of George Strong Nares (1831-1915), British naval officer and member of Challenger expedition (1872-1876), during which type was collected

Xystreurys Jordan & Gilbert 1880
Xystreurys, raker; eurys, broad, referring to very short but broad gill rakers of X. liolepis

Xystreurys liolepis Jordan & Gilbert 1880
leo, smooth; lepis, scale, referring to small, smooth (cycloid) scales on body

Xystreurys rasilis (Jordan 1891)
polished or made smooth, allusion not explained, presumably referring to its smooth cycloid scales, by which it differs from the related Hippoglossina and Lyopsetta [often incorrectly spelled rasile; rasilis agrees with masculine gender of Xystreurys]

Family CYCLOPSETTIDAE
4 genera · 46 species/subspecies

Citharichthys Bleeker 1862
Citharichthys, presumably referring to similarity to this genus; ichthys, fish

Citharichthys abbotti Dawson 1969
in honor of Walter Abbott, colleague at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, who collected type with Dawson

Citharichthys amblybregmatus Gutherz & Blackman 1970
ambly, blunt; bregmatus, front of head, referring to its very blunt head, more so in males than females

Citharichthys arctifrons Goode 1880
arctus, narrow; frons, forehead, probably referring to “very narrow” interorbital space

Citharichthys arenaceus Evermann & Marsh 1900
sandy, presumably referring to color pattern, “light-gray, thickly spotted with olive, giving it a granitic appearance”

Citharichthys cornutus (Günther 1880)
horned, presumably referring “three pointed projections” on snout in front of upper eye (at least in adults)
**Citharichthys darwini** Victor & Wellington 2013
in honor of English naturalist Charles Darwin (1809-1882), who spent an “overpoweringly hot” October 1, 1835 exploring Tagus Cove of the Galápagos Islands (type locality); name also “serves as a somewhat belated recognition of the 150th anniversary of the publication of The Origin of Species in London in October 1860, mitigated to some small degree by the knowledge that the dilatory nature of the endeavor would not be particularly foreign to Darwin's sensibilities”

**Citharichthys dinoceros** Goode & Bean 1886
dino-, fearfully great (as in dinosaur); *ceros*, horn, referring to strong spine on snout overhanging upper lip

**Citharichthys fragilis** Gilbert 1890
fragile, presumably referring to its deciduous scales

**Citharichthys gilberti** Jenkins & Evermann 1889
in honor of ichthyologist and fisheries biologist Charles H. Gilbert (1859-1928), “whose collection, and notes on fishes from Mazatlan [México], containing undescribed species, this among them, was destroyed by fire in 1883”

**Citharichthys gnathus** Hoshino & Amaoka 1999
jaw, referring to bony knob at anterior tip of lower jaw

**Citharichthys gordae** Beebe & Tee-Van 1938
of Gorda Bank, Baja California, México, type locality

**Citharichthys gymnorhinus** Guthérz & Blackman 1970
gymnos, bare or naked; *rhinus*, snout, referring to absence of scales on snout (from anterior edge of head to vertical through posterior margin of pupil of lower eye)

**Citharichthys macrops** Dresel 1885
macro-, long or large; *ops*, eye, referring to “much larger” eyes compared to *C. spilopterus*

**Citharichthys mariajorisae** van der Heiden & Mussot-Pérez 1995
in honor of Maria Joris (1917-1995), maiden name of the senior author’s mother, for her “teaching and perpetual support”; unable to continue her own education during and after World War II, she nevertheless encouraged her six children to study foreign languages, learn music, play an instrument, earn a university degree, and follow one’s dreams (Albert van der Heiden, pers. comm.)

**Citharichthys minutus** Cervigón 1982
small, allusion not explained but clearly referring to its size, reaching just 5.2 cm TL

**Citharichthys platophrys** Gilbert 1891
platys, wide or broad; *phrys*, brow, referring to interorbital space, “very wide for a Citharichthys”

**Citharichthys sordidus** (Girard 1854)
dirty, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to its fins, which “appear as if covered with a coating of dust” and/or to its overall dull coloration

**Citharichthys spilopterus** Günther 1862
spilos, spot; *pterus*, fin, referring to series of “distant” blackish spots along basal portions of anal and dorsal fins

**Citharichthys stampflii** (Steindachner 1894)
patron not identified but probably in honor of naturalist Franz Xavier Stampfli (1847-1903), who had worked in Liberia (type locality)

**Citharichthys stigmaeus** Jordan & Gilbert 1882
speckled, presumably referring to “very small but conspicuous black spot” in middle of each 7th-10th ray of its vertical fins

**Citharichthys surinamensis** (Bloch & Schneider 1801)
-ensis, suffix denoting place: coast of Suriname, type locality

**Citharichthys uhleri** Jordan 1889
in honor of entomologist Philip Reese Uhler (1835-1913), who brought type from Haiti

**Citharichthys valdezi** Cervigón 1986
in honor of Julio Valdez, Francisco de Miranda Experimental University (Coro, Venezuela), who “generously” (translation) made available all the specimens used in the description

**Citharichthys xanthostigma** Gilbert 1890
xanths, yellow; *stigma*, mark or spot, referring to numerous bright-yellow spots along and above lateral lines, “broadly ocellated with brownish black”

**Cyclopsetta** Gill 1889
cyclo-, circle, referring to “regularly” cycloid scales (some weakly ctenoid) on eyed side of *C. fimbriata*
Cyclopsetta chittendeni Bean 1895
in honor of English physician and medical officer John F. Chittenden (1843-1895), Victoria Institute, Port of Spain, Trinidad, who provided type

Cyclopsetta fimbriata (Goode & Bean 1885)
fringed, allusion not explained, presumably referring to produced rays of dorsal fin

Cyclopsetta panamensis (Steindachner 1875)
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Panama, type locality (occurs in eastern Pacific from Baja California south to Ecuador)

Cyclopsetta querna (Jordan & Bollman 1890)
oaken, i.e., tanned, presumably referring to color, described as “plain brown, unspotted”

Etropus Jordan & Gilbert 1882
etron, abdomen; pous, foot, referring to ventral fin of E. crossotus on ridge of abdomen

Etropus ciadi van der Heiden & Plascencia González 2005
named for CIAD, Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo (Mazatlan, Sonora, México), where both authors have held research positions since 1994 and 1999, respectively

Etropus crossotus Jordan & Gilbert 1882
fringed, referring to row of “conspicuous” white cilia on edge of opercle on blind side

Etropus cyclosquamus Leslie & Stewart 1986
cyclo-, circle; squama, scale, referring to cycloid scales on blind side, which distinguishes it from E. rimosus

Etropus delsmani delsmani Chabanaud 1940
patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of fisheries biologist Hendricus Christoffel Delsman (1886-1969), who studied and described many fishes collected by the Dutch ship Mercator, and perhaps supplied Chabanaud with the type of this one

Etropus delsmani pacificus Nielsen 1963
-icus, belonging to: Pacific Ocean, i.e., a subspecies of E. delsmani occurring on Pacific side of Central America

Etropus ectenes Jordan 1889
stretched, referring to its “elongate form” compared to E. crossotus

Etropus longimanus Norman 1933
longus, long; manus, hand, referring to longer pectoral fin (on eyed side) compared to E. microstomus

Etropus microstomus (Gill 1864)
micro-, small; stomus, mouth, referring to “rather small” mouth, “length of the upper jaw only equalling a quarter of the length, and that of the lower two-fifths of the head’s length”

Etropus peruvianus Hildebrand 1946
Peruvian, referring to Sechura Bay, Peru, type locality (occurs in eastern Pacific from Panama Bay to northern Peru)

Etropus rimosus Goode & Bean 1885
per Goode & Bean (1896), rough-looking, full of cracks and fissures, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to “strongly pectinated” scales on both sides of body (Jordan & Evermann [1898] state, apparently incorrectly, that name means “frosted”)

Syacium Ranzani 1842
latinization of Syacia, ancient Greek name for flatfishes according to Gesner (1558)

Syacium guineense (Bleeker 1862)
-ensis, suffix denoting place: coast of Guinea, type locality (occurs in eastern Atlantic from western Sahara to Namibia and Cape Verde Islands) [often incorrectly spelled guineensis; guineense agrees with neuter gender of Syacium]

Syacium gunteri Ginsburg 1933
in honor of marine biologist Gordon Gunter (1909-1998), then a staff investigator for the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, for the aid he rendered in Ginsburg’s studies of Gulf Coast fishes in 1931 and for “other courtesies shown” (e.g., he collected type and sent specimens to Ginsburg)

Syacium latifrons (Jordan & Gilbert 1882)
latus, broad; frons, forehead, referring to much broader interorbital space in adult males compared to S. ovale

Syacium longidorsale Murakami & Amaoka 1992
longus, long; dorsalis, of the back, referring to extended anterior dorsal-fin rays of mature males

Syacium maculiferum (Garman 1899)
macula, spot; ferre, to bear, presumably referring to “numerous ocellate spots on bluish and of brownish on body and fins”

Syacium micrurum Ranzani 1842
micro-, small; [e]urus, tailed, referring to short caudal fin, possibly in comparison with two other species mentioned
by Ranzani, *S. soleaeformis (=papillosum)* and *S. ocellatum (=micrurum)*

*Syacium ovale* (Günther 1864)  
oval, allusion not explained but clearly referring to elliptic-ovate body shape

*Syacium papillosum* (Linnaeus 1758)  
having papillae, described as having a papillous body

**Family PLEURONECTIDAE** Righteye Flounders

24 genera · 64 species/subspecies

**Subfamily Atheresthinae**

*Atheresthes* Jordan & Gilbert 1880  
*ather*, beard or spike of an ear of corn; *esthio*, to eat, referring to sharp, arrow-shaped teeth

*Atheresthes evermanni* Jordan & Starks 1904  
patronym not identified but clearly in honor of ichthyologist Barton Warren Evermann (1853-1932), United States Fish Commission, whose steamer *Albatross* collected type

*Atheresthes stomias* (Jordan & Gilbert 1880)  
large-mouthed, referring to its mouth, described as “extremely large and oblique, the lower jaw included”

**Subfamily Pleuronichthyinae**

*Pleuronichthys* Girard 1854  
*pleuro*, side; *ichthys*, fish, i.e., a fish that swims on its side

*Pleuronichthys coenosus* Girard 1854  
muddy, presumably referring to “deep brown” color of body and fins; Pietsch & Orr (2019) suggest that name also “sounds out” eyed-side color pattern of caudal fin, which appears as a reverse “C” at base of caudal followed by an “O”-like spot (hence the common name C-O Sole), but since Girard did not mention these markings we suspect any similarity between “coenosus” and “C-O” is coincidental

*Pleuronichthys cornutus* (Temminck & Schlegel 1846)  
horned, presumably referring to sharp, backward-projecting spine on posterior end of interorbital ridge

*Pleuronichthys decurrens* Jordan & Gilbert 1881  
running down, allusion not explained, possibly referring to how dorsal fin extends (or “runs down,” our term) to blind side

*Pleuronichthys guttulatus* Girard 1856  
diminutive of *guttata*, dotted, referring to “scattered light spots appearing like as many drops irregularly dispersed” on grayish-black body

*Pleuronichthys lighti* Wu 1929  
description not seen; based on Wu’s 1931 description of *Rhodeus lighti* (Cypriniformes: Acheilognathidae), in honor of zoologist Sol Felty Light (1886-1947), University of California, for “constant help and encouragement” in Wu’s zoological studies during their three-year association at University of Amoy (now Xiamen University), but since Wu credits authorship to Herre, who described *Entomacrodus lighti* (Blenniiformes: Blenniidae: Salariinae) in 1938, perhaps in honor of Light for sending type specimens of this and/or other fishes from Amoy Island, China, to Stanford University

*Pleuronichthys macrocephala* (Breder 1936)  
*macro-, long or large; cepha*, head, referring to large head, 4.0 in length

*Pleuronichthys ocellatus* Starks & Thompson 1910  
with eye-like spots, referring to “very conspicuous spot ocellated with milk white midway on the lateral line”

*Pleuronichthys ritteri* Starks & Morris 1907  
patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of marine biologist William Emerson Ritter (1856-1944), Marine Biological Association of San Diego (now Scripps Institution of Oceanography)

*Pleuronichthys verticalis* Jordan & Gilbert 1880  
pertaining to the vertex (crown of head), probably referring to spiny ridge between eyes

**Subfamily Microstominae** Smallmouth Flounders

*Glyptocephalus* Gottschle 1835  
glyptos, engraved or sculpted; cephalus, head, referring to numerous excavations and muscous cavities in skull on blind side

*Glyptocephalus cyanoglossus* (Linnaeus 1758)  
cyno-, dog; glossus, tongue, i.e., shaped like the tongue of a dog (elliptical)
Glyptocephalus kitaharae (Jordan & Starks 1904)
in honor of zoologist Tasaku Kitahara (1870-1922), Imperial Fisheries Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Tokyo), "author of a paper on the Scombridae of Japan" [although named after a man, some classically trained zoologists latinized the names of individuals whose names ended with the letter "a" by adding an "e" to the spelling]

Glyptocephalus stelleri (Schmidt 1904)
patronym not identified but clearly in honor of Georg Wilhelm Steller (1709-1746), German physician-naturalist who worked in Russia and explored the Kamchatka Peninsula and what is now Alaska; Schmidt discussed the importance of Steller's contributions in the opening sections of his monograph

Glyptocephalus zachirus Lockington 1879
za-, very; cheiros, hand, referring to "exceedingly long and lanceolate" pectoral fin on eyed side

Microstomus Gottsche 1835
micro-, small; stomus, mouth, referring to "very small" mouth of M. latidens (=kitt)

Microstomus achne (Jordan & Starks 1904)
a "whiff of foam" according to Jordan & Starks, allusion not explained nor evident (achne can also mean "any light substance, chaff or down," none of which seem to apply)

Microstomus bathybius (Gilbert 1890)
bathy, deep; bios, life, referring to type locality in the Santa Barbara Channel off southern California (USA), at a depth of 1100 m

Microstomus kitt (Walbaum 1792)
local name for this flatfish in Cornwall, England, according to Rev. George Jago (see Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis in Scophthalmidae, above)

Microstomus pacificus (Lockington 1879)
-picus, belonging to: Pacific Ocean (specifically, North Pacific from Bering Sea to southern Baja California)

Microstomus shuntovi Borets 1983
patronym not identified, probably in honor of Vyacheslav P. Shuntov (b. 1937), chief scientist of the Pacific Institute of Scientific Fisheries and Oceanography Center (Vladivostok), where Borets was working at the time

Subfamily Hippoglossinae

Clidoderma Bleeker 1862
clido-, key or hook; derma, skin, presumably referring to rough, bony tubercles on eyed side of adults, most of them bearing small spines (i.e., hooks)

Clidoderma asperrimum (Temminck & Schlegel 1846)
very rough, referring to rough, bony tubercles on eyed side of adults, most of them bearing small spines

Eopsetta Jordan & Goss 1885
eus, meaning "excellent" per Jordan & Goss (original description) and "morning" per Jordan & Evermann (1898), neither allusion explained nor evident (Pietsch & Orr 2019 posits that name refers to its more primitive appearance); poetta, Greek for flatfish

Eopsetta grigorjewi (Herzenstein 1890)
in honor of Russian botanist and ethnographer Alexander Vasilevich Grigoriev (1848-1908), who collected type

Eopsetta jordani (Lockington 1879)
in honor of ichthyologist David Starr Jordan (1851-1931), for his "assistance and advice"

Hippoglossus Cuvier 1816
autonymous with Pleuronectes hippoglossus

Hippoglossus hippoglossus (Linnaeus 1758)
an ancient name for halibut, from hippo, horse, and glossus, tongue, referring to its large, flat, tongue-like shape

Hippoglossus stenolepis Schmidt 1904
stenos, narrow (i.e., reduced in size); lepis, scale, referring to minute scales that cover both eyed and blind sides

Lyopsetta Jordan & Goss 1885
ley, loose, referring to its “large, loose” scales; poetta, Greek for flatfish

Lyopsetta exilis (Jordan & Gilbert 1880)
slender, referring to more elongate body compared to Hippoglossoides platessoides and Eopsetta jordani, its presumed congeners at the time

Reinhardtius Gill 1861
-tius, pertaining to: Norwegian zoologist Johannes Christopher Hagemann Reinhardt (1778-1845), whose works on the fishes of Greenland are cited many times by Gill
Reinhardtius hippoglossoides (Walbaum 1792)
-oides, having the form of: hippoglossus, ancient name for halibut, referring to its oblong, halibut-like shape

Verasper Jordan & Gilbert 1898
verus, true; asper, rough, presumably referring to “extremely spinous” scales

Verasper moseri Jordan & Gilbert 1898
in honor of Jefferson Franklin Moser (1848-1934), U.S. Navy, Lieutenant-Commander in charge of the U.S. Fish Commission steamer Albatross, from which type was collected

Verasper variegatus (Temminck & Schlegel 1846)
variegated, referring to combination of colors and markings, including orange-red on lower eyed side, uniform dark brownish upper body sometimes variegated with paler patches behind head and upper and lower edges of body, and large black or dark-brown spots near bases of dorsal and anal fins (plus small scattered brown spots on blind side)

Subfamily Pleuronectinae True Flounders

Acanthopsetta Schmidt 1904
acanthus, thorn or spine, probably referring to anal spine, which Schmidt used to distinguish this genus from Verasper and Hippoglossina (Paralichthyidae); psetta, Greek for flatfish

Acanthopsetta nadeshnyi Schmidt 1904
of Nadeshny (which means "one to be depended upon"), an icebreaker based in Vladivostok, Russia, from which "many works of expedition were provided" (translation)

Cleisthenes Jordan & Starks 1904
named for Cleisthenes, “the effeminate,” a prominent Athenian delegate during the Peloponnesian War (431 BC) frequently used by the comedian Aristophanes as the butt of jokes and as a character in his plays because Cleisthenes was apparently well known in Athens for being effeminate and/or homosexual; why Jordan & Starks selected this name is not explained nor evident

Cleisthenes pinetorum Jordan & Starks 1904
of pine woods, presumably referring to Kinkwazan Island, Japan, type locality, one of the “Thousand Pine-clad Islands” of Matsushima Bay

Dexistes Jordan & Starks 1904
etymology not explained, presumably dextra-, right and -istes, adjectival suffix, i.e., one who is right-handed, referring to color and eyes on right side of body

Dexistes rikuzenius Jordan & Starks 1904
-ius, pertaining to: Rikuzen, former province in Miyagi Prefecture of Japan, where Matsushima Bay, type locality, was situated

Hippoglossoides Gottsche 1835
-oides, having the form of: presumably referring to resemblance with Hippoglossus

Hippoglossoides dubius Schmidt 1904
doubtful or uncertain, allusion not explained, probably referring to Schmidt’s initial plan to place this species in a new genus (Cynopsetta, proposed in 1903 but not formally described) before he decided on the current genus based on examination of other Hippoglossoides specimens

Hippoglossoides elassodon Jordan & Gilbert 1880
elasson, reduced; odon, tooth, referring to its small teeth, “much smaller” than in Eopsetta jordani and “not larger than” in Lyopsetta exilis, its presumed congeners at the time

Hippoglossoides platessoides platessoides (Fabricius 1780)
-oides, having the form of: referring to its spots, like that of Pleuronectes platessa

Hippoglossoides platessoides limandoides (Bloch 1787)
-oides, having the form of: Limanda limanda, comparison not explained, perhaps referring to similarly rough ctenoid scales on eyed side

Hippoglossoides robustus Gill & Townsend 1897
stout or robust, presumably referring to its “thick” body

Isopsetta Lockington 1883
inos, equal, allusion not explained, presumably referring to strongly ctenoid scales “almost uniform” over head and body of eyed side, or to ctenoid scales on both eyed and blind sides; psetta, Greek for flatfish

Isopsetta isolepis (Lockington 1880)
inios, equal; lepis, scale, allusion not explained, presumably referring to strongly ctenoid scales “almost uniform” over head and body of eyed side, or to ctenoid scales on both eyed and blind sides
Lepidopsetta Gill 1862
lepido-, scale, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to ctenoid scales covering entire body of *L. umbrosa (=bilineata)*, some of which have prickles or small asperities; *psetta*, Greek for flatfish

Lepidopsetta bilineata (Ayres 1855)
*br-* , two; *lineata*, lined, referring to double or bifurcated lateral line, with a high arch and a short accessory dorsal branch

Lepidopsetta mochigarei Snyder 1911
Japanese for “rice-cake flounder,” presumably referring to its bright-white blind side, similar to white rice-cake common in Japan

Lepidopsetta polyxystra Orr & Matarese 2000
*poly*, many; *xystrus*, raker, referring to more numerous gill rakers compared to congeners

Limanda Gottsche 1835
tautonymous with *Pleuronectes limanda* Linnaeus 1758 (see *L. limanda*, below), which Gottsche unnecessarily renamed *L. vulgaris*

Limanda aspera (Pallas 1814)
rough, referring to ctenoid scales on both eyed and blind sides

Limanda limanda (Linnaeus 1758)
old name for this species, possibly derived from the French *lime* (and the Latin *lima*), meaning file (tool used to smooth metal), referring to rough ctenoid scales on eyed side; another explanation is that name is derived from the Latin *limus*, meaning mud

Limanda sakhalinensis Hubbs 1915
-ensis, Sakhalin Island, North Pacific Ocean, type locality

Liopsetta Gill 1864
leios-, smooth, referring to “perfectly smooth” (i.e., scaleless) body, a misnomer based on females, which have cycloid scales whereas males have ctenoid; *psetta*, Greek for flatfish

Liopsetta glacialis (Pallas 1776)
icy or frozen, described from the Arctic Ocean

Liopsetta pinnifasciata (Kner 1870)
*pinnis*, fin; *fasciata*, banded, referring to short blackish bars on dorsal and anal fins

Liopsetta putnami (Gill 1864)
in honor of Gill’s friend Frederic Ward Putnam (1839-1915), curator of ichthyology, Boston Society of Natural History, who supplied a small collection of fishes, including type of this one

Myzopsetta Gill 1861
myzon, sucker, allusion not explained but clearly referring to mouth of *M. ferruginea*, described by Storer as having “tumid” lips that “appear somewhat like” the mouth of the sucker, *Catostomus catostomus* (Cypriniformes: Catostomidae)

Myzopsetta ferruginea (Storer 1839)
rusty red, referring to “reddish slate-color” on eyed side of body, “covered with a great number of ferruginous spots”

Myzopsetta proboscidea (Gilbert 1896)
having a long snout or proboscis, referring to long snout, with jaws converging almost to a point

Myzopsetta punctatissima (Steindachner 1879)
very spotted, referring to eyed side of body “brown and very densely covered with darker spots and dots, between which less numerous and partly but not insignificantly larger milk-white spots are irregularly scattered” (translation)

Parophrys Girard 1854
para-, near; *ophrys*, eyebrow, allusion not explained; according to Jordan & Evermann (1898), referring to narrow interorbital space, which, with upper eye pointing obliquely upwards, gives the fish a “peculiar physiognomy”

Parophrys vetulus Girard 1854
old man, allusion not explained nor evident

Platichthys Girard 1854
platy, flat; *ichthys*, fish, literally a “flatfish”

Platichthys bicoloratus (Basilewsky 1855)
*br-* , two; *coloratus*, colored, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to dark or dusky eyed side and white blind side

Platichthys flesus (Linnaeus 1758)
presumably latinization of *flez*, local name for this flounder in France, dating to Rondelet (1558) [often but incorrectly spelled *flesius*]
**Platichthys luscus** (Pallas 1814)
one-eyed or half-blind, referring to how this flatfish, like all adult flatfishes, is eyed on one side and blind on the other

**Platichthys solemdali** Momigliano, Denys, Jokinen & Merilä 2018
in honor of Per Solemdal (1941-2016), Institute of Marine Research (Bergen, Norway), the first to study this flounder’s eggs and sperm in connection to salinity, discovering that the specific gravity of its eggs is a fixed (or nearly so) population characteristic, “laying the foundations on which many subsequent studies on local adaptation and speciation of Baltic Sea marine fishes were built”

**Platichthys stellatus** (Pallas 1787)
starry, referring to rough, stellate (star-shaped) scales on both eyed and blind sides

**Pleuronectes** Linnaeus 1758
*pleuro*-, side; *nectes*, swimmer, i.e., a fish that swims on its side

**Pleuronectes platessa** Linnaeus 1758
Latin for flounder, probably derived from the Greek *platus*, flat, and precursor of the Middle English *plaice*

**Pleuronectes quadrituberculatus** Pallas 1814
*quadri*-, four; *tuberculatus*, with tubercles, referring to four (sometimes five) bony tubercles along postocular ridge

**Psettichthys** Girard 1854
*psetta*, Greek for flatfish; *ichthys*, fish

**Psettichthys melanostictus** Girard 1854
*melanos*, black; *stictus*, spotted, referring to “crowded black dots” on eyed side of body

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**Pseudopleuronectes Bleeker 1862**

*pseudo-*, false, i.e., although this genus may resemble *Pleuronectes*, with its type species *P. planus* (=*americanus*) previously placed in it, such an appearance is false

*Pseudopleuronectes americanus* (Walbaum 1792)
American, based on Schöpf’s 1788 account of a flounder from Rhode Island, USA

*Pseudopleuronectes herzensteini* (Jordan & Snyder 1901)
in honor of Russian ichthyologist Solomon Markovich Herzenstein (1854-1894), who described this species in 1890 but used a preoccupied name

*Pseudopleuronectes obscurus* (Herzenstein 1890)
dark, referring to “very dark” (translation) color of fins and eyed side of body

*Pseudopleuronectes schrenki* (Schmidt 1904)
in memory of Leopold von Schrenck (1826-1894), Baltic-German Russian zoologist, geographer, ethnographer, and “well-known investigator of the mollusk fauna of the northern Sea of Japan” (translation)

*Pseudopleuronectes yokohamae* (Günther 1877)
of Yokohama Bay, Japan, type locality