

The ETYFish Project

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COMMENTS: 

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Order PERCIFORMES (part 18)

Suborder COTTOIDEI

Infraorder HEXAGRAMMALES

Taxonomic note: Hexagrammoidei in previous classifications.

Family HEXAGRAMMIDAE Greenlings

4 genera · 10 species

Subfamily Hexagramminae Greenlings

Hexagrammos Tilesius 1810

hexa, six; *grammos*, line, referring to multiple lateral-line canals, the fifth or ventral-most canal divided, thus producing a total of six

Hexagrammos agrammus (Temminck & Schlegel 1843)

a-, not or without; *grammus*, line, an apparent misnomer, referring to single (but not absent) lateral line compared to multiple lateral-line canals on congeners

Hexagrammos decagrammus (Pallas 1810)

deca, ten; *grammus*, line, referring to five lateral-line canals per side, for a total of ten

Hexagrammos lagocephalus (Pallas 1810)

lagos, hare; *cephalus*, head, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to bluntly rounded snout, resembling nose of a rabbit

Hexagrammos octogrammus (Pallas 1814)

octo, eight; *grammus*, line, referring to four lateral-line canals per side, for a total of eight

Hexagrammos otakii Jordan & Starks 1895

in honor of Keinosuke Otaki (d. 1911), Professor of English at the Imperial Military Academy of Tokyo and a former zoology student at Stanford University (where Jordan was president), who collected type series during his tenure with the Fish Commission of Japan

Hexagrammos stelleri Tilesius 1810

in honor of Georg Wilhelm Steller (1709-1746), German physician-naturalist who worked in Russia and explored the Kamchatka Peninsula (type locality), and who proposed the genus *Chirus* for greenling in an unpublished manuscript

Subfamily Pleurogramminae Atka Mackerels

Pleurogrammus Gill 1861

pleuro-, side; *grammus*, line, referring to five lateral-line canals per side

Pleurogrammus azonus Jordan & Metz 1913

a-, not or without; *zonus*, band, referring to absence of dark crossbars on body compared with the similar but banded *P. monopterygius*

Pleurogrammus monopterygius (Pallas 1810)

mono-, one; *pterygius*, fin, referring to single, continuous dorsal fin, compared with two dorsal fins of *Hexagrammos*

Subfamily Ophiodontinae Lingcod

Ophiodon Girard 1854

ophis, snake; *odon*, tooth, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to large, snake-like canine teeth (per Pietsch & Orr, *Fishes of the Salish Sea*, 2019)

Ophiodon elongatus Girard 1854

elongate, probably referring to “more elongated” head compared with *Chirus* (= *Hexagrammos*) and/or “small, elongated” scales

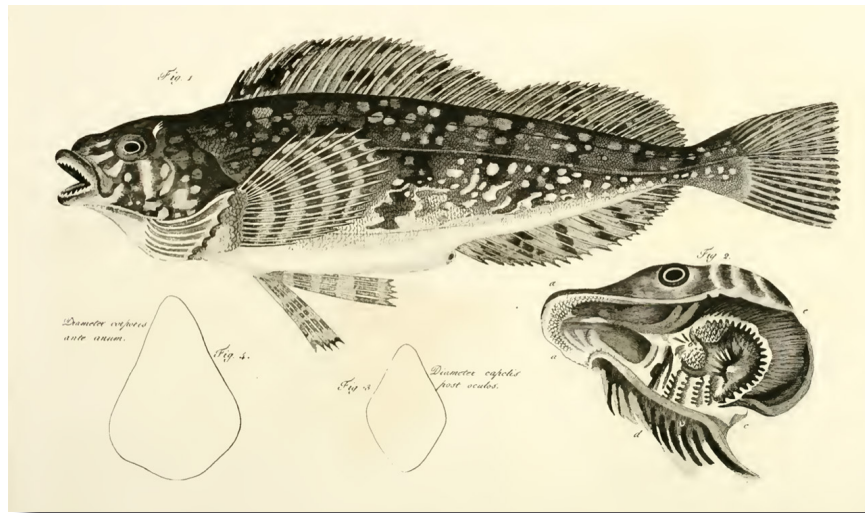
Subfamily Oxylebiinae Painted Greenling

Oxylebius Gill 1862

oxys, sharp, referring to more pointed snout compared with *Zaniolepis* (Zaniolepidales: Zaniolepididae); *Lebius*, etymology not explained, but according to Jordan & Evermann (1898) an old synonym of *Hexagrammos* from an ancient Greek word meaning “a small fish suitable to be cooked in a kettle”

***Oxylebius pictus* Gill 1862**

painted, referring to 5-7 undulating, vertical, dark-purple bands (red to reddish-brown in life) on body extending to dorsal and anal fins



Hexagrammos stelleri. From: Tilesius, W. G. von. 1811. Piscium Camtschaticorum descriptiones et icones. *Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de Saint Pétersbourg* v. 3: 225-285, Pls. 8-13.