

6.

A New Species of *Caulolatilus* from Trinidad, British West Indies.¹

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(Text-figure 1).

During the 22nd Expedition of the Department of Tropical Research, while we were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Henry D. Lloyd on board their yacht *Hardi Biaou*, six days were spent at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. While we were there, Mr. P. Lechmere Guppy, who is at work on a volume on the fishes of Trinidad, presented us with the specimen upon which the following new species is based. We would like to thank Mr. Guppy for this and many other courtesies during our visit.

BRANCHIOSTEGIDAE.

Caulolatilus guppyi, sp. nov.

TYPE: No. 24,737, Department of Tropical Research, New York Zoological Society, Port-of-Spain Market, Trinidad, British West Indies, December 16, 1936. Standard length 295 mm.

DESCRIPTION: Body considerably compressed, the greatest width of body 7.3 in the length; depth 3.2; anterior profile of head conspicuously and rather sharply rounded. Caudal peduncle deep, its depth 9.5 in the length, much compressed.

Body, except for the snout and chin, covered with scales, those on the breast smaller than the others. Eleven rows of scales from lateral line to beginning of dorsal fin; 88 to 89 rows of scales in a lateral series from shoulder girdle to base of caudal fin; 26 rows from lateral line to origin of anal fin. Lateral line continuous, wavy and not well marked.

Head 3.4 in the length; preopercle slightly serrated, the serrations subequal, the posterior edge almost vertical, the angle rounded; opercular margin with a flat, broadly rounded posterior lobe. Snout 2.7 in head. Eye large, 4.1 in head; interorbital space 3.6 in head. Nostrils small, placed in a horizontal series slightly below the middle of the eye, the posterior a horizontal slit situated $\frac{1}{3}$ an eye diameter in front of the eye, the anterior a simple circular hole. Maxillary 2.6 in head, extending posteriorly to the vertical of the anterior margin of the pupil. Teeth in jaws small but strong, curved slightly inward. Lower jaw with multiple rows

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anteriorly, changing to two rows posteriorly and on the posterior quarter of the jaw to a single ill-defined row; the outer row of teeth considerably larger and stronger than the others, the posterior ones especially so. Upper jaw similar to the lower but the multiple rows of teeth extending farther back and the teeth as a whole not quite as strong. Posteriorly the upper jaw has a single enlarged canine. Teeth absent on the vomer and palatines.

Branchiostegal membranes connected with each other and free from the isthmus. Gill-rakers short, 8 plus 11 on the first gill arch.

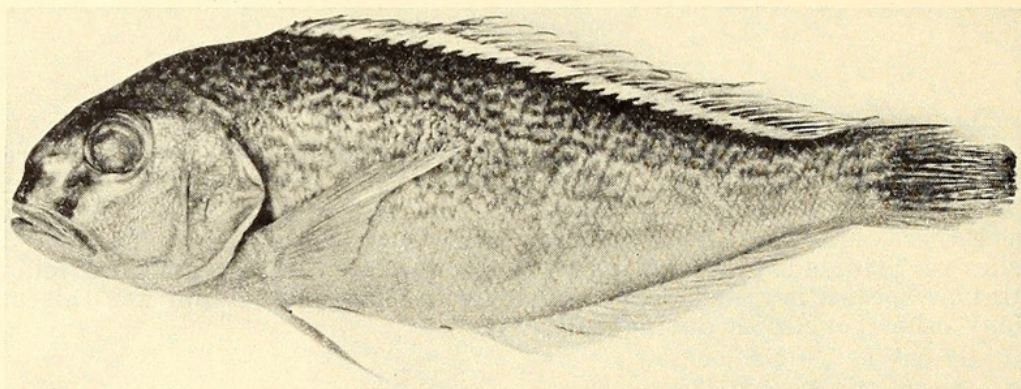
Dorsal fin VII, 24, the spines shorter than the rays and increasing in height as they progress backward. Height of second dorsal ray 2.35 in head.

Anal fin I, 22.

Caudal fin square-cut posteriorly with the upper and lower lobes exerted (Tips of the fin now broken off).

Pectoral fin 1.1 in length of head, the upper portion of the fin somewhat falcate.

Pelvic fin origin immediately below that of the pectoral, the length of the longest pelvic ray 1.67 in the length of the head.



Text-figure 1.

Caulolatilus guppyi. Photograph of the type specimen; standard length 295 mm. The tips of the caudal fin broken off in this illustration. Photograph by Edward Osterndorff.

COLOR: (Specimen preserved in rum for several months). Silvery gray, paler below; entire upper sides with brownish reticulations, the brown lines from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a scale in width. Snout and interorbital space dark brown. A dark brown band from anterior part of eye to center of mandible on each side, the band a little more than $\frac{1}{3}$ an eye diameter in width. Posterior upper part of maxillary dark brown. Pectoral, pelvic and anal fins colorless. Dorsal fin with a median horizontal broken band of brown spots, the fin basally with a series of similar colored spots between each spine and ray. Center of caudal fin mottled brown and white. A large dusky spot at axil of the pectoral fin.

REMARKS: This species differs from the previously described western Atlantic forms of *Caulolatilus*, *C. chrysops* (Cuvier and Valenciennes) 1833; *C. cyanops* Poey, 1866; *C. microps* Goode and Bean, 1878 and *C. intermedius* Rivero, 1936, in possessing 88 or 89 horizontal rows of scales beneath the lateral line from the shoulder girdle to the base of the tail, as opposed to 105 to 120 in the other species. This count has been carefully verified in the type specimen. The tail in *C. guppyi* is square posteriorly with slightly exerted tips, quite different from the crescentic tail shown in illustrations of the other West Indian forms.

The species is named in honor of Mr. P. Lechmere Guppy of Port-of-Spain, who first collected and recognized the fish as new to the fauna of Trinidad, and who has done so much for the natural history of that island and of Tobago.

Known only from the type specimen.



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