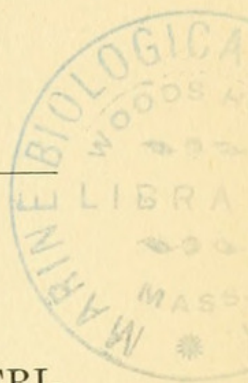


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NEW GENERA OF DEEP-WATER GURNARDS (PERISTEDIIDAE) FROM THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

BY HUGH M. SMITH.

The Philippine collections of the "Albatross" are very rich in peristedioid fishes as regards both individuals and species. The most interesting specimens are those representing two hitherto undescribed genera which necessitate a modification of the definition of the Peristediidae.

The new genera have been named **Gargariscus** and **Heminodus**, and their outstanding differential character is that the upper jaw is toothed, whereas *Peristedion* is edentulate in both jaws. The following key shows the relationships of the three genera:

- A. Both jaws toothless *Peristedion*.
- AA. Only lower jaw toothless.
 - b. Cephalic shield much expanded, flattened, the margin crenate; rostral processes long and flat; barbels very highly developed; mouth moderate; teeth on premaxillaries in a broad band extending half distance to angle of mouth *Gargariscus*.
 - bb. Cephalic shield little expanded, the margin entire; rostral processes short and spine-like, not flattened; barbels short and few; mouth very large; teeth on premaxillaries in a broad band extending to angle of mouth *Heminodus*.

Gargariscus, new genus.

Similar to *Peristedion* in general appearance, but with cephalic shield more expanded and its edge deeply crenated; premaxillaries bearing a broad band of fine teeth extending from symphysis half way to angle of mouth.

Type of the genus.—The genus contains only one known species, **Gargariscus semidentatus**, new species.

Type of the species.—The type is 22.7 cm. long, from a depth of 169 fathoms in the Mindanao Sea, on a bottom of globigerina ooze ("Albatross" station 5517). U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 78,249.

The collection contains 12 examples obtained from dredging stations between northern Mindanao and Verde Island Passage, in depths of 118 to 805 fathoms. The specimens range from 6.5 to 25.0 cm. in length.

Heminodus, new genus.

The differential characters are shown in the above key.

Type of the genus.—The genus contains a single known species, **Heminodus philippinus**, new species.

Type of the species.—The type is 16.8 cm. long, from the Mindanao Sea off Tawi-tawi ("Albatross" station 5517). U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 78,250.

The collection contains two other specimens from two other stations in the same region, the deepest dredge haul being in 277 fathoms.



Smith, Hobart M. 1917. "New genera of deep sea gurnards (Peristediidae) from the Philippine Islands." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 30, 145–146.

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