

16. *Gerres brevipmanus*, Günth., 1864.*Gerres brevipmanus*, Jord. & Everm. t. c. p. 1377.*Hab.* Brackish-water lakes at Chiapam, Guatemala (*Salvin*); Pacific Coast of Panama.17. *Gerres mexicanus*, Steind., 1863.*Gerres mexicanus*, Jord. & Everm. t. c. p. 1380.*Hab.* Rio Teapa, Mexico.

Fam. 10. POMADASIDÆ.

A large and important group of marine fishes, chiefly from tropical seas. The species of the widely distributed genus *Pomadasis* are numerous, but only a few ascend rivers. About thirty-five members of this genus are found on the coast of Tropical America, and six of these are known to enter rivers freely and must be considered here.

1. POMADASIS, Lacep., 1803.

Pristipoma, Günth. Cat. Fish. i. p. 286 (1859).

Body compressed; scales small or of moderate size, ctenoid. Lateral line complete, usually curved. Mouth rather small or of moderate size, protractile; entire length of upper edge of maxillary slipping under the præorbital; jaws equal anteriorly or the lower somewhat the shorter; bands of small villiform teeth in the jaws; palate toothless. A median pit or groove behind the symphysis of the lower jaw. Præoperculum serrated; serræ on lower limb not directed forwards. A single dorsal, with X–XIV 10–18 rays, with a more or less distinct scaly sheath at the base; soft fin not densely covered with small scales. Anal with III 7–13 rays. Caudal truncate or forked. Pectoral asymmetrical, pointed; ventrals below or a little behind the base of the pectorals, with I 5 rays; a scaly process at the base of spine of each ventral fin.

Hab. Tropical and subtropical seas, a few species entering rivers.*Synopsis of the Species found in the Rivers of Mexico and Central America.*

Scales above the lateral line in series parallel to the lateral line. Dorsal XI–XIII 11–17. Anal III 6–9*.

I. A series of small scales on the membrane behind each branched ray of the dorsal fin.

Second anal spine not longer than third 1. *leuciscus*.Second anal spine longer than third 2. *macracanthus*.

* Other species which present these features and which may prove to be fluviatile are *P. nitidus*, *P. axillaris*, and *P. panamensis* from the Pacific Coast, and *P. corvinæformis* from the Atlantic. *P. panamensis* is related to *P. crocro*, the others to *P. leuciscus*. The genus *Conodon*, with a species on each coast, is very close to *Pomadasis* of the type of *P. branicki*. It is distinguished by the enlarged outer teeth and the strongly serrated præopercle, with antrorse serræ below the angle.