

middle of eye or beyond, its greatest width $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{2}{3}$ the diameter of eye. Præorbital weakly serrated; præoperculum acutely serrated, the serræ enlarged at the angle; 1 or 2 feeble spines at angle of præopercular ridge. Opercular flap not reaching the vertical from origin of dorsal. 8 or 9 well-developed gill-rakers and a few rudiments on the lower part of anterior arch. 73–80 scales in a longitudinal series, 9 or 10 between middle of second dorsal and lateral line. Dorsal VIII, I 10; third or fourth spine longest, $\frac{2}{5}$ the length of head. Anal III 6; second and third spines subequal in length, $\frac{1}{5}$ – $\frac{1}{7}$ the length of the fish. Pectoral $\frac{1}{2}$ or a little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head. Ventrals not reaching vent, which is situated at about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the distance from base of ventral spine to origin of anal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{3}{4}$ –2 as long as deep. Silvery, back brownish; lateral line blackish; spinous dorsal usually blackish; other fins usually more or less dusky.

Hab. Pacific Coasts of Tropical America, entering rivers:

Mexico, Mazatlan^{4 5}, Rio Presidio⁴ (*Forrer*), Rio Mascota⁷ (*Buller*); Guatemala, Chiapam^{1 2} (*Salvin*); Panama^{5 6}.

Here described from three specimens, 150–300 mm. in total length, from the Rio Presidio, the Rio Mascota, and Chiapam.

This species is very closely allied to *C. viridis*, but the anterior processes of the air-bladder are wanting, whilst the third dorsal spine is shorter, the scales are somewhat smaller, and the vent is placed a little further back. There appear to be constantly 10 branched rays in the second dorsal fin.

7. *Centropomus robalito*.

Centropomus armatus (non Gill), Günth. Trans. Zool. Soc. vi. 1868, p. 408¹.

Centropomus robalito, Jord. & Gilb. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. iv. 1882, p. 462²; Jord. & Everm. Bull.

U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 1123⁴; Gilb. & Starks, Mem. Calif. Ac. Sci. iv. 1904, p. 94, t. 13, fig. 25⁴.

Centropomus ensiferus (part.), Bouleng. Cat. Fish. i. p. 369 (1895)⁵.

Depth of body $3\frac{1}{4}$ – $3\frac{3}{4}$ in the length, length of head $2\frac{2}{5}$ – $2\frac{3}{5}$. Snout $1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 as long as eye, the diameter of which is 6 – $7\frac{1}{2}$ in the length of head; interorbital width 8 in the length of head. Maxillary extending to below middle of eye, or nearly, its greatest width $\frac{3}{5}$ – $\frac{4}{5}$ the diameter of eye. Præorbital acutely serrated posteriorly; præoperculum acutely serrated, with 1 or 2 enlarged serræ at the angle; præopercular ridge with 1 or 2 spines at the angle. Opercular flap extending a little beyond the vertical from origin of dorsal. 17–19 gill-rakers, including 2 or 3 rudiments, on the lower part of anterior arch. 48–54 scales in a longitudinal series, 5 – $6\frac{1}{2}$ between middle of second dorsal and lateral line. Dorsal VIII, I 10; spines of moderate strength, the third the longest, about $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head. Anal III 6; third spine $\frac{3}{4}$ – $\frac{5}{6}$ as long as second, which is from $\frac{1}{5}$ to a little more than $\frac{1}{4}$ the length of the fish. Pectoral $\frac{3}{5}$ as long as head. Ventrals extending about to the vent, which is situated at $\frac{3}{5}$ of the distance from base of ventral spine to origin of anal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{5}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ as long as deep. Silvery or golden, back brownish; lateral line not blackish; spinous dorsal and membrane between second and third anal spines usually blackish.

Hab. Pacific Coasts of Tropical America, entering rivers:

Mexico, Rio Presidio⁵ (*Forrer*), Mazatlan^{2 3}, Acapulco^{2 3}; Guatemala, Chiapam^{1 5} (*Salvin*); Panama^{3 4}.

Here described from nine specimens, 180–300 mm. in total length, from Panama, Chiapam, Mazatlan, and the Rio Presidio.