

8. *Centropomus ensiferus*.

Centropomus undecimalis (part.), Günth. Cat. Fish. i. p. 79 (1859)¹.

Centropomus ensiferus, Poey, Mem. Cuba, ii. p. 122, t. 12. fig. 1 (1860)²; Günth. Trans. Zool. Soc. vi. 1868, p. 408³; Vaill. & Boc. Miss. Sci. Mex., Poiss. p. 33 (1874)⁴; Steind. Denkschr. Ak. Wien, xxxix. 1878, p. 21⁵; Jord. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. ix. 1886, p. 39⁶; Jord. & Everm. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 1125⁷.

Centropomus affinis, Steind. Sitzb. Ak. Wien, xlix. i. 1864, p. 200, t. 1. fig. 1⁸; Vaill. & Boc. Miss. Sci. Mex., Poiss. p. 31, t. 1. fig. 1⁹.

Centropomus scaber, Bocourt, Ann. Sc. Nat. (5) ix. 1868, p. 90¹⁰.

Centropomus ensiferus (part.), Bouleng. Cat. Fish. i. p. 370 (1895)¹¹.

Depth of body $3\frac{1}{3}$ –4 in the length, length of head $2\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{3}{4}$. Snout $1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 as long as eye, the diameter of which is 6–8 in the length of head; interorbital width about 8 in the length of head. Maxillary extending to below anterior $\frac{1}{3}$ or nearly to middle of eye, its greatest width $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{2}{3}$ the diameter of eye. Præorbital sharply serrated posteriorly; præoperculum acutely serrated, the serræ enlarged at the angle; præopercular ridge with 1 or 2 spines at the angle. Opercular flap extending to or a little beyond the vertical from origin of dorsal. 17–19 gill-rakers, including 3 or 4 rudiments, on the lower part of anterior arch. 52–58 scales in a longitudinal series, $5\frac{1}{2}$ – $6\frac{1}{2}$ between middle of second dorsal and lateral line. Dorsal VIII, I 10; spines moderately strong, the third or fourth the longest, $\frac{2}{5}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head. Anal III 6; third spine $\frac{3}{4}$ – $\frac{4}{5}$ as long as the second, which is $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{2}{7}$ the length of the fish. Pectoral $\frac{3}{5}$ the length of head. Ventrals extending nearly to the vent, which is situated at $\frac{3}{5}$ of the distance from base of ventral spine to origin of anal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{3}$ – $1\frac{4}{5}$ as long as deep. Silvery, back brownish; lateral line not blackish; spinous dorsal and membrane between second and third anal spines usually blackish.

Hab. Atlantic Coasts of Tropical America, entering rivers:

British Honduras, Belize^{1 3 10 11} (*Salvin*).—Cuba²; Jamaica¹; Trinidad;
British Guiana^{1 8 11}; Rio Janeiro⁸; Cajutuba⁸.

Here described from five specimens from Belize, Trinidad, and Jamaica, 200–280 mm. in total length.

9. *Centropomus armatus*.

Centropomus armatus, Gill, Proc. Ac. Philad. 1863, p. 163¹; Jord. & Everm. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 1123²; Gilb. & Starks, Mem. Calif. Ac. Sci. iv. 1904, p. 92, t. 13. fig. 26³.

Centropomus brevis, Günth. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1864, p. 145⁴.

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

Centropomus atridorsalis, Regan, Ann. Mag. N. H. (7) xii. 1903, p. 627⁶.

Depth of body 3–4 in the length, length of head $2\frac{2}{5}$ – $2\frac{2}{3}$. 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 7 in the length of head. Maxillary extending to below middle of eye or beyond, its greatest width $\frac{3}{5}$ – $\frac{4}{5}$ the diameter of eye. Præorbital strongly serrated posteriorly; præoperculum acutely serrated, with 2 or 3 strongly 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. 13–15 gill-rakers, including 2 or 3 rudiments, on the lower part of anterior arch. 50–56 scales in a longitudinal series, 7 – $8\frac{1}{2}$ between middle of second dorsal and lateral line. Dorsal VIII, I 10; spines strong, the third often slightly longer than the fourth, $\frac{2}{5}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head. Anal III 6 (exceptionally 7); third spine $\frac{2}{3}$ – $\frac{4}{5}$ as long as the second, which is $\frac{2}{7}$ – $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the fish. Pectoral $\frac{2}{3}$ the length of head. Ventrals extending to the vent, which is situated at about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the distance from base of ventral spine to origin of anal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{3}$ – $1\frac{2}{3}$ as long as deep. Silvery,