

Supraoccipital with a median ridge and bordered posteriorly by a single scute. Dark spots on head, body, and fins.

Hab. Panama to Paraguay.

This species, which attains a length of 350 mm., is known to range from Venezuela to Paraguay. It has also been recorded by Kner and Steindachner (Abhandl. Bayer. Akad. x. 1865, p. 60) from Panama. The Panama specimens are said to differ from the typical *P. guacari* in having more numerous teeth (40 on each side), a lower occipital keel, &c., but the probable explanation is that Kner and Steindachner had examples of the true *P. guacari* and compared them with specimens of *P. verres*, Cuv. & Val., a species which has not usually been distinguished from *P. guacari*, but which differs from it in the fewer teeth, higher occipital keel, &c.

2. ANCISTRUS, Kner.

Ancistrus, Gill, Ann. Lyc. N. York, vi. 1858, p. 407; Regan, Trans. Zool. Soc. xvii. 1904, p. 221.

Similar to *Plecostomus*, but operculum and interoperculum independently movable, the latter usually with a group of spines or bristles which can be everted.

Thirty-one species from Tropical America.

1. *Ancistrus aspidolepis*, Günth.

Ancistrus aspidolepis, Regan, Trans. Zool. Soc. xvii. 1904, p. 230.

Dorsal I 7. Anal I 4. Scutes all strongly keeled, 25 in a longitudinal series. Interoperculum armed with a few short spines. Small dark spots or vermiculations on head, body, and fins.

Hab. PANAMA, Veragua.

Total length 280 mm.

3. CHÆTOSTOMUS, Tschudi.

Chætostomus, Regan, Trans. Zool. Soc. xvii. 1904, p. 244.

Similar to *Ancistrus*, but the snout with a naked margin.

Fifteen species, chiefly from the Andes of Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia, but extending into Venezuela and Panama.

1. *Chætostomus fischeri*, Steind.

Chætostomus fischeri, Steind. Denkschr. Ak. Wien, xli. 1879, p. 164, t. 4. fig. 9.

Dorsal I 8. Anal I 5. 23 to 24 scutes in a longitudinal series, none of them keeled. Interoperculum armed with 1 or 2 short spines. Head and anterior part of body with little yellowish spots; fins spotted or clouded with blackish.

Hab. PANAMA, Rio Mamoni.

Total length 275 mm.