

Anal with 21 rays; pectoral spine $\frac{2}{5}$ the length of head, its inner edge with 5 strong serræ; maxillary barbel extending to basal part of pectoral . . . 6. *meeki*.

2. Pectoral spine with inner edge entire or very indistinctly serrated.

Anal with 26 rays; pectoral spine a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head; maxillary barbel extending to middle of pectoral fin 7. *australis*.

Anal with 20 or 21 rays; pectoral spine a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head; maxillary barbel extending to basal part of pectoral; middle caudal rays $\frac{2}{3}$ as long as the longest rays 8. *mexicanus*.

Anal with 20 to 24 rays; pectoral spine about $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of head; maxillary barbel extending to basal part of pectoral; middle caudal rays not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ as long as the longest 9. *dugesii*.

Anal with 24 to 26 rays; pectoral spine $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of head; maxillary barbel extending to basal part of pectoral fin 10. *balsanus*.

II. Caudal fin subtruncate. (AMIURUS.)

Anal with 24 to 27 rays 11. *natalis*.

1. *Amiurus meridionalis*.

Amiurus meridionalis, Günth. Cat. Fish. v. p. 102 (1864)¹, and Trans. Zool. Soc. vi. 1868, p. 473, t. 81. fig. 1².

Ictalurus meridionalis, Jord. & Everm. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 135³.

Ichthyælorus meridionalis, Meek, Publ. Columbian Mus., Zool. v. 1904, p. 11⁴.

Hab. MEXICO, Rio Otopa in Vera Cruz⁴; GUATEMALA, Rio Usumacinta^{1 2} and Rio Chisoy (*Salvin*).

The largest of four specimens in the British Museum measures 340 mm. in total length.

2. *Amiurus punctatus*.

Ictalurus punctatus (Rafinesque), Jord. & Everm. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 135¹.

Ichthyælorus punctatus, Meek, Publ. Columbian Mus., Zool. v. 1904, p. 135².

Hab. Great Lakes to Tamaulipas^{1 2}.

I have examined specimens from Arkansas and the Ohio River; the species is said to attain to a weight of twenty-five pounds.

3. *Amiurus furcatus*.

Ictalurus furcatus (Le Sueur), Jord. & Everm. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. xlvii. 1896, p. 134¹.

Ichthyælorus furcatus, Meek, Publ. Columbian Mus., Zool. v. 1904, p. 10².

Hab. Iowa and Ohio to Tamaulipas^{1 2}.

This species is said to attain a weight of forty pounds. I have examined a few small specimens, including one of the types of *A. affinis*, Baird & Girard, and