

plain blackish in males, the base of the anal with a pale streak. Two specimens from Cape San Lucas, supposed to be the female of this species, have the tentacles much shorter, not longer than pupil, lack the pale stripes on the head, and have a very distinct blackish blotch on front of spinous dorsal.

The following specimens of this species (all of them, except 2481, apparently males) are in the National Museum:

489. (Girard's type.) Monterey. Trowbridge.

7859. (3). San Diego. A. Cassidy.

26645 (2). "California" (probably San Diego). Mus. Comp. Zool.

30742. San Diego. W. Cooper.

2481. Cape San Lucas. J. Xantus.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM, June 21, 1882.

**DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF CONODON (CONODON SERRIFER), FROM BOCA SOLEDAD, LOWER CALIFORNIA.**

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*Conodon serrifer*, sp. nov.

Head  $3\frac{2}{3}$  in length to base of caudal; depth  $3\frac{2}{3}$ . D. XI, I, 12; A. III, 7. Scales 6-53-15. Length of largest specimen 8 inches.

Body comparatively elongate, elliptical, little compressed, the dorsal and ventral outlines regularly and nearly equally curved, the back not much elevated and not specially compressed. Head rather short, broad, not very acute anteriorly, the profile nearly straight from snout to base of dorsal; snout short, about equal in length to the large eye,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in head. Interorbital area broad and quite flat, its width  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in head. Mouth moderate, terminal, oblique, the lips moderately developed. Maxillary extending to opposite front of eye,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in head. Premaxillaries in front on level of middle of eye.

Teeth in moderate bands, those in the outer series enlarged, but much less so than in *C. nobilis*, the teeth slenderer than in the latter; two teeth in front of lower jaw somewhat canine-like. Preorbital narrow, its least width about two-fifths diameter of eye. Jaws equal in front.

Preopercle with its posterior margin somewhat concave, armed with strong teeth, which are directed backward and somewhat upward. Angle of preopercle with a strong spine directed backward, its length about half length of eye. Lower limb of preopercle with strong spinous teeth (as in the species of *Plectropoma*), directed forward and downward, becoming gradually smaller anteriorly. Nostrils small, roundish, the anterior largest. Gill-rakers rather slender, of moderate length.

Scales rather irregularly arranged, those above lateral line forming series parallel with the lateral line, which are somewhat broken opposite

the angulation of the lateral line. Small scales on soft parts of dorsal and anal.

Dorsal fin low, divided almost to base, the spines rather strong. First and second spines short and slender, the second little more than one-third the height of the third; the fourth or longest  $2\frac{1}{6}$  in head; soft dorsal low, its longest rays 3 in head. Caudal subtruncate, the upper rays longest,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in head. Anal rather low, the second spine 2 in head, much longer and stronger than the third, which is little lower than the soft rays. Pectoral pointed,  $1\frac{1}{10}$  in head; ventrals  $1\frac{3}{5}$ .

Color dusky bluish above, silvery below. Sides of back with about seven short black bars, each much narrower than the interspaces, the last under last rays of dorsal, all terminating below at the lower edge of the dark hue of the back. Fins all pale.

The types of this species (17546; U. S. Nat. Mus.), three adult specimens in good condition, were obtained by Dr. Thomas H. Streets at Boca Soledad, on the Pacific coast of Lower California. They have been mentioned by Dr. Streets (Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., vii, 50, 1877) under the name of *Conodon plumieri*. They are closely related to the latter species, but distinguishable as follows:

COMMON CHARACTERS.—Body rather elongate; preopercle with strong antrorse teeth on its lower limb and a spine at its angle; series of scales above lateral line parallel with it; outer series of teeth in both jaws enlarged; dorsal deeply notched; soft rays of vertical fins scaly; second anal spine enlarged. (CONODON, C. & V.)

- a. Back distinctly elevated and compressed, the depth equal to length of head,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in body; teeth of outer series very strong and thick; second dorsal spine more than half length of third; second anal spine more than half length of head; preopercular spine small; dark bars on sides extending to level of lower edge of pectoral ..... NOBILIS.
- aa. Back not elevated, the depth equal to length of head,  $3\frac{2}{3}$  in body; teeth of outer series moderately enlarged, slender; second dorsal spine small, less than one-third length of third; second anal spine about half length of head; preopercular spine very strong; dark bars on sides not extending to level of pectorals...SERRIFER.

It may be here observed that of the two specimens referred to *Pristipoma leuciscus* by Dr. Streets, one (17539) belongs to *Pomadasyx axillaris* (Steind.), the other (30746) to *Pomadasyx nitidus* (Steind.). The variety of *Pomadasyx leuciscus* from Mazatlan and Panama mentioned by us (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 1881, 387, foot-note) has received from Dr. Steindachner (Neue & Seltene Fische, aus. K. K. Museum, Wien, &c., 1879. 30, 52. taf 9. f. 2) the name of *Pristipoma leuciscus* var. *elongatus*. As it is apparently a valid species, although very closely related to *P. leuciscus*, it may stand as *Pomadasyx elongatus*. It is much more abundant than the typical *leuciscus*.

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