

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SPINY BOXFISH (GENUS CHILO-
MYCTERUS) ON THE COAST OF CALIFORNIA.

BY

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(With Plate LXXXI.)

During the summer of 1891 a fisherman captured a specimen of a *Chilomycterus* near San Pedro, Cal. He preserved it in alcohol and offered it for sale. The price asked was so unreasonably high that I merely took some notes of it. Since then it has been procured by the National Museum, and I am able to redescribe it. This is apparently the first notice of a *Chilomycterus* on the Pacific coast of North America.

The specimen is in good condition, and is but slightly shorter than when first seen.

Chilomycterus californiensis Eigenmann.

American Naturalist, 1891, p. 1133.

Type, No. 43860, one specimen 260^{mm} long, San Pedro, Cal., July, 1891.

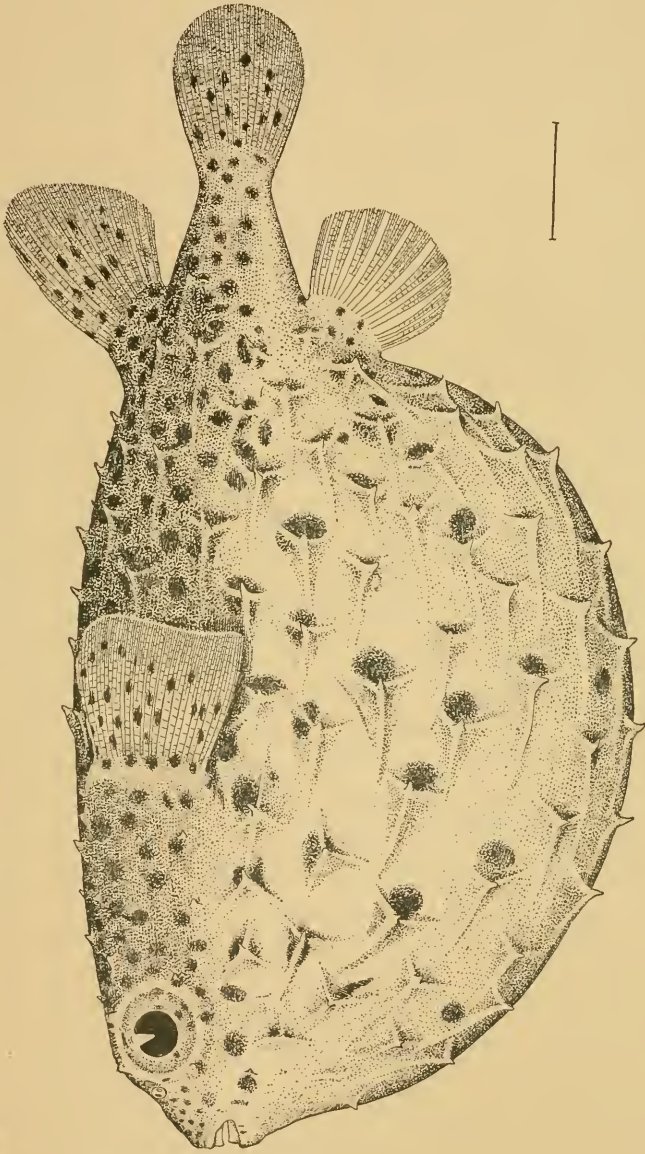
Much inflatable. Face narrow, distance between eyes in front 35^{mm}; mouth narrow, 23^{mm} (33^{mm} in *C. schoepfi* of same size), protruding; margins of upper jaw making a decided angle in front; eye small, 12^{mm} in diameter (17^{mm} in *schoepfi*), superciliary edge not raised, but projecting out over the eye; interorbital very little concave.

Spines of back all low, highest between pectoral and dorsal; their anterior roots strong and raised; the spines forming the termination of these roots, giving the spines the appearance of being depressed. *Spines of the belly much larger than those of back*, the roots differing but little in size. Spines lowest on head, one above the upper anterior angle of the eye, another above the posterior angle. Two spines on head between those above the posterior margins of the eyes. A small spine midway between dorsal and caudal. Pectoral small, its base 22^{mm} high (30^{mm} in *schoepfi* of same size). Pectorals, dorsal and caudal, with numerous dark spots except at their margins; anal with a few spots at its base.

Back steel-blue merging into the white of the belly; front and sides of head with many small black spots, caudal peduncle with somewhat larger spots. Back densely covered with short streaks or bars. Sides with round spots, some as large as the eye. A black spot in center of belly, a series of three spots along the sides of the belly and a few about the anus; breast white.

BLOOMINGTON, IND., April 25, 1892.





CHILOMYCTERUS CALIFORNIENSIS.

