

ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF MARINE FISHES FROM THE VICINITY OF CEDAR KEY, FLORIDA

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Since the reports by Reid (1954), Kilby (1955), and Caldwell (1954, 1955), the following fishes have been recorded from the vicinity of Cedar Key, Levy County, Florida.

With the continuing growth of the University of Florida's Seahorse Key Marine Laboratory there, it is hoped that this increasing list of fishes can be added to in published form from time to time, not only for the benefit of workers at the laboratory, but primarily as a definite point of reference in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico which will aid those engaged in zoogeographic studies of Western North Atlantic marine shore fishes.

As in the above papers, the Cedar Key area is arbitrarily restricted to a zone (regularly visited by fishermen from the town) encompassed by a fifteen nautical mile radius from the town of Cedar Key.

Many of the fishes listed below were obtained from a shrimp trawler working approximately six nautical miles WSW of the town, just outside the islands of the area, in 2½ fathoms west of North Key. The fishes so trawled are apparently the first made available to ichthyologists, in recent years at least, from a zone just beyond that usually collected by means other than those employed by sport fishermen using hook and line. The bottom there is hard, consisting primarily of sand, with sparse patches of attached vegetation (mostly turtle grass, *Thalassia*, manatee grass, *Cymodocea*, and various forms of brown algae). Loggerhead sponges are also reported to be numerous there. Specimens referred to below as having been collected by a commercial shrimp trawler come from this zone off North Key. I am particularly indebted to Mr. Doyle Folks, of the Marine Laboratory staff, for arranging for the collection of these fishes (and others listed as well), and to Mr. Charles F. Smith, who actually preserved the specimens on board the trawler.

Specimens designated with a "UF" number are in the University of Florida Collections. The remainder are housed uncataloged in a synoptic collection being maintained at the laboratory on Seahorse Key. Unless otherwise noted, measurements are standard length.

ANNOTATED LIST

Mystriophis intertinctus (Richardson). Snake eel. A specimen 583 mm. in total length was collected from the commercial shrimp trawler on March 18, 1957.

Bascanichthys scuticaris (Goode and Bean). Snake eel. A 545 mm. specimen (UF 2360) was collected on a shallow flat just off the south side of Seahorse Key by Dr. E. Ruffin Jones and others, of the University of Florida, on May 11, 1956.

Although Cedar Key is listed as the type locality for this species (Goode and Bean, 1880: 343 — as *Sphagebranchus scuticaris*), Reid (*op. cit.*) did not list it, and this is apparently the first specimen reported from Cedar Key since the original description of the species in 1880.

Apogon pigmentarius (Poey). Cardinal fish. I collected a single specimen (UF 1223) of this species, 17 mm. long, on May 9, 1953. It was taken on the grassy edge of the main ship channel near Seahorse Key.

Vomer setapinnis (Mitchill). Moonfish. One 107 mm. specimen of this form was taken from the commercial shrimp trawler on March 23, 1956.

Opisthognathus macrognathus Poey. Jawfish. One specimen (UF 1516), 80 mm. long, was collected by Dr. E. Lowe Pierce, of the University of Florida, from the stomach of a grouper which he took some ten miles southwest of the town of Cedar Key. The identification of this specimen was verified by Dr. James Böhlke, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, who has recently made special studies of Western North Atlantic jawfishes.

A second specimen, 115 mm. long, also verified by Dr. Böhlke, was taken by the commercial shrimp trawler on March 23, 1957.

Poronotus triacanthus (Peck). Butterfish. The commercial shrimp trawler collected a single 76 mm. specimen on March 23, 1957.

Gobiesox strumosus Cope. A single 55 mm. example, identified as this species by Dr. John C. Briggs of the University of Florida, was taken from a crab-trap set on Old Clam Bank, near Derrick Key (approximately 4½ nautical miles northwest of the town of Cedar Key) on March 18, 1957, by Mr. Artie Hodge.

Gymnachirus williamsoni (Gunter). Naked sole. One specimen, 75 mm. long, was collected by the commercial shrimp trawler on March 23, 1957.

Antennarius ocellatus (Bloch and Schneider). Spotted frog fish. Mr. Hodge collected a 120 mm. specimen of this species on the edge of Seahorse Reef (a shallow sand bar) on November 1, 1956. It was taken approximately eight nautical miles southwest of the town, midway between the iron beacon on the offshore end of the reef and the flashing beacon Number One marking the entrance to the main ship channel into Cedar Key.

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