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**Genera of the Asian Catfish Families Sisoridae and Erethistidae  
(Teleostei: Siluriformes)**

ALFRED W. THOMSON & LAWRENCE M. PAGE



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## Genera of the Asian Catfish Families Sisoridae and Erethistidae (Teleostei: Siluriformes)

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## Abstract

External morphological traits diagnostic for valid genera in the Asian catfish families Sisoridae and Erethistidae were identified from publications and the examination of specimens. Diagnoses based on external morphological traits are predicted to significantly facilitate taxonomic revisions in these families. Erethistidae contains six valid genera (*Ayarnangra*, *Caelatoglanis*, *Conta*, *Erethistes*, *Erethistoides*, *Pseudolaguvia*) and about 25 species. Sisoridae contains 16 valid genera (*Bagarius*, *Euchiloglanis*, *Exostoma*, *Gagata*, *Glaridoglanis*, *Glyptosternon*, *Glyptothorax*, *Gogangra*, *Myersglanis*, *Nangra*, *Oreoglanis*, *Parachiloglanis*, *Pareuchiloglanis*, *Pseudecheneis*, *Pseudexostoma*, *Sisor*) and about 144 species. Lists of valid species and their distributions are given for each genus.

**Key words:** *Ayarnangra*, *Bagarius*, *Caelatoglanis*, *Conta*, *Erethistes*, *Erethistoides*, *Euchiloglanis*, *Exostoma*, *Gagata*, *Glaridoglanis*, *Glyptosternon*, *Glyptothorax*, *Gogangra*, *Myersglanis*, *Nangra*, *Oreoglanis*, *Parachiloglanis*, *Pareuchiloglanis*, *Pseudecheneis*, *Pseudexostoma*, *Pseudolaguvia*, *Sisor*

## Introduction

De Pinna (1996) recognized Erethistidae for six genera previously assigned to Sisoridae (*Conta*, *Erethistes*, *Erethistoides*, *Hara*, *Laguvia*, and *Pseudolaguvia*) following a phylogenetic analysis of species traditionally assigned to the Asian catfish families Sisoridae, Akysidae, and Amblycipitidae. He also diagnosed supra-generic clades including Erethistidae and Sisoridae, and subfamilies, tribes and subtribes of these families. He treated genera as terminal taxa in his phylogenetic analysis and described character states (primarily osteological), but he did not explicitly diagnose genera.

Our objective was to examine all publications providing descriptive information on sisorid and erethistid genera and, in conjunction with the examination of specimens, provide diagnoses for all described valid genera in Sisoridae and Erethistidae. A phylogenetic analysis of relationships among species in the two families would be preferable prior to diagnosing genera; however, no such analysis has been performed, and we have insufficient access to specimens to perform such an analysis. Meanwhile, even though some of the genera are poorly diagnosed and appear to lack traits to distinguish them from other genera, descriptions of new species in Sisoridae and Erethistidae continue