

# ZOOTAXA

1418

**Checklist of catfishes, recent and fossil  
(Osteichthyes: Siluriformes),  
and catalogue of siluriform primary types**

CARL J. FERRARIS, JR.



Magnolia Press  
Auckland, New Zealand

CARL J. FERRARIS, JR.

**Checklist of catfishes, recent and fossil (Osteichthyes: Siluriformes), and catalogue of siluriform primary types**

(*Zootaxa* 1418)

628 pp.; 30 cm.

8 March 2007

ISBN 978-1-86977-058-7 (hardback)

ISBN 978-1-86977-059-4 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2007 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: [zootaxa@mapress.com](mailto:zootaxa@mapress.com)

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

© 2007 Magnolia Press

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted or disseminated, in any form, or by any means, without prior written permission from the publisher, to whom all requests to reproduce copyright material should be directed in writing.

This authorization does not extend to any other kind of copying, by any means, in any form, and for any purpose other than private research use.

ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)



## Checklist of catfishes, recent and fossil (Osteichthyes: Siluriformes), and catalogue of siluriform primary types

CARL J. FERRARIS, JR.

2944 NE Couch Street, Portland, Oregon, 97232, U.S.A. E-mail: carlferraris@comcast.net

Research Associate, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington

Research Associate, American Museum of Natural History, New York

Research Associate and Honorary Fellow, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco

### Table of contents

Abstract .....	4
Introduction .....	4
Methods and conventions .....	6
Acknowledgments .....	10
Checklist .....	11
Siluriformes .....	11
Akysidae .....	12
Amblycipitidae .....	17
Amphiliidae .....	20
Anchariidae .....	29
Andinichthyidae .....	30
Ariidae .....	30
Aspredinidae .....	57
Astroblepidae .....	63
Auchenipteridae .....	68
Austroglanididae .....	81
Bagridae .....	81
Callichthyidae .....	108
Cetopsidae .....	130
Chacidae .....	135
Clariidae .....	136
Claroteidae .....	153
Cranoglanididae .....	164
Diplomystidae .....	165
Doradidae .....	166
Heptapteridae .....	180
Hypsiroidae .....	203
Ictaluridae .....	203
Lacantuniidae .....	216
Loricariidae .....	216
Malapteruridae .....	300
Mochokidae .....	303
Nematogenyiidae .....	323
Pangasiidae .....	324

Pimelodidae.....	329
Plotosidae.....	345
Pseudopimelodidae.....	352
Schilbidae.....	356
Scoloplacidae.....	366
Siluridae.....	367
Sisoridae.....	382
Trichomycteridae.....	402
Unplaced names.....	427
Incertae sedis.....	428
Inquirendae.....	431
Names wrongly treated as Siluriformes.....	432
Appendix 1. Siluriform genera and species named from otoliths.....	434
Appendix 2. Museum codes.....	436
Appendix 3. Taxonomic publications on Siluriformes issued in 2006.....	440
References.....	445
Index.....	549

## Abstract

A checklist of Recent and fossil catfishes (Order Siluriformes) is presented, summarizing taxonomic literature published through 2005. From 4624 nominal species group names and 810 genus group names, 3093 species are recognized as valid, and are distributed among 478 genera and 36 families. Distributional summaries are provided for each species, and nomenclatural synonymies, including relevant information on all name-bearing types, are included for all taxa. One new name is proposed herein: *Clariallabes teugelsi*, as a replacement for *Clarias (Allabenchelys) dumerili longibarbis* David & Poll, 1937, which is preoccupied by *Clarias longibarbis* Worthington, 1933, but has been treated as a valid species of *Clariallabes* by Teugels. *Acrochordonichthys melanogaster* Bleeker, 1854, is designated as type species of *Acrochordonichthys* Bleeker, 1857, inasmuch as no earlier valid designation has been found. A new genus *Pseudobagarius*, is proposed for the “*pseudobagarius* group” of species formerly placed in *Akysis*. The status of 228 species group names remains unresolved and 31 names based on otoliths ascribed to catfishes are listed but not placed into the checklist. The current emphasis given to catfish taxonomy at present is likely to result in a dramatic increase in the total number of valid taxa as well as major changes in the membership of some of the higher level taxa recognized here.

**Key words:** Nematognathi, taxonomy, nomenclature, biodiversity, freshwater fishes

## Introduction

Osteichthyan fishes of the Order Siluriformes, known by the English common name of catfishes, form a well diagnosed natural group of primarily freshwater fishes. Most catfishes are apparently tolerant of only fresh water but the salinity tolerance of several species extends to, or is even limited to, estuarine or even oceanic levels of salinity. Thus, while most catfishes are recorded from inland waters, the distribution of the order also includes coastal regions of continents and nearby islands. Catfishes often have large, heavy bones that lend themselves to fossilization and, comparatively large otoliths. As such, a large number of species of catfishes have been named from complete or partial skeletal fossils or even from only otoliths.

A checklist of named Recent and fossil catfishes is presented herein. The checklist is thought to be complete through the end of 2005 for available names proposed for catfishes and literature that treats taxonomic issues involving catfish taxa. From 4620 nominal species group names and 805 genus group names, 3088 species are recognized as valid, and are distributed among 477 genera and 36 families (Table 1). In addition, 228 species group names are of uncertain validity and are in need of further study. Of the valid taxa, 19 genera and 72 species are based exclusively on fossil remains. Additionally, 2 genera and 31 species names that are based exclusively on otoliths are listed herein but are not included in the above mentioned totals.