

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN FISHES.

No. 7.*

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(Plates xxi.-xxiv. and Figure 1.)

Family PLOTOSIDÆ.

Genus EURISTHMUS, *Ogilby*.

Euristhmus, Ogilby, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.Wales, xxiv., 1, 1899, p. 154
(*Plotosus elongatus*, Castelnau).

This genus is distinguished from *Cnidoglanis*, Günther, by the wide isthmus which separates the gill-membranes; its axillary pore is also much smaller than that of *C. megastomus*.

EURISTHMUS LEPTURUS, *Günther*.

Long-tailed Catfish.

(Plate xxi., fig. 1).

Cnidoglanis lepturus, Günther, Brit. Mus. Cat. Fish., v., 1864, p. 28.

D. $i/4$; P. $i/11$; V. 12. Depth before the ventral fins 1.3 in the length of the head, and 8.5 in the length to the hypural joint; head 6.3 in the same. Head and body 2.1 in the length of the tail. Eye 3.07 in its distance from the end of the snout, and 2.3 in the interocular space, which is 3.6 in the head. Dorsal spine 2.5, pectoral spine 3.0 in the head. Dorsal fin 2.1, pectoral fin 1.9, and ventral fin 2.7 in the head.

General form slender, the tail elongate. Head somewhat depressed, its breadth 1.2 in its length. Nasal barbels about four-fifths as long as the head, and longer than the maxillary pair. Two pairs of mandibular barbels, the outermost of which are longest. Snout rounded, projecting far beyond the mandible. Lips thick and plicate, the lower forming a free fold near each angle of the mouth which is narrower than the interspace between them; posterior angle of the mouth not reaching the vertical of the anterior margin of the eye. Anterior nostril a simple opening near the upper lip, the posterior slit-like and opening on the outer base of the nasal barbel. Surface of the head with numerous minute pores. Preopercular margin completely hidden beneath the skin, the opercular edge indicated by a fold. Gill-openings wide but separated by a broad interspace on the isthmus which is almost as wide as the interocular space.

* For No. 6, see "Records," xiii., pt. 2, 1920, p. 41.