

Chiasmodus, Johns.

One species only is known.

Chiasmodus niger.

- Chiasmodus niger*, Johns., Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1863, p. 408.
 „ „ Günth., Fish., vol. v. p. 435.
 „ „ Carter, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1886, p. 35, pl. ii.¹
 „ „ Günth., *Ibid.*
 „ „ Jordan and Gilbert, Synops. Fish. North Amer., p. 810.

The first specimen, only $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, was obtained at Magdalena (Madeira), at a depth of 312 fathoms, in the year 1850, by Lowe, who, however, omitted to give a description of it. The species was rediscovered twelve years later at the same locality by Johnson, who recognised it as the type of a distinct genus. The third specimen, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, the largest known at present, was picked up from the surface, near the island of Dominica. A fourth example, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, in no point differing from the preceding, except that it has lost the larger front teeth, was obtained by the Challenger, in Mid-Atlantic, at Station 107 (August 26, 1873), in 1500 fathoms. Finally, Jordan and Gilbert mention the capture of this fish off the coast of Massachusetts.

Family OPHIDIIDÆ.

Barathrodemus.

Barathrodemus, Goode and Bean, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. x., 1883, p. 200.²

Caudal free from the other vertical fins. Pectoral without detached rays. Ventrals reduced each to a single bifid ray, close together, inserted under the middle of the operculum. Body elongate, much compressed, covered, like the head, with small thin scales. Head compressed; snout long, swollen, overlapping the jaws; mouth moderate. Villiform teeth in the jaws, on the vomer and palatines. Barbel none. Branchiostegals eight; pseudobranchiæ none. Lateral line indistinct.

One species is known.

¹ The specimen described in this paper was first submitted to me by Mr. Carter, who begged me to give him my opinion on it; the figure was also made under my direction.

² A specimen of some allied deep-sea fish, and noticed in *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.*, 1884, p. 259, under the name of *Bassozetus normalis*, is at present not better known than if it had escaped the dredge of the U.S. Fish Commission.