

THE GARFISHES (HEMIRAMPHIDAE) OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

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SUMMARY

Twenty species and subspecies of garfishes are recognized from Australian and New Zealand waters: *Arrhamphus s. sclerolepis*, *A. s. krefftii*, *Euleptorhamphus viridis*, *Hemiramphus far*, *He. robustus*, *Hyporhamphus r. regularis*, *Hy. r. ardelio*, *Hy. neglectus*, *Hy. australis*, *Hy. melanochir*, *Hy. ihi*, *Hy. quoyi*, *Hy. affinis*, *Hy. dussumieri*, *Rhynchorhamphus georgii*, *Zenarchopterus buffonis*, *Z. caudovittatus*, *Z. dispar*, *Z. gilli*, and *Z. rasori*. *Reporhamphus* is considered a synonym of *Hyporhamphus*; *Farhians* and *Ardeapiscis* are considered synonyms of *Hemiramphus*; and *Loligorhamphus* a synonym of *Rhynchorhamphus*. *Hemiramphus welsbyi* is a synonym of *He. robustus*. The eastern river garfish (*Hyporhamphus ardelio*) is reduced to a subspecies of the western river garfish (*Hy. regularis*). The New South Wales-southern Queensland population of the snub-nosed garfish (*Arrhamphus sclerolepis*) is considered a subspecies (*A. s. krefftii*) of the northern *A. s. sclerolepis*. Eight species and subspecies are endemic to Australia and the single New Zealand species of garfish is endemic there. Australian populations of wide-spread species are compared with extra-limital populations. Geographic variation was found in *Hy. quoyi* and *Hy. dussumieri*. Tables of meristic and morphometric characters, drawings of 11 species of garfishes, synonymies, distribution maps, summaries of biology and parasites, catch statistics and a key are included.

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