

interorbital space being one-half of the longitudinal diameter of the eye. Eye very large, rather longer than deep, one-third of the length of the head and considerably longer than the snout. Infraorbital ring very narrow, the broad maxillary being separated from the orbit by a very narrow strip of bone. Snout somewhat wedge-shaped, with the upper profile declivous, with the jaws equal in front and with the maxillary extending to the posterior third of the orbit. Dentition feeble; all the teeth being equally minute and uniserial; the intermaxillary and maxillary are toothed throughout their whole extent; vomerine series transverse and straight, slightly interrupted in the middle; palatine series nearly as long as vomerine series.

Branchiostegals slender, rod-shaped. Gills four; that of the fourth arch being short and reduced to a horizontal series of laminæ, which is only one-third of the horizontal series of the outer branchial arch. Gill-laminæ very short, especially on the convex portion of the arches; gill-rakers long, lanceolate, closely set, 24 + 11 on the outer branchial arch.

Vent considerably nearer to the root of the caudal fin than to the gill-opening, whilst the origin of the dorsal fin is somewhat nearer to the latter point. Dorsal fin longer than high, its anterior rays increasing in length to the fifth or sixth ray. Origin of the anal behind the vertical from the middle of the dorsal fin, which this fin resembles in shape. Caudal fin deeply emarginate. Pectoral inserted a short way above the lower profile; it has a moderately broad base, is three-fifths of the length of the head, and does not extend to the ventral. Ventrals close together, scarcely extending to the vent, their root being midway between the root of the caudal and the anterior margin of the orbit.

Scales deciduous, cycloid, with numerous fine concentric and radiating striæ; there were probably nine scales in a transverse series between the lateral line and the origin of the dorsal fin, and twelve between the lateral line and ventral fin. Lateral line straight, running from the upper end of the gill-opening along the middle of the tail, with rather narrow mucous apertures.

Colour, uniform black.

Stomach with a short cœcal sac. Thirteen short pyloric appendages fringe the intestine behind the pylorus. Intestine short, scarcely convoluted. The ovaries, which are laminated and open on their costal surface, contain an immense number of minute immature eggs, between which a few larger ones of the size of millet seed are embedded.

*Bathytroctes rostratus* (Pl. LVIII. fig. B).

*Bathytroctes rostratus*, Günth., Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1878, vol. ii. p. 250.

D. 20. A. 17. V. 9. P. 16. L. lat. ca. 100.

The maxillary reaches to below the hind margin of the orbit; intermaxillary terminating in front in a short projection.