

The parapophyses of the abdominal vertebræ are short, placed on each side of the lower surface of the vertebræ, thus enlarging the abdominal surface of the column. They are lengthened on the first three or four caudal vertebræ, and then those of each vertebra coalesce at their distal extremities, forming a wide hæmal canal which disappears in the posterior fifth of the length of the tail. The interhæmals of the anal spines are strong, corresponding in length to the exterior spines; only the anterior are somewhat dilated, the remainder being rod-shaped, and gradually passing into the interhæmals of the anal rays; with regard to the numbers, the interhæmals correspond to the anal rays, and the hæmals nearly to the interhæmals.

A short separate bone is horizontally intercalated between the distal extremities of every two interhæmal spines, each taking part in the articulation of an anal spine.

Ribs begin to be developed on the fourth vertebra, being inserted immediately below the neural arch; they are extremely slender, and become gradually longer on the posterior abdominal vertebræ where each coalesces with a floating rib, the ribs thus having the appearance of consisting of two roots (one being fixed to the vertebra and the other free), and of a simple distal portion. Of the caudal vertebræ only the anterior possess ribs.

The pubic is a simple feeble bone, with a transversely swollen, cartilaginous base for the articulation of the ventral rays; it is a thin lamella tapering in a fine point in front, and with a lamellar longitudinal ridge at its ventral surface.

Notacanthus nasus.

Notacanthus nasus, Bloch, Fisch., vol. xii. p. 113, tab. 431.

„ „ Cuvier, vol. viii. p. 467, pl. ccxli.

„ „ Gaimard, Voy. Isl. et Grönl. Zool. Poiss., pl. xi.

„ „ Lütken, Vid. Meddel. nat. Foren. Kjøbenhavn, 1878, p. 145.

B. 8 (9?). D. 9–10. A. 13–17 | 116 (ca.). P. 14–16. V. 3 | 6–7.

Gill-openings reaching forwards to below the posterior margin of the orbit. Intermaxillary teeth compressed with the point directed outwards, forty on each side; the mandibular and palatine teeth smaller, more erect, and anteriorly in a double or triple series. Ventral fins scarcely united (*vix conjunctæ*, Lütken).

Only a few specimens are known from the deep-sea off the coasts of Southern Greenland and Iceland.¹

¹ In the absence of all information as regards the dentition, and even of the size of the specimen, it is impossible to form an opinion as to the distinctness of a *Notacanthus* obtained by the U.S. Fish Commission in the Gulf Stream (lat. 40°) in 547 fathoms. It is characterised thus:—*Notacanthus analis*, Gill (*Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.*, vol. vi., 1884, p. 255): D. 11 | 1. A. 18 | ? “The length of the snout and diameter of the orbit subequal, and greater than the interorbital area, and the snout projecting about one-third of its own length beyond the mouth.”