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Systematics of the grey mullets (Teleostei: Mugiliformes: Mugilidae): molecular phylogenetic evidence challenges two centuries of morphology-based taxonomy

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Running title: Molecular systematics of the Mugilidae

Abstract

The family Mugilidae comprises mainly coastal marine species that are widely distributed in all tropical, subtropical and temperate seas. Mugilidae species are generally considered to be ecologically important and they are a major food resource for human populations in certain parts of the world. The taxonomy and systematics of the Mugilidae are still much debated and based primarily on morphological characters. In this study we provide the first comprehensive molecular systematic account of the Mugilidae using phylogenetic analyses of nucleotide sequence variation at three mitochondrial loci (*16S rRNA*, *cytochrome oxidase I*, and *cytochrome* b) for 257 individuals from 55 currently recognized species. The study covers all 20 Mugilidae genera currently recognized as being valid. The family comprises 7 major lineages that radiated early on from the ancestor to all current forms. All genera that were represented by two species or more, except *Cestraeus*, turned out to be paraphyletic or polyphyletic. Thus, the present phylogenetic results generally disagree with the current taxonomy at the genus level and imply that the anatomical characters used for the systematics of the Mugilidae may be poorly informative phylogenetically. The present results should provide sound basis for a taxonomic revision of the Mugilidae genera. A proportion of the species with large distribution ranges (including *Moolgarda seheli, Mugil cephalus* and *M. curema*) appear to consist of cryptic species, thus warranting further taxonomic and genetic work at the infra-generic level.

Keywords: cryptic species, 16S rRNA, cytochrome oxidase I, cytochrome b, phylogeny

1. Introduction

The Mugilidae (or grey mullets) is a speciose family of Teleostean fishes, which has representatives in various coastal aquatic habitats of the world's tropical, subtropical and temperate regions (Thomson, 1966). Despite the ecological and economical importance of grey mullet (Thomson, 1966), the taxonomy and evolutionary relationships among the species so far remains largely unresolved (Harrison et al., 2007). A major reason is that most morphological characters classically used in species identification and/or systematics are remarkably similar within the family (Schultz, 1946; Thomson, 1997). Thus, it has been a challenging task to define species and genera and, during the last 130 years, up to 281 nominal species and 45 nominal genera have been proposed for the Mugilidae (Thomson, 1997; Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). The number of Mugilidae species has probably been overestimated since most of the earlier taxonomic work relied on the examination of specimens collected locally, without comparing these specimens to morphologically similar species described elsewhere (Thomson, 1954).

The first thorough taxonomic revision of the Mugilidae was produced by Schultz (1946), who mainly used mouth anatomy to define both genera and species. Schultz (1946) validated only ten previously defined Mugilidae genera and described three new ones, a revision that was subsequently questioned [see review in Ghasemzadeh et al. (2004)]. Mugilidae taxonomy and nomenclature have still not been finalized (Harrison et al., 2007), with between 14 and 20 genera being recognized as valid according to the most recent revisions (Thomson, 1997; Ghasemzadeh, 1998; Nelson, 2006). The Integrated Taxonomic Information System recognizes 16 valid genera (<u>http://www.itis.gov/;</u> information retrieved on 16 August 2011), while Eschmeyer and Fricke (2011) list 20 valid genera. Two genera, *Liza* and *Mugil*, currently represent 40% of the species richness within the family Mugilidae (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). The other genera consist of fewer species and 40% (8/20) are monotypic (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). The high proportion of monotypic genera may reflect the general difficulty in classifying Mugilidae species on the basis of the few diagnostic or synapomorphic characters that have been considered so far. Alternatively, this may indicate an ancestral radiation event followed by a long period of stasis.

Anatomical differences among Mugilidae species are not easily interpretable from a cladistic perspective, as shown by the conflicting morpho-anatomical phylogenetic hypotheses proposed by different authors (Fig. 1 A-E). For example, *Rhinomugil*, which was considered by Schultz (1946) as an aberrant genus and was tentatively placed by him at an intermediate position in the Mugilidae tree (Fig. 1 A), was later assessed to be closely related to the genus *Liza* and other reportedly recently derived Mugilidae genera (Thomson, 1997; Ghasemzadeh, 1998). Similarly, Harrison and Howes (1991) and some other authors (Fig. 1 C-E) have suggested that the rudimentary pharyngobranchial organ in *Cestraeus* is a plesiomorphic character. In contrast, Schultz (1946) regarded *Cestraeus* to be a recently derived genus, pointing its highly specialized lips and teeth as supporting evidence (assumed by him to be an apomorphic anatomical feature in the Mugilidae). Thomson (1997) used both internal (intestine, stomach, pyloric caeca) and external (nostrils, teeth, scales, lips, preorbital bones, jaw) anatomical structures to resolve the polytomies remaining in the phylogeny proposed by Harrison and Howes (1991) (Fig 1C). Thomson (1997) suggested that the genera *Chelon, Liza* and *Oedalechilus* are closely related (Fig. 1D). These three genera had been synonymized by Shultz (1946), but Harrison and Howes (1991) had assigned them distinct lineages (Fig. 1C) due to divergent views on how to weigh the anatomical characters.

In the last decade, molecular studies have provided many insights into the systematics of fishes at all taxonomic levels (Chen and Mayden, 2010) while phylogeographic studies have provided important insight into evolutionary forces that shape intraspecific genetic diversity (Avise, 2000). The Mugilidae were initially placed in an intermediate position in the Acanthomorph tree because of putatively plesiomorphic

morphological features shared with Atherinomorpha, themselves considered as more basal Teleosteans (Stiassny, 1993), with the Mugilidae actually related to other advanced teleosts within the Percomorpha (Chen et al., 2003, 2007; Mabuchi et al., 2007; Miya et al., 2003). The placement of the Mugilidae in the Acanthomorph tree has been further explored by Smith and Wheeler (2006), Smith and Craig (2007), Setiamarga et al. (2008), and Li et al. (2009).

Phylogenetic relationships within the Mugilidae have largely been based on specimens collected within particular geographic regions, such as India (Menezes, 1992), East Asia (Lee et al., 1995, Liu et al., 2010), America (Fraga et al., 2007), and the Mediterranean (Autem and Bonhomme, 1980; Blel et al., 2008; Caldara et al., 1996; Erguden et al., 2010; Gornung et al., 2007; Imsiridou et al., 2007; Murgia et al., 2002; Papasotiropoulos et al., 2001, 2002, 2007; Rossi et al., 1998a, 2004; Semina et al., 2007; Turan et al., 2005). The above studies have generally demonstrated an early rapid divergence for the *Mugil* lineage and have led to a questioning of the monophyly of the genera *Chelon* and *Liza* (Aurelle et al. 2008). Phylogeographic studies within the Mugilidae have focused on only two species of the genus *Mugil*, namely *M. cephalus* (Crosetti et al., 1993, 1994; Heras et al., 2009; Jamandre et al., 2009; Ke et al., 2009; Liu et al., 2009; Livi et al., 2007; Heras et al., 2006, 2009). In the process, multiple independent lineages have been uncovered within both *M. cephalus* and *M. curema* (Aurelle et al. 2008; Fraga et al., 2007; Heras et al., 2009). Based on the above findings, additional efforts are certainly required to resolve the evolutionary relationships within the Mugilidae at both the generic and species levels.

In this study, the phylogenetic relationships within the Mugilidae were investigated based on the analysis of DNA sequence variations from three mitochondrial loci (16S, COI, and cyth) and using representative taxonomic sampling in order to provide the first comprehensive insight into the systematics of the family. Using the COI gene polymorphism as a marker, Zemlak et al. (2009) have inferred that up to 60% of inshore fish species with an Indo-Pacific distribution might well consist of sibling species. To further address the issue of cryptic species within widely distributed Mugilidae species, emphasis was placed on geographical sampling of a number of species with large geographic distributions, namely Chelon macrolepis, Crenimugil crenilabis, Moolgarda cunnesius, M. seheli, Mugil cephalus, M. curema and Valamugil buchanani.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Data collection and analysis

It was essential to use a broad taxonomic sampling in order to best represent the phylogenetic diversity within the family Mugilidae (Hillis, 1998) and to provide the most accurate insights into relationships between genera. The many uncertainties concerning the validation of some genera or species required sampling of multiple representatives of each genus, and/or species when possible. Nineteen of the 20 Mugilidae genera currently recognized as valid (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011) were sampled, using museum specimens where possible. If a specimen could not be identified to species using Thomson's (1997) descriptions, or FAO species identification sheets (Harrison and Senou, 1999), it was identified to genus only.

The mitochondrial-DNA sequences of a total of 257 Mugilidae individuals (Table 1), together with outgroups comprising an individual of each *Abudefduf vaigiensis* (Perciformes: Pomacentridae), *Labracinus cyclophthalmus* (Perciformes: Pseudochromidae) and *Oryzias latipes* (Beloniformes: Adrianichthyidae), were used for phylogenetic analysis. The three outgoup taxa were selected because their complete mito-genomic data were available (GENBANK accession nos. AP006016, AP009125 and AP004421, respectively) and

were shown to be closely related to the Mugilidae in recent molecular studies investigating higher-level phylogenetic relationships in the Percomorpha (Chen et al., 2007; Mabuchi et al., 2007).

Some Mugilidae species have a wide geographic distribution and in these instances the species were represented by samples from different oceanic regions. Species falling into this category were Agonostomus monticola, Chelon macrolepis, Crenimugil crenilabis, Liza alata, L. dumerili, Moolgarda cunnesius, M. seheli, Mugil cephalus, M. curema and Valamugil buchanani (Table 1).

Genomic DNA was extracted from muscle samples or fin clips using standard phenol-chloroform protocols (Sambrook et al., 1989). A portion of each 16S ribosomal RNA gene (*16S*), cytochrome oxydase I gene (*COI*), and cytochrome *b* gene (*cyt*b) was amplified by polymerase-chain reaction (PCR) using the primers listed in Table 2. PCR was carried out in 50 μ l reaction volume containing 5 μ l 10X reaction buffer (Promega, Charbonnières, France), 1.5 μ l MgCl₂ (25 mM), 2 μ l dNTP (5 mM), 0.5 μ l each primer (10 μ M), 1 unit GoTaq DNA polymerase (Promega Corporation, Madison, USA) and 1 μ l template DNA. PCR conditions were as follows: preliminary denaturation at 92°C for 5 min followed by 35 cycles of strand denaturation at 92°C for 1 min, primer annealing at 50°C for 1 min (*16S*) or 52°C for 45s (*COI* and *cyt*b) and primer extension at 72°C for 1.5 min, followed by final extension at 72°C for 5 min. Sequencing was performed by Macrogen Inc. (Seoul, South Korea; http://dna.macrogen.com). All nucleotide sequences were deposited in GENBANK (Table 1).

Some *M. curema* individuals were karyotyped using methods described by Nirchio and Cequea (1998). The genus *Xenomugil*, represented by its type species *X. thoburni*, was not sampled during the present study. Nevertheless, we were able to incorporate the nucleotide sequences of a 300-bp long fragment of the cytochrome *b* gene from the single *X. thoburni* specimen analyzed by Livi et al. (2011) (S. Livi, pers. comm.), thus allowing the placement of the genus *Xenomugil* within the Mugilidae phylogeny.

The DNA sequences were edited and managed with BIOEDIT version 7.0 (Hall, 1999) and SE-AL version 2.0 (Rambaut, 1996). Sequences were initially aligned using the automatic multiple-alignment program MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004; http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/muscle/index.html), then adjusted manually based on the inferred amino acid translation or the secondary structure of ribosomal DNA, if necessary. Regions where the amount of variation was high due to the resulting alignment containing invalid assertions of homology (e.g., large insertion/deletion segments showing high dissimilarity in sequence length), these were discarded from the phylogenetic analyses.

From the aligned sequences, we compiled two types of data matrices. The first, or "long-sequence" data matrix (Matrix 1), was constructed from the longer sequences of the amplified fragments of the target genes (3,140-4,104 bp in total; 46 individuals; Table 1), aligned and trimmed to form a matrix 3777 bp long. The 46 individuals were selected from 18 (out of the 20) currently recognized Mugilidae genera. It was not possible to obtain the complete sequences for a number of other individuals, in part because of the lower quality of the tissue samples, in part because of budget and time limitations. The second, or mixed-sequence data matrix (Matrix 2), consisted of all available sequence data obtained during this study, i.e. the full or partial sequences (1,927-4,104 bp in total; Table 1) from a total of 257 individuals from 19/20 ingroup genera, in order to best represent the taxonomic diversity at the genus level, and to globally maximize congruence of the whole set of available relevant characters (Hennig, 1966; Kluge, 1989). It is necessary to ensure that the missing characters in the sequences of a proportion of individuals do not affect the accuracy of the phylogeny. The length of the core sequences in Matrix 2 (i.e., characters specified in all taxa) was 1,932 bp for the 3 genes; hence half of the characters (the other 1953 bp of the 3885) had missing data (Table 1). The sequences of 211/257 individuals (82%) had up to 49% missing characters relative to the standard length of the sequences used for Matrix 1. The missing characters were systematically located in the same portions of the genes (i.e., the 5' end of the 16S, the 3'end of the COI and the 3' end of the cytb genes).

Simulations and empirical results indicate that missing data generally do not affect the accuracy of the phylogeny when (1) they are not randomly distributed among taxa; (2) overall branch lengths are not long and/or characters do not evolve rapidly; (3) sufficient informative data are analyzed with appropriate methods such as Bayesian and likelihood analyses in which realistic sequence evolution models are implemented. Excluding characters simply because they contain missing data cells may itself hamper accurate placement (Wiens and Morrill, 2011). As explained in the above, criteria (1)-(3) were met in the present study,

2.2. Phylogenetic analyses

Descriptive statistics for comparing sequences and a χ^2 test of homogeneity for base frequencies across individuals (conducted for each gene and codon position separately) were performed using PAUP* version 4.0 (Swofford, 2002). Phylogenetic analyses were conducted based on a partitioned maximumlikelihood (ML) method and partitioned Bayesian approach (BA) as implemented in RAxML 7.2.6 (Stamatakis, 2006) and MRBAYES 3.1.1 (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001), respectively. A mixed model analysis that allows the independent estimation of individual models of nucleotide substitution for each gene partition was used for the analyses. Seven partitions were assigned, which were the *16S* ribosomal gene, the first, second, and third positions of the *COI* gene, and the first, second, and third positions of the *cyt b* gene. Likelihood-ratio tests (Goldman, 1993), implemented in MRMODELTEST version 2.2 (Nylander, 2004) were used to select best-fit models for each partition in the partitioned Bayesian analysis. Two independent Bayesian searches were conducted for each dataset.

Four independent MCMC chains consisted of 3,000,000 replicates, sampling one tree per 100 replicates. The distribution of log-likelihood scores were examined to determine stationarity for each search and to decide if extra runs were required to achieve convergence in log-likelihoods among runs or searches. Initial trees with non-stationary log-likelihood values were discarded, and the remaining chains of trees resulting in convergent log-likelihood scores from both independent searches were combined. These trees were used to construct a 50% majority rule consensus tree.

For the partitioned ML search with the mixed model of nucleotide substitution, a (GTR+G+I) model (with 4 discrete rate categories) for each partition was used, since RAxML only provides GTR-related models [(GTR+G), (GTR+G+I) and (GTR+CAT) approximation] of rate heterogeneity for nucleotide data (Stamatakis, 2006). Maximum-likelihood analysis was conducted with 10 separate runs using the default algorithm of the program and with a maximum parsimonious tree as the starting tree for each run. The ML tree was selected among suboptimal trees in each run by comparing likelihood scores under the (GTR+G+I) model. This was repeated 10 times, and the tree with the best likelihood score among 10 ML trees for each analysis was selected as the final tree.

Nodal support was assessed by bootstrapping (Felsenstein, 1985) with the ML criterion, based on 1000 pseudo-replicates and the resulting *a posteriori* probabilities from partitioned BA. The ML analyses (through analyses using RAxML web-servers) (Stamatakis et al., 2008) were conducted with the CIPRES cluster (CIPRES Portal 1.15; http://www.phylo.org/sub_sections/portal/) at the San Diego Supercomputer Center (San Diego CA, U.S.A.).

Alternative phylogenetic trees were constructed, where the monophyly of each of the genera *Agonostomus*, *Liza*, *Moolgarda*, *Myxus*, *Oedalechilus*, *Rhinomugil*, *Sicamugil*, and *Valamugil* was imposed. The likelihood of these alternative hypotheses was tested using the S-H test proposed by Shimodaira and Hasegawa (1999) as implemented in PAUP*. Nine such constrained ML analyses, based on Matrix 1 were performed. The log-likelihood scores obtained using a GTR+G+I model with single partitioning were then compared to the score of the best tree. The significance of differences in log-likelihood was evaluated

using bootstrap resampling. The monophyly of the genus *Chelon* could not be tested as only one *Chelon* species was represented in the Matrix 1 dataset.

2.3. Nomenclature

In this paper, we followed the genus and species nomenclature of Eschmeyer and Fricke (2011).

3. Results

3.1. Characteristics of the sequence data

Matrix 1 consisted of the full sequences of the amplified fragments of three mitochondrial genes of 46 Mugilidae individuals and three outgroups, aligned over 3,777 bp. The length of the nucleotide sequence of the *16S* gene ranged from 1,315 to 1,355 bp depending on the individual. Indels were therefore required to align sequences. No indel was present in the aligned *COI* sequences (1,405 bp) and *cyt*b sequences (1,045 bp). Of the 3,777 nucleotides sites, 1,834 were variable and 1,534 of the latter were parsimony- informative. Matrix 2 consisted of the sequences of 260 individuals with up to 3,885 nucleotide sites aligned, 1,971 of which were variable and including 1,663 parsimony-informative sites. The length of core sequences (*i.e.*, regions where sequences were present for all individuals) was 550 bp for *16S*, 598 bp for *COI*, and 784 bp for *cyt*b.

Most of the nucleotide variability occurred at the third codon position in both *gtb* and *COI* gene sequences, where transitions were more frequent than transversions. A saturation plateau was visible at the third codon position (absolute saturation tests; Philippe et al., 1994). Tests of the stationarity of base composition revealed a bias in base composition at the third codon position in the *gtb* and *COI* gene sequences and the analyses based on RY-coded nucleotides were therefore used (Chen and Mayden, 2009). Accordingly, nucleotides at the third codon position in protein-coding genes were coded as purines (R) or pyrimidines (Y) and the phylogenetic tree inferred from the resulting data-matrix was compared to the original phylogeny. There was no significant difference for the higher-level relationships of Mugilidae between the analyses on both Matrices 1 (Fig. 2) and 2 (Figs. 3-5) were presented. The use of RY-coded nucleotides to avoid potential homoplasy might inconveniently result in the loss of useful phylogenetic information, especially in the shallow branches of the tree.

3.2. Inferred phylogenetic trees

The phylogenetic relationships at the genus level and above, as inferred from partitioned ML and Bayesian analyses of Matrices 1 and 2, are presented in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 respectively. The topologies of the two trees were nearly identical, except for slight differences in relationships where nodal supports were weak. Some of the inferred relationships were strongly supported by bootstrap scores from the ML analysis, and by *a posteriori* probabilities from partitioned Bayesian analysis (Figs. 2 and 3). A clade including *Ellochelon*, *Oedalechilus labiosus* and *Rhinomugil nasutus* and a clade including *Crenimugil crenilabis*, *Moolgarda* spp. and *Valamugil* spp. were found to be sister clades with strong support using partitioned Bayesian analysis but only a weak bootstrap score under maximum-likelihood analysis (Figs. 2 and 3). The statistical support of some deep nodes was improved when Matrix 2 was used. For instance, *Chaenomugil*, *Cestraeus*, *Mugil* and a clade including *Agonostomus* spp. and *Joturus*, formed a monophyletic group sister to the clade formed by *Myxus elongatus* and *Neomyxus*, with stronger support for the results inferred from Matrix 2 (Fig. 3) than Matrix 1 (Fig. 2). Similarly, the sister-group relationship between *Liza argentea* and *Aldrichetta* had a higher posterior probability in the Bayesian analysis with Matrix 2 than Matrix 1. This suggests that a denser sampling of taxa, as in Matrix 2 relative to Matrix 1, improves the accuracy of phylogenetic inference (Hillis, 1996). Accordingly, the family was found to comprise 7 major clades that have radiated early from the ancestor to all current Mugilidae (Fig. 3). The phylogenetic relationships among Mugilidae genera, as inferred from the present analyses, are summarized in Fig. 1F.

A detailed account of the phylogenetic placement of each Mugilidae genus is given below, where genera are listed in alphabetical order.

Agonostomus was paraphyletic with respect to Joturus (Fig. 3); A. monticola was phylogenetically closer to J. pichardi than both were to A. catalai. The nucleotide divergence between A. monticola and A. catalai at locus 16S was 13.3-13.5% [Kimura 2-parameter; MEGA 5: Tamura et al. (2011)] while the estimated divergence between A. telfairii, the type-species of the genus (GENBANK DQ532834) and A. catalai was 0.2%.

Aldrichetta was found to be the sister subclade of Liza argentea (Fig. 3).

Cestraeus, represented by two species (*C. goldiei* and *C. oxyrhinchus*) was found to be monophyletic and a brother genus to *Chaenomugil*, *Mugil*, and (*Agonostomus* + *Joturus*).

Chaenomugil was found to be a brother genus to Cestraeus, Mugil and (Agonostomus + Joturus).

Chelon labrosus grouped with L. aurata, L. ramada, L. saliens, L. richardsonii, L. bandialensis, L. dumerili and L. tricuspidens (Fig. 5A) to form a monophyletic subclade (Fig. 3), which turned out to exclusively comprise species distributed in Atlantic and Mediterranean waters or around southern Africa. The other *Chelon* species sampled, all from the Indo-Pacific, formed a distinct subclade together with Indo-Pacific Liza spp. and Paramugil parmatus (Fig. 3; Fig. 5A).

Crenimugil crenilabis formed a distinct cluster with Moolgarda seheli and Valamugil buchanani within the Crenimugil-Moolgarda-Valamugil subclade (Fig. 3; Fig. 5B).

The monotypic genus Ellochelon was found to be the sister lineage of Oedalechilus labiosus (Fig. 3).

We found the monotypic genus Joturus to be the sister lineage of Agonostomus monticola.

Each Liza argentea and L. falcipinnis was separate from the other Liza species, all of which clustered within a single clade. The latter comprised Myxus capensis, Oedalechilus labeo, and three subclades: one that corresponds to L. grandisquamis, a second one that includes Chelon labrosus and all Liza spp. of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean [see (5) above], and a third sub-clade that includes Chelon spp. and Liza spp. from the Indo-Pacific only (namely, C. macrolepis, C. melinopterus, C. planiceps, C. subviridis, L. abu, L. affinis, L. alata, L. haematocheila, and Paramugil parmatus) (Fig. 3 and Fig. 5A).

Moolgarda was polyphyletic (Fig. 3).

All 11 Mugil species examined here (M. bananensis, M. bandialensis, M. capurii, M. cephalus, M. curema, M. hospes, M. incilis, M. liza, M. platanus, M. rubrioculus and M. trichodon) clustered into a single, well-supported clade (Figs. 3-4).

Myxus turned out to be polyphyletic, with M. elongatus (its type-species) pairing with Neomyxus leuciscus, and M. capensis being part of the distinct clade external to O. labeo and the two (Liza spp. + Chelon spp.) subclades (Fig. 2).

Neomyxus was found to be the sister lineage of M. elongatus.

Oedalechilus turned out to be polyphyletic: O. labeo (the type species) clustered with Myxus capensis, Chelon spp., Liza spp. and P. parmatus to form a distinct subclade, while O. labiosus paired with E. vaigiensis within another subclade that also included R. nasutus (Fig. 3; Fig. 5A).

Paramugil parmatus, the type-species of the genus, was embedded within the Indo-Pacific sub-clade of (*Liza* spp. + *Chelon* spp.) (Fig. 3).

Rhinomugil was found to be polyphyletic, with *R. corsula* being the sister lineage of *Sicamugil cascasia*, while *R. nasutus* was found to pair with the lineage that includes *Ellochelon* and *O. labiosus* (Fig. 3).

Sicamugil was found to be paraphyletic (Fig. 3), where *S. hamiltonii* was the sister subclade of (R. *corsula* + *S. cascasia*).

Genus Trachystoma formed a distinct clade on its own (Fig. 3).

Most *Valamugil* species, along with *Moolgarda* species, split into two strongly supported lineages, one of which was paraphyletic with *Crenimugil crenilabis* (Fig. 5B). *V. robustus* belonged to another subclade, which also comprised *Moolgarda* spp. and *Valamugil* spp.

Xenomugil thoburni was not included in the present phylogenetic analysis, as only a 300-bp long sequence of the *cytb* gene of this species was available to us. Maximum-likelihood analysis of the homologous fragment for a sample of species including *X. thoburni*, all *Mugil* spp. presented in Fig. 3, and 22 other Mugilidae species (from 16 genera) showed the *X. thoburni* haplotype embedded within the *Mugil curema* haplogroup.

In summary, all genera that were represented by two species or more, except *Cestraeus*, turned out to be paraphyletic or polyphyletic. The results of the S-H test confirmed that *Liza*, *Moolgarda*, *Myxus*, *Oedalechilus*, *Rhinomugil* and *Valamugil* are not monophyletic. The likelihood of trees constrained by the monophyly of *Agonostomus* and *Sicamugil* was also lower than that of the unconstrained tree, although not significantly so (Table 3).

3.3. Phylogeny at the infra-generic level

On the mitochondrial tree of species (Figs. 2-5), the two *Myxus* species split into two independent lineages, as did the two *Oedalechilus* and the two *Rhinomugil* species. *Agonostomus* was paraphyletic with *Joturus*, as were *Moolgarda* and *Valamugil* with *Crenimugil*. *Sicamugil* was paraphyletic with *Rhinomugil corsula*. *L. argentea* and *L. falcipinnis* formed independent clades (Fig. 3). *Chelon* spp., all other *Liza* spp. and *Paramugil parmatus* clustered into a distinct subclade, which comprised three lineages: one that corresponds to *L. grandisquamis*, a second one that includes Indo-Pacific *Chelon* spp. and *Liza* spp. together with *P. parmatus*, and a third lineage that includes *Chelon labrosus* and all *Liza* spp. of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Figs. 3 and 5A). The other genera analysed here were monophyletic.

3.4. Phylogeny at the infra-specific level

The phylogeographic structures of a number of the Mugilidae species sampled across a wide geographic range are briefly described below.

Agonostomus monticola: all haplotypes sampled were grouped into a single clade consisting of three distinct lineages, two from the Pacific and one from the Atlantic; the Atlantic lineage was the sister lineage of one of the Pacific lineages (Fig. 3).

Chelon macrolepis: two separate haplogroups were present in this monophyletic species; one haplogroup included all haplotypes sampled west of Oman, while the other haplogroup included haplotypes from the Maldives archipelago and east of it.

Crenimugil crenilabis: all haplotypes sampled across the Indo-Pacific formed a single clade with shallow topology; the haplotype sampled in the Seychelles (western Indian Ocean) was identical to the haplotype sampled in the Chesterfield Islands (western Pacific Ocean) (Fig. 5B).

Liza alata: haplotypes of this species formed a paraphyletic haplogroup, with one lineage comprising haplotypes sampled from the Indian Ocean coast of South Africa and a distinct lineage grouping the haplotypes sampled in Australia (Fig. 5A).

Liza dumerili: two sister lineages were observed; one lineage consisted of all haplotypes from the Indian Ocean coast of South Africa and the other lineage consisted of haplotypes sampled in West Africa (Fig. 5A).

Moolgarda cunnesius: the haplotype sampled in eastern South Africa formed a lineage distinct from that sampled in Taiwan; the latter was a sister lineage to *M. cunnesius* from Australia and *M. perusii* from New Caledonia and from Taiwan.

Moolgarda seheli: the haplotypes of a number of individuals of this species clustered into one of three haplogroups that together formed a clade paraphyletic with *Crenimugil crenilabis* and with an unidentified *Valamugil* species sampled from Taiwan and Fiji (Fig. 5B). One *M. seheli* haplogroup was sampled in Vietnam and in northern and northeastern Australia; a second haplogroup was present all across the Indo-Pacific, from the Seychelles to Taiwan and Fiji; the third haplogroup, also present across the Indo-Pacific, from the Southwestern Indian Ocean to New Caledonia, was a sister clade of *C. crenilabis* (Fig. 5B).

Mugil cephalus: the '*M. cephalus* complex' subclade (Fig. 3) consisted of a rake-like subtree with 14 parallel lineages that included the *M. liza* lineage and 13 other lineages, all currently designated as *M. cephalus*. Generally, each lineage had a regional distribution (Fig. 4A) whereas in some instances, different lineages co-exist at a single locality [e.g., lineages L1-L3 in Taiwan (Fig. 4A); another example is New Caledonia where two lineages were sampled, one of which was also sampled in New Zealand, the other one (L3) also occurring in Fiji and Taiwan].

Mugil curema: haplotypes of this species formed an apparent monophyletic haplogroup, although the node separating *M. curema* from *M. incilis* was not resolved. This '*M. curema*' haplogroup consisted of at least four lineages, one present exclusively in the eastern Atlantic, two from the western Atlantic, and one sampled on the Pacific coast of North America. One of the two western-Atlantic lineages paired with the eastern-Pacific group and both formed a monophyletic group with the eastern-Atlantic haplotypes (Fig. 4B). Thus, two *M. curema* lineages were sampled along the tropical Atlantic coast of America; one of these lineages is the 'Type 2' of Fraga et al. (2007), which is characterized by 2n=28 chromosomes as confirmed in the present study (Table 1), whereas the specimens karyotyped in the other lineage had 2n=24 (Table 1).

Valamugil buchanani: haplotypes sampled from distant locations in the Indo-Pacific formed a single lineage with shallow topology (Fig. 5B).

4. Discussion

4.1. Phylogenetic relationships among Mugilidae genera

The genus rather than the species is currently designated as the analytical unit for a wide range of largescale analyses in systematics, biogeography and conservation biology (Mandelik et al., 2007; Villaseñor et al., 2005). Consequently, the significance of our results relating to the systematics of Mugilidae is discussed at the genus level.

Previous investigations using various anatomical characters, have provided conflicting hypotheses on the systematic relationships within the family Mugilidae (Ghasemzadeh, 1998; Harrison and Howes, 1991; Schultz, 1946; Senou, 1988; Thomson, 1997; Fig. 1 A-E). The only area of agreement by the above authors is the phylogenetic position of genera *Agonostomus* and *Joturus*. These genera have been positioned as a basal clade in the phylogenies of the family (Schultz, 1946; Senou, 1988; Thomson, 1997) and have been declared "primitive" (Schultz, 1946) or part of a "primitive" sub-family of the Mugilidae (Agonostominae: Thomson, 1997). In contrast, Schultz (1946) considered *Cestraeus* to be closely related to *Chaenomugil* and regarded the latter, together with *Neomugil* and *Xenomugil* spp., to be highly specialized (owing to the anatomical features of their lips and teeth). In the present study, *Agonostomus* (in part) and *Joturus* were found to be closely related to each other, and formed a monophyletic clade. However, this clade did not branch early in the phylogeny, but appeared as a relatively modern divergence. We agree with Schultz (1946) in placing *Cestraeus* together with *Chaenomugil*, but both these genera also clustered with *Joturus* and *Agonostomus*. A close relationship between *Oedalechilus* and *Chelon* has also been reported by both Schultz (1946) and Thomson (1997); molecular data concur with this finding (Heras et al., 2009; this study).

In order to test the other hypotheses involving relationships among the Mugilidae genera presented in Fig. 1A-E, a fully resolved molecular phylogeny of the entire family would be required. Unfortunately, the deeper nodes of the present mitochondrial phylogenetic tree indicated insufficient resolution to properly address the issue. A salient point is that the present results already indicate that the morphoanatomy of the mouth is poorly informative from a phylogenetic perspective.

The mitochondrial phylogeny of the Mugilidae was characterized by long terminal branches and short internal branches, reflecting either mutational saturation or rapid radiation occurring during the early diversification of the family. The latter seems most likely given that little difference was visible between the original and the RY-coded analyses. Employing slower-evolved and independent nuclear gene markers might prove helpful to address this issue.

4.2. Implications of the present molecular data to Mugilidae taxonomy at the genus level

Morpho-anatomical taxonomy at the genus level in the Mugilidae is still under debate. For example, Schultz (1946) considered the genus *Liza* as a junior synonym of *Chelon* but this view was challenged by Thomson (1997) on the grounds that *Liza* species all lack the lip ornamentation of *Chelon*. Thomson's (1997) recognition of *Liza* as a distinct genus has in turn been questioned by several authors (reviewed by Heras et al., 2009) but *Liza* is still currently considered a valid genus (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). Another example of taxonomic confusion is the recent erection of the genus *Paramugil* to account for the peculiar morphological and osteological characters shared by *P. parmatus* and *P. georgii* (Ghasemzadeh, 1998; Ghasemzadeh et al., 2004). The genus *Paramugil* is apparently not accepted by Nelson (2006), who recognizes only *Liza* and *Valamugil* as the genera for these two species, respectively. The genus *Plicomugil* proposed by Schultz (1953), and retained by Harrison and Howes (1991) and Nelson (2006), has not been recognized as valid by Ghasemzadeh (1998) and is currently considered to be a synonym of *Oedalechilus* (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). The erection of the genus *Osteomugil* for *Moolgarda cunnesius* (Lüther, 1982) has also been ignored in subsequent revisions, for example by Thomson (1997), who considers *Osteomugil* as a junior synonym of *Valamugil* and *Moolgarda* as a nomen dubium.

The present results support an in-depth revision of the taxonomy of the Mugilidae at the genus level. All currently-recognized Mugilidae genera are represented by two species or more, except *Cestraeus*, and turned out to be paraphyletic or polyphyletic. Alternative topologies, where the monophyly of each of the problematic genera was imposed, proved much less likely than the topology of the ML tree (Fig. 2). The mitochondrial phylogeny offered no rationale for distinguishing *Moolgarda* from *Valamugil*, and *Liza* from *Chelon*, leading us to challenge their validity. The distinction of two other currently accepted genera (*Paramugil* and *Xenomugil*) turned out to be unsupported by phylogeny.

4.4. Taxonomic uncertainty at the species level

Mugilidae species occupy inshore habitats. Their populations are expected to comprise discrete adult

subpopulations that exchange migrants through the pelagic larval phase and large stretches of ocean are expected to constitute geographic barriers to dispersal. Nevertheless, several species exhibit broad distribution, e.g. *Mugil cephalus*, which is reputed as one of those rare cases of a littoral marine fish with circumglobal distribution (Briggs, 1960) but whose taxonomic status as a single species has been questioned (Briggs, 1960; Crosetti et al., 1994; Heras et al., 2009). Other species with wide distribution are *M. curema*, which is present on both sides of the tropical Atlantic and on the Pacific shores of tropical America, and several Indo-Pacific species (e.g. *C. crenilabis*).

Our sampling design allowed testing of the null hypothesis of genetic homogeneity in several widespread Mugilidae species. The results indicated apparent genetic homogeneity in the case of *C. crenilabis* and *V. buchanani*. Some geographic structure was uncovered in *Chelon macrolepis*, where all haplotypes sampled east of the Maldives to as far as Fiji were nearly identical and formed a lineage separate from that consisting of all haplotypes sampled west of Oman, thus suggesting the possible existence of a mid-Indian Ocean barrier. Multiple-mitochondrial lineages were present in *Agonostomus monticola, Moolgarda seheli, Mugil cephalus* and *M. curema*, thus raising the possibility that each of these species actually consists of several cryptic species as discussed below.

Our results show that *A. monticola* under its current definition harbours three distinct lineages, two of which are sympatric off western Central America. *Moolgarda seheli* haplotypes grouped into three independent lineages paraphyletic with other species, implying that *M. seheli* also might well consist of a complex of three species, at least two of which have a wide Indo-Pacific distribution.

A majority of the 14 mitochondrial lineages in the *Mugil cephalus* complex have regional distribution patterns and are allopatric; however, three of these lineages, *L1*, *L2* and *L3* (Fig. 4A), occur sympatrically in Taiwan and have been proven to be reproductively isolated species (Shen et al., 2011). The above results suggest that the '*M. cephalus* species complex' may well consist of up to 14 biological species. This species complex already includes *M. cephalus*, which harbours the mitochondrial lineage sampled in Mediterranean waters, the type-locality (Linnaeus, 1758), and *M. liza*. Further taxonomic work will be necessary to assign a name to each of the three lineages in Taiwanese waters. Additional investigations are warranted to address the question of whether the remaining 9 mitochondrial lineages now uncovered in the *Mugil cephalus* complex also consist of separate species.

Four separate lineages were uncovered in *M. curema*, two of which have overlapping distributions off Venezuela. The difference in chromosome number between the two sympatric lineages strongly suggests that they are reproductively isolated. The type locality of *M. curema* (Bahia) is located in Brazil where *T2* was the only lineage sampled, leading to the designation of it as the valid *M. curema*. Further taxonomic work will be necessary to assign a name to each of the remaining three lineages.

The remaining species, for which wide geographic samples were obtained, included *Chelon planiceps*, *Liza alata*, *L. dumerili*, and *Moolgarda cunnesius*. In all cases these species showed strong differences between the regions. For each *C. planiceps*, *L. alata* and *M. cunnesius*, the haplotypes sampled in the southwestern Indian Ocean belonged to a lineage distinct from those sampled around Australia, to the extent that also raises the suspicion of cryptic species.

In conclusion, the Mugilidae offer a wide range of genetic compositions for a littoral marine family, ranging from species that are genetically homogeneous at the scale of the Indo-Pacific (*Crenimugil crenilabis*, *V. buchanani* and some of the *Moolgarda* spp. that belong to the same subclade), versus *Mugil cephalus*, once presented as an example of globally distributed species and now shown to harbor several cryptic species. The Mugilidae also comprise species that exhibit all possible other cases between the above two extremes. Clarifying the taxonomy of Mugilidae at the species level will require considerably more research, for which the present phylogeny hopefully will constitute a sound basis.

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Table 1

List of Mugilidae individuals sequenced at three mitochondrial DNA loci (16S rRNA, COI, cytb), with identification, sampling details, individual number as utilized in Figs. 2-5, museum collection numbers and GenBank accession numbers. GenBank accession numbers in bold indicate the 'long' sequences used for constructing Matrix 1 (Fig. 2) and concerns 46 individuals sequenced over 3,140 bp to 4,104 bp in total; the total length of the sequences for the remaining 211 individuals ranged from 1,927 bp to 2,131 bp. Identification was done according to Thomson (1997) and Harrison and Senou (1999), and the genus and species names are those currently accepted in Eschmeyer and Fricke (2011). When a species' identification was uncertain, an unknown species or "sp." was assigned to the recognized genus for the taxon.

Species	Sampling location	Date	Collector(s)	Ind.	Voucher no.	Tissue no.	GenBank		
-				no.			nos.		
							16S rRNA	COI	cyt b
Agonostomus catalai	Koundré River, Anjouan, Comores	03 Nov. 2005	P. Keith, G. Marquet	023	MNHN 2006-0614	-	JQ060643	JQ060394	JQ060138
Agonostomus monticola	Río Presidio, Sinaloa, Mexico	13 Sep. 2008	S. Sánchez, G. Ruiz, A. Herrera	026	UABC-2052	SGH130908-1	JQ060645	JQ060395	JQ060139
Agonostomus monticola	Rio Jiboa, El Salvador	22 Feb. 2006	S. Kullander	028	NRM 53460	-	JQ060646	JQ060396	JQ060140
Agonostomus monticola	Rio El Zonte, El Salvador	25 Feb. 2006	S. Kullander	030	NRM 53520	-	JQ060647	JQ060397	JQ060141
Agonostomus monticola	Changuinola River, Boca del Toro, Panama	15 Apr. 2005	M. Nirchio	032	UDOV 314	-	JQ060648	JQ060401	JQ060145
Agonostomus monticola	Bourceau, Guadeloupe	JanApr. 2008	M. Louis	033	-	-	JQ060652	JQ060402	JQ060146
Agonostomus monticola	La Trilla River, Aragua State, Venezuela	09 May 2007	M. Nirchio	031a	UDOV 700	-	JQ060649	JQ060398	JQ060142
Agonostomus monticola	La Trilla River, Aragua State, Venezuela	-	M. Nirchio	031b	STRI 21827	-	JQ060650	JQ060399	JQ060143
Agonostomus monticola	Guanaja Isld., Honduras	30 June 2005	W.A. Matamoros	031c	-	-	JQ060651	JQ060400	JQ060144
Agonostomus monticola	Río Presidio, Sinaloa, Mexico	13 Sep. 2008	S. Sánchez, G. Ruiz, A. Herrera	035	UABC-2052	SGH130908-2	JQ060644	JQ060403	JQ060147
Aldrichetta forsteri	unknown location, Australia	03 May 1995	G. Yearsley	004	CSIRO H3962-06	-	JQ060653	EF609279	JQ060148
Aldrichetta forsteri	Tauvanga Harbor, New Zeland	10 Oct. 2006	J. Boubee	010	-	-	JQ060654	JQ060405	JQ072905
Cestraeus oxyrhyncus	Trou Bleu River, New Caledonia	24 May 2007	C. Pöllabauer	011	-	-	JQ060656	JQ060407	JQ060150
Cestraeus goldiei	Cagayan Province, Philippines	01 June 2008	B.W. Jamandre	012	-	-	JQ060655	JQ060406	JQ060149
Chaenomugil	Los Cerritos, Mexico	18 Apr. 2007	A. Ramirez	002	UABC-1838	AR-CE-0407 46	JQ060657	JQ060408	JQ060151
proboscideus		-				СР	•	•	-
Chaenomugil	La Paz, Mexico	01 May 2010	F.J. Garcia de Leon	002c	-	-	JQ060658	JQ060409	JQ060152
proboscideus									
Chaenomugil	La Paz, Mexico	01 May 2010	F.J. Garcia de Leon	002d	-	-	JQ060659	JQ060410	JQ060153
proboscideus Chalan laborator	Contente Tracicio	22 D 2005	II DI-1	100			CO259711	100/0412	10000155
Chelon labrosus		22 Dec. 2005	H. Diel	170	-	-	GQ258/11	JQ060412	JQ060155
Chelon labrosus	Agadir, Morocco	- M 2010	A. Pariselle	1/8	-	-	JQ060729	JQ060484	JQ060227
Chelon labrosus	Knnifiss, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	1/90	-	-	JQ060660	JQ060411	JQ060154
Chelon macrolepis	Boulouparis, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	124	-	-	JQ060662	JQ060414	JQ060157
Chelon macrolepis	Kone, New Caledonia	25 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	132	-	-	JQ060663	JQ060415	JQ060158
Chelon macrolepis	Nouméa, New Caledonia	08 Mar. 2007	P. Borsa	133	MNHN 2009-0803	-	JQ060664	JQ060416	JQ060159
Chelon macrolepis	SW lagoon, New Caledonia	01 Apr. 2007	P. Borsa	135	MNHN 2009-0805	-	JQ060665	JQ060417	JQ060160
Chelon macrolepis	SW lagoon, New Caledonia	01 Apr. 2007	P. Borsa	136	MNHN 2009-0806	-	JQ060666	JQ060418	JQ060161
Chelon macrolepis	Atetsu Bay, Ryukyu Islands, Japan	16 Nov. 2006	K. Shibukawa	137	NMNS-P76044	-	JQ060667	JQ060419	JQ060162
Chelon macrolepis	Taisi, Taiwan	15 June 2008	KN. Shen	138	NMMBP10785	-	JQ060668	JQ060420	JQ060163

Chelon macrolepis	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	143	MNHN 2009-0802	-	JQ060669	JQ060421	JQ060164
Chelon macrolepis	Eydhafushi, Baa atoll, Maldives	28 June 2008	P. Borsa, S. Andréfouët	146	-	-	JQ060670	JQ060424	JQ060167
Chelon macrolepis	Mlalazi estuary, South Africa	May 2004	P. Renzo	150	SAIAB-74455	-	JQ060673	JQ060425	JQ060168
Chelon macrolepis	Port Launay, Seychelles	19 Apr. 2005	P.C. Heemstra et al.	151	SAIAB-77876	-	JQ060674	IQ060426	JQ060169
Chelon macrolepis	Ra's al-Hadd, Oman	22 Mar. 2009	P. Bearez	144	MNHN ICOS-	-	JQ060671	JQ060422	JQ060165
1					00270		5	5	
Chelon macrolepis	Ra's al-Hadd, Oman	22 Mar. 2009	P. Bearez	145	MNHN 2010-0027	-	JQ060672	JQ060423	JQ060166
Chelon macrolepis	Negombo lagoon, Sri Lanka	2007	H. Ashanti	154	-	-	JQ060661	JQ060413	JQ060156
Chelon melinopterus	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	109	(a)	-	JQ060675	JQ060427	JQ060170
Chelon melinopterus	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	111	(a)	-	JQ060676	JQ060428	JQ060171
Chelon planiceps	Kyaiko market, Myanmar	15 Mar. 2008	F. Fang, Thein Win	175	NRM-58400	-	JQ060677	JQ060430	JQ060173
Chelon planiceps	Kyaiko market, Myanmar	15 Mar. 2008	F. Fang, Thein Win	176	NRM-58557	-	JQ060678	JQ060431	JQ060174
Chelon planiceps	Middle part beach, West Alligator Head, NT. Australia	09 June 2001	H. Larson	122	NTM S.15537-001	-	JQ060679	JQ060429	JQ060172
Chelon subviridis	Segara Amahan lagoon, Java, Indonesia	July 2008	S. Kleinertz, SPICE II project	069	-	-	JQ060682	JQ060433	JQ060176
Chelon subviridis	Negombo lagoon, Sri Lanka	2007	H. Ashanti	070	-	-	JQ060681	JQ060434	JQ060177
Chelon subviridis	Cigu, Taiwan	13 Nov. 2008	KN. Shen	064	NMMBP10796	-	IQ060680	IQ060432	JQ060175
Crenimugil crenilabis	Moruroa atoll, French Polynesia	June 2006	P. Borsa, M. Kulbicki, G. Mou-	185	MNHN 2009-0808	-	IQ060685	IQ060435	JQ060178
0		5	Tham					0 -	
Crenimugil crenilabis	Adhoo atoll, Maldives	28 June 2008	P. Borsa	187	-	-	JQ060683	JQ060436	JQ060179
Crenimugil crenilabis	Moorea, Iles du Vent French Polynesia	24 Mar. 2006	Biocode project	190	MNHN 2008-1002	-	JQ060686	JQ060437	JQ060180
Crenimugil crenilabis	Tahiti, Iles du Vent French Polynesia	JulAug. 2008	A. Stein	191	-	-	JQ060687	JQ060438	JQ060181
Crenimugil crenilabis	Tuamotu, French Polynesia	Feb. 2009	A. Stein	192	MNHN 2009-1680	-	JQ060688	JQ060439	JQ060182
Crenimugil crenilabis	Saipan, Mariana Islands	24 May 2003	K.A. Moots, E. Heemstra,	193	SAIAB-86172	KU:KUIT:5674	JQ060684	JQ060440	JQ060183
			A.C. Bentley, P.C. Heemstra						
Crenimugil crenilabis	Loop Is., Chesterfield islands, Coral Sea	22 Oct. 2008	P. Borsa	194	-	-	JQ060689	JQ060441	JQ060184
Crenimugil crenilabis	Port Launay (SE beach), Seychelles	19 Apr. 2005	P.C. Heemstra, E. Heemstra, M.J. Smale, A.C. Bentley, <i>et. al.</i>	195	SAIAB-77948	-	JQ060690	JQ060442	JQ060185
Ellochelon vaigiensis	Unspecified location, Australia	31 July 1996	G. Yearsley	046	CSIRO-H4307-01	-	JQ060691	JQ060443	JQ060186
Ellochelon vaigiensis	Batanta Island, West Papua	04 Dec. 2007	P. Borsa	051	-	-	JQ060692	JQ060444	JQ060187
Ellochelon vaigiensis	Tahiti, French Polynesia	01 Aug. 2008	A. Stein	053	-	-	JQ060693	JQ060445	JQ060188
Joturus pichardi	Changuinola River, Boca del Toro, Panama	-	-	022	STRI 21850	-	JQ060694	JQ060446	JQ060189
Liza abu	Tigris River, Turkey	27 Apr. 2005	E. Ünlü	061	-	-	JQ060695	JQ060447	JQ060190
Liza affinis	Yunlin, Taiwan	21 Feb. 2008	KN. Shen	057x	NMMBP11540	-	JQ060696	JQ060448	JQ060191
Liza alata	Sezela estuary, South Africa	May 2005	A.D. Connell	165	SAIAB-74457	-	JQ060699	JQ060451	JQ060194
Liza alata	East K'monde estuary, South Africa	02 Feb. 2010	P. Cowley	165b	-	-	JQ060700	JQ060452	JQ060195
Liza alata	Charlie's Creek, Daly River NT, Australia	12 June 2007	H. Larson	162	NTM S.16482-001	-	JQ060697	JQ060449	JQ060192
Liza alata	Near Crocodile Creek, Daly River NT, Australia	13 June 2007	H. Larson	164	NTM S.16483-001	-	JQ060698	JQ060450	JQ060193
Liza argentea	unknown location, Australia	25 July 2005	G. Yearsley via Raptis and Sons, Colmslie	037	CSIRO-H4307-04	-	JQ060701	JQ060453	JQ060196
Liza argentea	Port Hacking, NSW, Australia	July 1997	B. Pease et al.	039	AMS I-43204-011	-	JQ060702	JQ060454	JQ060197
Liza argentea	Brisbane, Australia	-	W. Knibb	041	-	-	JQ060703	JQ060455	JQ060198

Liza aurata	Goulette, Tunisia	Apr. 2003	H. Blel	168	-	-	GQ252691	JQ060456	JQ060199
Liza aurata	Agadir, Morocco	-	A. Pariselle	169	-	-	JQ060704	JQ060457	JQ060200
Liza aurata	Dakhla, Western Sahara	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	171b	-	-	JQ060705	JQ060458	JQ060201
Liza aurata	Khnifiss, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	171c	-	-	JQ060706	JQ060459	JQ060202
Liza aurata	Khnifiss, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	171d	-	-	JQ060707	JQ060460	JQ060203
Liza bandialensis	Saloum estuary, Senegal	2008	O. Diouf	054	MNHN 2009-0790	-	JQ060708	JQ060461	JQ060204
Liza bandialensis	Bubaque, Bijagos Islds, Bissau Guinea	May 2008	Y. Bettarel	056	-	-	JQ060709	JQ060462	JQ060205
Liza dumerili	Toubacouta, Saloum estuary, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio, J. Raffray	073	SAIAB-83185	-	JQ060710	JQ060463	JQ060206
Liza dumerili	St Louis, Senegal	26 Jan. 2008	JD. Durand	076	-	-	JQ060711	JQ060464	JQ060207
Liza dumerili	Fish market, Lome, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	077	-	-	JQ060712	JQ060465	JQ060208
Liza dumerili	Fish market, Bissau, Bissau Guinea	04 May 2010	JD. Durand	078b	-	-	JQ060713	JQ060466	JQ060209
Liza dumerili	Great Fish River, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	079	-	-	JQ060714	JQ060467	JQ060210
Liza dumerili	Great Fish River, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	080	-	-	JQ060715	JQ060468	JQ060211
Liza falcipinnis	Toubacouta, Saloum estuary, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio	083	MNHN 2009-0730	-	JQ060716	JQ060469	JQ060212
Liza falcipinnis	St Louis, Senegal	26 Jan. 2008	JD. Durand	084	-	-	JQ060717	JQ060470	JQ060213
Liza falcipinnis	St Louis, Senegal	26 Jan. 2008	JD. Durand	085	-	-	JQ060718	JQ060471	JQ060214
Liza falcipinnis	Fish market, Lome, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	086	-	-	JQ060719	JQ060472	JQ060215
Liza grandisquamis	Saloum, Sénégal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio, J. Raffray, L. Tito	088	-	-	JQ060720	JQ060473	JQ060216
Liza grandisquamis	Fish market, Bissau, Bissau Guinea	04 May 2010	JD. Durand	089b	-	-	JQ060721	JQ060474	JQ060217
Liza grandisquamis	Saloum, Sénégal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio	090	MNHN 2009-731	-	JQ060722	JQ060475	JQ060218
Liza grandisquamis	Saloum, Sénégal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio	091	SAIAB-83182	-	JQ060723	JQ060476	JQ060219
Liza haematocheila	Yunlin, Taiwan	03 Dec. 2007	KN. Shen	095	-	-	JQ060724	JQ060477	JQ060220
Liza haematocheila	Yunlin, Taiwan	03 Dec. 2007	KN. Shen	102	NMMBP11541	-	JQ060725	JQ060478	JQ060221
Liza ramada	Goulette, Tunisia	Apr. 2003	H. Blel	173	-	-	GQ258707	JQ060479	JQ060222
Liza ramada	Zerga, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	174b	-	-	JQ060726	JQ060480	JQ060223
Liza richardsonii	Orange River, Namibia	12 June 2001	J. Koekemoer	157	SAIAB-64270	-	JQ060727	JQ060481	JQ060224
Liza richardsonii	Great Fish River, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	158	-	-	JQ060728	JQ060482	JQ060225
Liza saliens	Goulette, Tunisia	Apr. 2003	H. Blel	166	-	-	GQ258709	JQ060483	JQ060226
Liza sp.	Saint Lucia, South Africa	14 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand, J. Panfili	161	SAIAB-78131	-	JQ060734	JQ060492	JQ060235
<i>Liza</i> sp.	Al Khobar, Saudia Arabia, Persian Gulf	NovDec. 2008	Z. Batang, P. Premlal	113	-	-	JQ060736	JQ060490	JQ060233
Liza sp.	Al Khobar, Saudia Arabia, Persian Gulf	NovDec. 2008	Z. Batang, P. Premlal	114	-	-	JQ060737	JQ060491	JQ060234
<i>Liza</i> sp.	Pangasinan, Philippines	01 July 2008	B. W. Jamandre	103	-	-	JQ060730	JQ060487	JQ060230
Liza sp.	Pangasinan, Philippines	01 July 2008	B. W. Jamandre	107	-	-	JQ060731	JQ060488	JQ060231
Liza sp.	Negombo lagoon, Sri Lanka	2007	H. Ashanti	062	-	-	IQ060732	IQ060485	IQ060228
Liza sp.	Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam	20 Mar. 2010	WJ. Chen	062b	NMMBP11557	-	IQ060739	IQ060493	IQ060237
Liza sp.	Cigu, Taiwan	13 Nov. 2008	KN. Shen	063	NMMBP10791	-	IQ060733	IQ060486	JQ060229
Liza sp.	Quang Yen, Viet Nam	21 Mar. 2010	WJ. Chen	057b	NMMBP11558	-	JQ060738	JQ060494	JQ060236
Liza sp.	Yilan, Taiwan	22 July 2002	LC. Chaung	108	NMMBP10802	-	JQ060735	JQ060489	JQ060232
Liza tricuspidens	Sunday estuary, South Africa	08 Aug. 2007	A.K. Whitfield	155	-	-	JQ060740	JQ060495	JQ060238
Moolgarda cunnesius	Great Fish River, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	278	-	-	JQ060741	IQ060498	JQ060241

	Nalumburu, Austrana								
Moolgarda cunnesius	Don Son Town, Vietnam	22 Mar. 2010	WJ. Chen	276b	NMMBP11559	-	JQ060744	JQ060499	JQ060242
Moolgarda cunnesius	Yunlin, Taiwan	05 May 2002	KT. Shao	276	ASIZP0061397	-	JQ060742	JQ060497	JQ060240
Moolgarda engeli	Saipan, Mariana Islands	24 May 2003	K.A. Moots, E. Heemstra, A.C. Bentley, P.C. Heemstra	198	KU:KUI:32523	KU:KUIT:5667	JQ060745	JQ060500	JQ060243
Moolgarda engeli	Hawaii	June-Oct. 2008	T.K. Ogawa	200	-	-	JQ060746	JQ060501	JQ060244
Moolgarda engeli	Moorea, Iles du Vent, French Polynesia	15 Mar. 2006	S. Planes, Campagne Biocode	201	MNHN 2008-0692	-	JQ060747	JQ060502	JQ060245
Moolgarda engeli	Tahiti, Iles du Vent, French Polynesia	01 Aug. 2008	A. Stein	203	-	-	JQ060748	JQ060503	JQ060246
Moolgarda perusii	Foué, New Caledonia	18 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	264	MNHN 2009-0811	-	JQ060749	JQ060504	JQ060247
Moolgarda perusii	Taisi, Taiwan	15 June 2008	KN. Shen	274	NMMBP10798	-	JQ060750	JQ060505	JQ060248
Moolgarda seheli	Eydhafushi, Baa Atoll, Maldives	28 June 2008	P. Borsa, S. Andréfouët	209	-	-	JQ060888	JQ060631	JQ060382
Moolgarda seheli	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	213	-	-	JQ060889	JQ060632	JQ060383
Moolgarda seheli	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	214	-	-	JQ060890	JQ060633	JQ060384
Moolgarda seheli	SW Lagoon, New Caledonia	08 Apr. 2007	P. Borsa	204	-	-	JQ060751	JQ060506	JQ060249
Moolgarda seheli	Aurora Province, Philippines	01 July 2008	B.W. Jamandre	205	-	-	JQ060752	JQ060507	JQ060250
Moolgarda seheli	Taisi, Taiwan	15 June 2008	KN. Shen	206	NMMBP10777	-	IQ060753	IQ060508	JQ060251
Moolgarda seheli	Batanta Island, West Papua	04 Dec. 2007	P. Borsa	207	-	-	JQ060754	JQ060509	JQ060252
Moolgarda seheli	Garapan Lagoon off Oceanside Bar, Saipan, Mariana Island	24 May 2003	K.A. Moots, E. Heemstra, A.C. Bentley, P.C. Heemstra	210	-	KU:KUIT:5647	JQ060755	JQ060510	JQ060253
Moolgarda seheli	Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia, Persian Gulf	NovDec. 2008	Z. Batang, P. Premlal	217	-	-	JQ060756	JQ060511	JQ060254
Moolgarda seheli	Ternay Bay, Seychelles	14 May 2005	P.C. Heemstra, E. Heemstra, M.J. Smale, A.C. Bentley, <i>et, al.</i>	220	SAIAB-77896	-	JQ060758	JQ060513	JQ060256
Moolgarda seheli	Stone Town, Zanzibar, Tanzania	28 May 2010	JD. Durand	221a	-	-	JQ060891	JQ060634	JQ060385
Moolgarda seheli	Noumea, New Caledonia	08 Mar. 2007	P. Borsa	225	MNHN 2009-0815	-	JQ060759	JQ060514	JQ060257
Moolgarda seheli	Noumea, New Caledonia	25 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	226	MNHN 2009-0810	-	JQ060760	JQ060515	JQ060258
Moolgarda seheli	Mackay harbour boat ramp, Queensland, Australia	25 June 1997	CRIMP	232	CSIRO-H4596-01	-	JQ060761	EF609494	JQ060259
Moolgarda seheli	South Goulburn Island, NT, Australia	30 Nov. 2004	R. Williams	234	NTM S.16014-002	-	JQ060762	JQ060516	JQ060260
Moolgarda seheli	Fish River, Daly River area, NT, Australia	06 Sep. 2001	R. Williams	235	NTM S.15362-001	-	JQ060763	JQ060517	JQ060261
Moolgarda seheli	Port Launay (SE beach), Seychelles	19 May 2005	P.C. Heemstra, E. Heemstra, M.J. Smale, A.C. Bentley, <i>et. al.</i>	218	SAIAB-77947	-	JQ060757	JQ060512	JQ060255
Moolgarda sp.	La Réunion	Oct. 2008	P. Durville, N. Hubert	212	MNHN 2011-0097	-	JQ060765	JQ060518	JQ060262
Moolgarda sp.	Ra's al-Hadd, Oman	21 Mar. 2009	P. Bearez	215	MNHN ICOS- 00266	-	JQ060768	JQ060522	JQ060266
Moolgarda sp.	Negombo lagoon, Sri Lanka	2007	H. Ashanti	221	-	-	JQ060766	JQ060519	JQ060263
Moolgarda sp.	La Réunion	Oct. 2008	P. Durville, N. Hubert	222	MNHN 2011-0096	-	JQ060767	JQ060520	JQ060264
Mugil bananensis	Saloum estuary, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio, J. Raffray, L. Tito	286	MNHN 2009-0733	-	JQ060769	JQ060523	JQ060267
Mugil bananensis	Ebrie lagoon, Ivory Coast	Aug. 2007	B. Gourene	289	-	-	JQ060770	JQ060524	JQ060268
Mugil capurrii	St Louis, Senegal estuary, Sénégal	26 Jan. 2008	JD. Durand	282		-	HM143894	JQ060525	JQ060269
Mugil capurrii	Dakhla, Western Sahara	June 2006	H. Masski	283	-	-	HM143895	IO060526	IO060270

Mugil capurrii	Lomé, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	285	MNHN 2009-0795	-	HM143896	JQ060527	JQ060271
Mugil cephalus	Martigues, France	02 Aug. 2007	G. Lepra	321	-	-	JQ060817	JQ060533	JQ060277
Mugil cephalus	Goulette, Tunisia	22 Dec. 2005	H. Blel	319	-	-	JQ060816	JQ060532	JQ060276
Mugil cephalus	Merja Zerga, Morocco	09 Feb. 2006	H. Nouiri	314	-	-	JQ060815	JQ060529	JQ060273
Mugil cephalus	Agadir, Morocco	-	A. Pariselle	322	-	-	JQ060818	JQ060534	JQ060278
Mugil cephalus	Khnifiss, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	325c	-	-	JQ060819	JQ060536	JQ060280
Mugil cephalus	Coast of Iquique, Chili	23 May 2005	M. Nirchio	375	UDOV-290	-	JQ060790	JQ060563	JQ060311
Mugil cephalus	Coast of Iquique, Chili	23 May 2005	M. Nirchio	376	UDOV-291	-	JQ060791	JQ060564	JQ060312
Mugil cephalus	Charleston, South Carolina, USA	09 May 2005	B. Roumillat	347	-	-	JQ060787	HQ149710	JQ060294
Mugil cephalus	Indian River, Florida, USA	01 June 2005	R. Paperno	344	-	-	JQ060786	HQ149711	JQ060293
Mugil cephalus	Laguna madre, Mexico	June 2006	F. J. Garciade Leon	373	-	-	JQ060788	JQ060562	JQ060310
Mugil cephalus	Kaoping estuary, Taiwan	28 Dec. 2007	KN. Shen	329	NMMBP11545	-	JQ060789	JQ060540	JQ060284
Mugil cephalus	Hawaii	June-Oct. 2008	T. Ogawa	350	-	-	JQ060820	JQ060549	JQ060296
Mugil cephalus	Hawaii	June-Oct. 2008	T. Ogawa	351	-	-	JQ060821	JQ060550	JQ060297
Mugil cephalus	Hawaii	Oct. 2008	M.T. Craig	354b	-	-	JQ060822	JQ060551	JQ060298
Mugil cephalus	Great Fish river estuary, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	341	-	-	JQ060807	JQ060544	JQ060288
Mugil cephalus	Great Fish river estuary, South Africa	12 May 2005	A.K. Whitfield, JD. Durand	342	-	-	JQ060810	JQ060545	JQ060289
Mugil cephalus	St Lucia, South Africa	May, Nov. 2006	A.K. Whitfield	343	-	-	JQ060808	JQ060546	JQ060290
Mugil cephalus	St Lucia, South Africa	May, Nov. 2006	A.K. Whitfield	343b	-	-	JQ060809	JQ060547	JQ060291
Mugil cephalus	St Lucia, South Africa	May, Nov. 2006	A.K. Whitfield	343c	-	-	JQ060811	JQ060548	JQ060292
Mugil cephalus	SW Lagoon, New Caledonia	25 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	388	-	-	JQ060805	JQ060572	JQ060321
Mugil cephalus	Pateu Dam, New Zeland	03 Nov. 2006	J. Boubee	361	-	-	JQ060804	JQ060554	JQ060301
Mugil cephalus	Pateu Dam, New Zeland	03 Nov. 2006	J. Boubee	362	-	-	JQ060806	JQ060555	JQ060302
Mugil cephalus	La Paz, Mexico	23 June 2006	F.J. Garcia de Leon	371	-	-	JQ060775	HQ149715	JQ060307
Mugil cephalus	Paredon, Chiapas, Mexico	Apr. 2010	P. Diaz Jaimes	371b	-	-	JQ060776	JQ060560	JQ060308
Mugil cephalus	Paredon, Chiapas, Mexico	Apr. 2010	P. Diaz Jaimes	371c	-	-	JQ060777	JQ060561	JQ060309
Mugil cephalus	Lima, Peru	21-24 June 2005	S. Sirvas	349	-	-	JQ060774	HQ149714	JQ060295
Mugil cephalus	Waikato river, New Zeland	28 June 1905	J. Boubee	362b	-	-	JQ060812	JQ060556	JQ060303
Mugil cephalus	Swansea, Sydney, Australia	17 Nov. 2005	K. Rowling	367	-	-	JQ060813	JQ060558	JQ060305
Mugil cephalus	Port Hacking, Point Danger, Sydney, Australia	July 1997	B. Pease et al.	377	AMS-I-43204-082	-	JQ060814	JQ060565	JQ060313
Mugil cephalus	Kaoping estuary, Taiwan	29 Dec. 2007	KN. Shen	328	NMMBP11549	-	JQ060801	JQ060539	JQ060283
Mugil cephalus	Taisi, Taiwan	15 June 2008	KN. Shen	357	NMMBP10790	-	JQ060802	JQ060552	JQ060299
Mugil cephalus	Pearl River, China	May 2005	XP. Nie	358	-	-	JQ060803	JQ060553	JQ060300
Mugil cephalus	Atake river, Kagoshima Prefecture, Kyushu, Japan	04 July 2007	S. Chiba	365	NSMT-P77767	-	JQ060800	JQ060557	JQ060304
Mugil cephalus	Khnifiss, Morocco	Mar. 2010	A. Pariselle	325b			JQ060795	JQ060535	JQ060279
Mugil cephalus	Saloum estuary, Senegal	Dec. 2005	K. Diop	308	-	-	JQ060792	JQ060528	JQ060272
Mugil cephalus	Hann Bay, Dakar, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	JD. Durand	326	MNHN 2009-734	-	JQ060796	JQ060537	JQ060281

Mugil cephalus	Hann Bay, Dakar, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	JD. Durand	327	SAIAB-83187	-	JQ060797	JQ060538	JQ060282
Mugil cephalus	Boran Dabon, Forecariah estuary, Guinea	20 Feb. 2006	S.B. Camara	337	-	-	JQ060798	JQ060543	JQ060287
Mugil cephalus	Lomé, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	333	-	-	JQ060799	JQ060542	JQ060286
Mugil cephalus	Nokoue Lake, Benin	12 Apr. 2007	P. Laleye	315	-	-	JQ060793	JQ060530	JQ060274
Mugil cephalus	Cunene River, Angola	-	S. Lamberth	316	-	-	JQ060794	JQ060531	JQ060275
Mugil cephalus	Peel Harvey estuary, Australia	05 Jan. 2006	K. Smith	368	-	-	JQ060785	JQ060559	JQ060306
Mugil cephalus	Kaoping estuary, Taiwan	29 Dec. 2007	KN. Shen	329b	NMMBP11553	-	JQ060778	JQ060541	JQ060285
Mugil cephalus	Koné, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	380	MNHN 2009-0819	-	JQ060779	JQ060566	JQ060314
Mugil cephalus	Noumea, New Caledonia	08 Apr. 2007	P. Borsa	383	MNHN 2009-0820	-	JQ072903	JQ060568	JQ060316
Mugil cephalus	Koné, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	384	-	-	JQ060781	JQ060569	JQ060317
Mugil cephalus	Koné, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	385	-	-	JQ060782	JQ072904	JQ060318
Mugil cephalus	Koné, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	386	-	-	JQ060783	JQ060570	JQ060319
Mugil cephalus	Koné, New Caledonia	11 Aug. 2007	P. Borsa	387	-	-	JQ060784	JQ060571	JQ060320
Mugil cephalus	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	381	-	-	JQ060780	JQ060567	JQ060315
Mugil curema	Arroyo Zanja, Uruguay	21 Feb. 2007	S. Kullander	417	NRM-56494	-	JQ060854	JQ060605	JQ060354
Mugil curema	Arroyo Zanja, Uruguay	21 Feb. 2007	S. Kullander	418	NRM-56495	-	JQ060855	JQ060606	JQ060355
Mugil curema	Upper Cooper River, USA	14 Oct. 2005	B. Roumillat	404	-	-	JQ060827	JQ060586	JQ060335
Mugil curema	Close to Michaels Rock , Guanaja Island,	15 July 2008	W.A. Matamoros	405	USMI field no.	-	JQ060823	JQ060587	JQ060336
	Honduras	11 2004		407	WAM08-118		1000000	100/0500	100/0000
Mugil curema	Laguna Madre, Mexico	July 2006	F.J. Garcia de Leon	407	-	-	JQ060829	JQ060589	JQ060338
Mugil curema	Itapissuma, Brazil	03 Dec. 2004	R. Lessa	408	-	-	JQ060828	JQ060590	JQ060339
Mugil curema	Guadeloupe	30 June 1905	M. Louis	411	-	-	JQ060825	JQ060591	JQ060340
Mugil curema	La Restinga, Margarita Island, Venezuela	25 Jan. 2005	M. Nirchio	414	UDOV-201 (b)	-	JQ060824	JQ060593	JQ060342
Mugil curema	Saloum estuary, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio	390	MNHN 2009-0732	-	JQ060843	JQ060575	JQ060324
Mugil curema	Nokoue, Lake, Benin	12 Apr. 2007	P. Laleye	393	-	-	JQ060846	JQ060578	JQ060327
Mugil curema	Nokoue, Lake, Benin	12 Apr. 2007	P. Laleye	394	-	-	JQ060849	JQ060579	JQ060328
Mugil curema	Lomé, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	396	-	-	JQ060847	JQ060580	JQ060329
Mugil curema	Lomé, Togo	19 June 2007	JF. Trape	397	-	-	JQ060848	JQ060581	JQ060330
Mugil curema	Saloum estuary, Senegal	06 Mar. 2009	O. Sadio	391	SAIAB-83183	-	JQ060844	JQ060576	JQ060325
Mugil curema	Foundiougne, Saloum estuary, Senegal	Dec. 2005	O. Diouf	392	-	-	JQ060845	JQ060577	JQ060326
Mugil curema	La Restinga, Margarita Island, Venezuela	06 Apr. 2004	M. Nirchio	399	UDOV-69 (c)	-	JQ060842	JQ060582	JQ060331
Mugil curema	La Restinga, Margarita Island, Venezuela	06 Apr. 2004	M. Nirchio	400	UDOV-70 (c)	-	JQ060839	JQ060583	JQ060332
Mugil curema	Boca del Rio, Margarita Island, Venezuela	12 Apr. 2004	M. Nirchio	401	UDOV-73 (c)	-	JQ060840	JQ060584	JQ060333
Mugil curema	Boca del Rio, Margarita Island, Venezuela	10 Apr. 2004	M. Nirchio	403	UDOV-71 (c)	-	JQ060841	JQ060585	JQ060334
Mugil curema	La Paz, Mexico	23 June 2006	F.J. Garcia de Leon	406	-	-	JQ060830	JQ060588	JQ060337
Mugil curema	Barra San José, Chapas, Mexico	Apr. 2010	N. Laurrabaquio Alvarado	422	-	-	JQ060834	JQ060596	JQ060345
Mugil curema	Barra de Santiago, El Salvador	25 Feb. 2006	S. Kullander	415	NRM-53693	-	JQ060856	JQ060604	JQ060353
Mugil curema	Paredon, Chapas, Mexico	09 Apr. 2010	N. Laurrabaquio Alvarado	425	-	-	JQ060837	JQ060599	JQ060348
Mugil curema	Mouth of Cerique estuary, El Salvador	20 June 2008	A.C. Bentley, K. Lara	432	KU:KUI:40336	KU:KUIT:8547	JQ060852	JQ060603	JQ060352
Mugil curema	Chorreras Bay, Panama, Pacific coast	05 Dec. 1999	M. Nirchio	293	UDOV-186 (d)	-	JQ060832	JQ060573	JQ060322
Mugil curema	Chorreras Bay, Panama, Pacific coast	05 Dec. 1999	M. Nirchio	294	UDOV-187 (d)	-	JQ060833	JQ060574	JQ060323
Mugil curema	Barra San José, Chapas, Mexico	08 Apr. 2010	N. Laurrabaquio Alvarado	423	-	-	JQ060835	JQ060597	JQ060346

Mugil curema	Barra San José, Chapas, Mexico	08 Apr. 2010	N. Laurrabaquio Alvarado	424	-	-	JQ060836	JQ060598	JQ060347
Mugil curema	North Peru	2005	S. Sirvas	413	-	-	JQ060831	JQ060592	JQ060341
Mugil curema	Salango, Ecuador	11 Nov. 2008	P. Béarez	420	-	-	JQ060838	JQ060595	JQ060344
Mugil curema	Sand flats at mouth of Cerique Estuary, El Salvador	16 June 2008	A.C. Bentley, K. Lara	426	KU:KUI:40290	KU:KUIT:8483	JQ060850	JQ060600	JQ060349
Mugil curema	St. Johns college shore, Belize City, Belize	08 July 1999	Belize Workshop participants	419	-	KU:KUIT:5847	JQ060826	JQ060594	JQ060343
Mugil curema	Sand flats at mouth of Cerique Estuary, El Salvador	16 June 2008	A.C. Bentley, K. Lara	429	KU:KUI:40290	KU:KUIT:8510	JQ060851	JQ060601	JQ060350
Mugil curema	Mangrove upstream Cerique estuary, El Salvador	16 June 2008	A.C. Bentley, K. Lara	430	-	KU:KUIT:8527	JQ060853	JQ060602	JQ060351
Mugil hospes	West side of Turneffe Caye, deep hole, Belize	08 July 1999	Belize Workshop participants	306	-	KU:KUIT:5833	JQ060857	JQ060607	JQ060356
Mugil incilis	Kourou, French Guyana	12 Jan. 2007	R. Vigouroux	302	-	-	JQ060858	JQ060608	JQ060357
Mugil incilis	Kourou, French Guyana	12 Jan. 2007	R. Vigouroux	299	-	-	JQ060859	JQ060609	JQ060358
Mugil liza	Arroyo Zanja, Uruguay	21 Feb. 2007	S. Kullander	378	NRM-56496	-	JQ060862	JQ060610	JQ060361
Mugil liza	Kourou, French Guyana	13 Jan. 2007	R. Vigouroux	295	-	-	JQ060860	HQ149712	JQ060359
Mugil liza	La Restiga, Margarita Island, Venezuela	26 June 2004	M. Nirchio	298	UDOV-89	-	JQ060861	HQ149713	JQ060360
Mugil liza	Laguna del Diaro, Uruguay	21 Feb. 2007	S. Kullander	379	NRM-55970	-	JQ060863	JQ060611	JQ060362
Mugil rubrioculus	Boca del Rio, Margarita Island, Venezuela	01 June 2004	M. Nirchio	305	UDOV-88	-	JQ060864	JQ060612	JQ060363
Mugil rubrioculus	Chorreras Bay, Pacific coast of Panama	05 Dec. 1999	M. Nirchio	305b	UDOV-190	-	JQ060865	JQ060613	JQ060364
Mugil trichodon	Boca del Rio, Margarita Island, Venezuela	10 Apr. 2004	M. Nirchio	291	UDOV-72	-	JQ060866	JQ060614	JQ060365
Myxus capensis	East Kleinemonde estuary, South Africa	21 Sep. 2007	A.K. Whitfield	019	-	-	JQ060867	JQ060615	JQ060366
Myxus elongatus	unknown location, Australia	29 July 2003	Sydney Wholesale Fish Market	020	NMV A 25183-002	-	JQ060868	JQ060616	JQ060367
Neomyxus leuciscus	Saipan, Mariana Islands	24 May 2003	K.A. Moots, E. Heemstra, A.C. Bentley, P.C. Heemstra	003	SAIAB-86170	KUI:KUIT:5673	JQ060869	JQ060617	JQ060368
Neomyxus leuciscus	Arutua atoll, Tuamotu	Nov. 2009	A. Stein	00 3 b	MNHN 2009-1681	-	JQ060870	JQ060618	JQ060369
Oedalechilus labeo	Goulette, Tunisia	Apr. 2003	H. Blel	181	-	-	JQ060871	JQ060619	JQ060370
Oedalechilus labiosus	Orchid Island, Taiwan	01 Jan. 2009	KN. Shen	243	NMMBP10775	-	JQ060872	JQ060620	JQ060371
Paramugil parmatus	Segara Amahan lagoon, Java, Indonesia	July 2008	S. Kleinertz, SPICE II project	118	-	-	JQ060873	JQ060621	JQ060372
Rhinomugil corsula	Mandalay fish market, Myanmar	26 Mar. 2008	S. Kullander, TY. Liao	016	NRM 59032	-	JQ060874	JQ060622	JQ060373
Rhinomugil nasutus	Near Crocodile Creek, Daly river, NT, Australia	13 June 2007	H. Larson	015	NTM S.16483-002	-	JQ060875	JQ060623	JQ060374
Sicamugil cascasia	Dhaka, Bangladesh	13 Dec. 2008	R.L. Mayden et al.	013	FNHM 172496	-	JQ060876	JQ060624	JQ060375
Sicamugil hamiltonii	Myoma market, Myanmar	18 Mar. 2008	F. Fang, Thein Win	014	NRM 58582	-	JQ060877	JQ060625	JQ060376
Trachystoma petardi	Williams River, Queensland, Australia	16 Feb. 2004	M. Charlton	017	AMS I-43255-002	-	JQ060878	JQ060626	JQ060377
Valamugil buchanani	New Caledonia	08 Apr. 2007	P. Borsa	245	MNHN 2009-0816	-	JQ060879	JQ060627	JQ060378
Valamugil buchanani	Umgazana, South Africa	12 May 2006	DIFS	254	SAIAB-78293	-	JQ060880	JQ060628	JQ060379
Valamugil buchanani	Kenya	JulNov. 2008	D. Nyingi	248	-	-	JQ060894	JQ060641	JQ060392
Valamugil buchanani	Kenya	JulNov. 2008	D. Nyingi	252	-	-	JQ060893	JQ060642	JQ060393
Valamugil robustus	Nkadusweni estuary, South Africa	09 May 2006	DIFS	259	SAIAB-78094	-	JQ060881	JQ060629	JQ060380
Valamugil robustus	Poenskop , South Africa	10 May 2006	DIFS	260	SAIAB-78137	-	JQ060882	JQ060630	JQ060381
Valamugil robustus	Réunion Island	Oct. 2008	P. Durville, N. Hubert	255	MNHN 2011-0095	-	JQ060764	JQ060521	JQ060265
Valamugil sp.	Aurora Province, Philippines	01 July 2008	B.W. Jamandre	268	-	-	JQ060883	JQ060639	JQ060390

Valamugil sp.	Negombo lagoon, Sri Lanka	2007	H. Ashanti	271	-	-	JQ060884	JQ060640	JQ060391
Valamugil sp.	Nha Trang City, Khanh Hoa Province,	25 Feb. 2009	D. Vo	229	-	-	JQ060892	JQ060635	JQ060386
	Viet Nam								
Valamugil sp.	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	238	(e)	-	JQ060885	JQ060636	JQ060387
Valamugil sp.	Viti Levu, Fiji	19 Sep. 2008	P. Borsa	239	(e)	-	JQ060886	JQ060637	JQ060388
Valamugil sp.	Pingdon, Taiwan	15 Aug. 2004	PF. Lee	241	ASIZP0064762	-	JQ060887	JQ060638	JQ060389

AMS	Australian Museum, Sydney
ASIZP	Museum of Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, Taipei
CRIMP	Centre for Research into Introduced Marine Pests, Townsville
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Hobart
DIFS	Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science, Rhodes University, Grahamstown
FNHM	Florida Natural History Museum, St Louis
KU	Natural History Museum & Biodiversity Research Center, Lawrence
MNHN	Museum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris
NMMBP	National Museum of Marine Biology, Keelung
NMNS	National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo
NMV	Museum Victoria, Melbourne
NRM	Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm
NTM	Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, Darwin
SAIAB	South African Institute of Aquatic Biology, Grahamstown
STRI	Smithsonian Tropical Institute, Panama
UABC	Universidad Autonoma de Baja California,
	Tijuana
UDOV	Universidad de Oriente Venezuela, Porlamar
USMI	University of Southern Mississippi Ichthyology Collection, Hattiesburg
(a)	16S rRNA and Cyth gene sequences identical to those of MNHN 2009-0806
(c)	karyotype: $2n = 24$ chromosomes
(b)	karyotype: $2n = 28$ chromosomes
(d)	karyotype: $2n = 48$ chromosomes
(e)	16S rRNA and Cyth gene sequences identical to those of MNHN 2009-0809

Table 2

Primers used for the PCR amplification and sequencing of mitochondrial *16SrRNA*, *COI*, and *gt*b gene fragments in Mugilidae. *T*: annealing temperature

Gene,	Sequence	Т	Reference
Primer name			
<i>16S</i>			
16SARL	5'-CGCCTGTTTATCAAAAACAT-3'	50°C	Palumbi et al. (1991)
16SBRH	5'-CCGGTCTGAACTCAGATCACGT-3'	50°C	Palumbi et al. (1991)
<i>16S145-</i> F	5'-GTACCGCAAGGGAACGCTGA-3'	50°C	present study
<i>16S1100-</i> R	5'-TAGGGTCTTCTCGTCTTATG-3'	50°C	present study
COI			
FishF1	5'-TCAACCAACCACAAAGACATTGGCAC-3'	52°C	Ward et al. (2005)
COI649-F	5'-ACATCCTTCTTYGACCCWGC-3'	52°C	present study
FishR1	5'-TAGACTTCTGGGTGGCCAAAGAATCA-3'	52°C	Ward et al. (2005)
FishR2	5'-ACTTCAGGGTGACCGAAGAATCAGAA-3'	52°C	Ward et al. (2005)
FishR4	5'-CTGTGAACATGTGATGGGCTC-3'	52°C	present study
Fish-R5	5'-ACGTAGTGGAAATGGGCTAC-3'	52°C	present study
FishSer-R5	5'-GTTCGACTCCTCCCTTTCTCG-3'	52°C	present study
4 .			
CYUD E: L. D. E		5000	
FishcytB-F	5'-ACCACCGIIGIIAIICAACIACAAGAAC-3'	52°C	Sevilla et al. (2007)
GluMug 1F	5'-GGCTTGAAAAACCACCGTTG-3'	52°C	present study
Cytob610-F	5'-GAAACAGGCTCAAAYAAYCC-3'	52°C	present study
MixCytob937-2R	5'-GGKCGGAATGTYAGGCTTCG-3'	52°C	present study
TruccytB-R	5'-CCGACTTCCGGATTACAAGACCG-3'	52°C	Sevilla et al. (2007)

Table 3

Results of Shimodaira and Hasegawa's (1999) S-H tests of alternative phylogenetic hypotheses, where each genus in turn is assumed to be monophyletic. Log (ln)-likelihood difference to the best ML tree (Δ) and associated probability (*P*; from 10,000 pseudo-samples generated by bootstrap)

Genus	Δ	Р
Sicamugil	0.3	0.985
Agonostomus	4.6	0.944
Rhinomugil	108.5	0.008
Valamugil	145.5	< 0.001
Myxus	191.0	< 0.0001
Oedalechilus	252.9	< 0.0001
Liza	284.7	< 0.0001
Moolgarda	550.4	< 0.0001

Captions to Figures

Fig. 1. Previous and current hypotheses of the phylogenetic relationships among Mugilidae genera based on morpho-anatomy (A-E) and mitochondrial DNA sequences (F). (A) Tree in Schultz (1946). (B) Phylogeny of genera according to Senou (1988). (C) Tree in Harrison and Howes (1991). (D) Tree reconstructed after Thomson (1997). (E) Phylogeny of Indo-Pacific Mugilidae genera according to Ghasemzadeh (1998). (F) Present study; asterisks flag genera which were found to be polyphyletic or paraphyletic. Grey brackets on the right of the figure indicate the 7 major clades uncovered by the phylogenetic analysis.

Fig. 2. Phylogenetic tree depicting relationships among major lineages within the Mugilidae. Relationships were inferred using partitioned maximum-likelihood (ML) analysis of 3,777 aligned nucleotides from three mitochondrial gene loci based on data Matrix 1 (complete sequences). ML score of the tree is -53312.03. Branch lengths are proportional to the number of substitutions under the (GTR+G+I) model. Numbers on the branches are ML bootstrap values, with those below 50% not shown. Asterisks indicate nodes with *a posteriori* probability from partitioned Bayesian analysis ≥ 0.95 . Genus and species names follow Eschmeyer and Fricke (2011). When species identification was uncertain, an unknown species or "sp." was assigned to the recognized genus for the taxon. *Scale bar*: 0.2 inferred nucleotide substitution/site under the (GTR+G+I) model.

Fig. 3. Phylogenetic tree depicting relationships among 55 currently-recognized Mugilidae species (Eschmeyer and Fricke, 2011). Relationships were inferred using partitioned maximum-likelihood (ML) analysis of 3,885 aligned nucleotides from three mitochondrial gene loci based on data Matrix 2 (or mixed sequence data matrix). ln(L) score of the tree was -70948.2. Branch length is proportional to the number of substitutions under the (GTR+G+I) model. Numbers on the branches are ML bootstrap values (in %, from 1000 replicates), with those below 50% not shown. Asterisks indicate nodes with *a posteriori* probability from partitioned Bayesian analysis of \geq 0.95. When species identification was uncertain, an unknown species or "sp." was assigned to the recognized genus for the taxon. Relationships for the species from the *Mugil curema* complex and the *Mugil cephalus* complex are shown in Fig. 4A and B, and those for the genera *Chelon*, *Liza* and *Paramugil*, as well as *Moolgarda* and *Valamugil*, are shown in Fig. 5A and B respectively. The branch leading to the most derived sequence in each of these complexes reaches the vertical side at the right of the triangle. *Scale bar*: 0.1 inferred nucleotide substitution/site under (GTR+G+I) model. *NC*: New Caledonia. *Darker-grey background*: genus name in need of revision; *lighter grey*: genus monophyletic.

Fig. 4. Detail of two subclades from the phylogenetic tree of the Mugilidae presented in Fig. 3. (A) *Mugil cephalus* complex; *L1*, *L2* and *L3* are, respectively, lineages 1, 2 and 3 of Shen et al. (2011). (B) *Mugil curema* complex, including *M. incilis*; *T2* is Type 2 of Fraga et al. (2007). *Scale bar*: number of inferred nucleotide substitutions/site under (GTR+G+I) model. *NC*: New Caledonia.

Fig. 5. Detail of the speciose branches from the phylogenetic tree of the Mugilidae, as presented in Fig. 3. (A) Genera *Chelon, Liza* and *Paramugil*. (B) Genera *Crenimugil, Moolgarda* and *Valamugil. NC*: New Caledonia.















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