

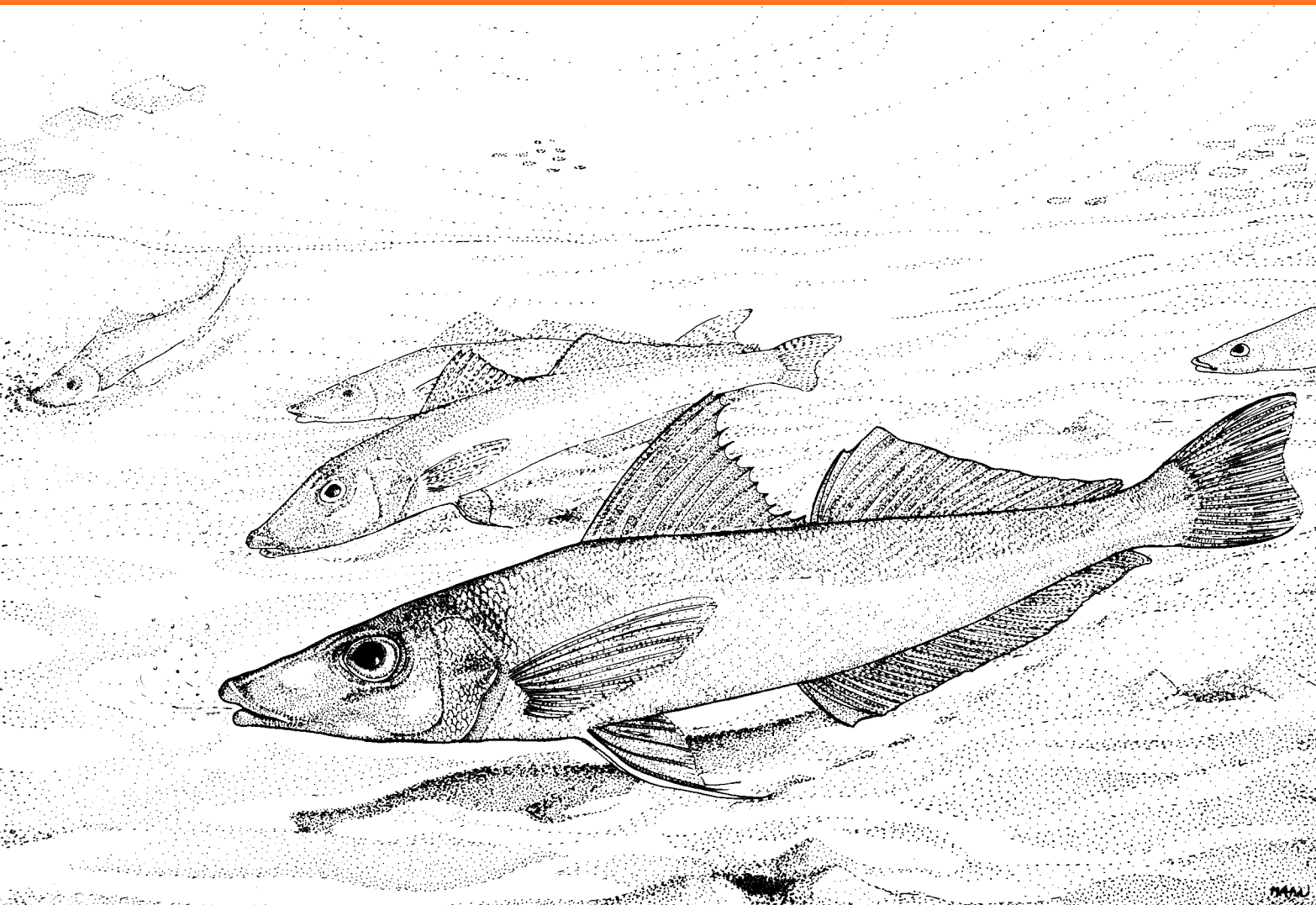


# FAO SPECIES CATALOGUE

## VOL. 14 SILLAGINID FISHES OF THE WORLD

(Family Sillaginidae)

An Annotated and Illustrated Catalogue of the Sillago, Smelt or Indo-Pacific Whiting Species Known to Date



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**An Annotated and Illustrated Catalogue  
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**Known to Date**

by

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**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

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## PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document was prepared under the FAO Fisheries Department Regular Programme in the Marine Resources Service of the Fishery Resources and Environment Division. It is the fourteenth worldwide species catalogue in the FAO Fisheries Synopsis series.

The author is the foremost specialist in sillaginid taxonomy; his early recognition of the importance of the swimbladder morphology assisted other workers to review the sillaginids of their region. He has published several papers on sillaginids, including a revision of the family and papers describing nine new species. His work on sillaginids is based on an extensive review of the literature, the examination of type and other preserved specimens from the major museum of the world, and the examination of fresh material from many locations throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

The illustrations were either drawn by the author or were redrawn (and modified) at FAO from the literature or from the author's sketches under the supervision of the editors.

English FAO fish names were established in consultation with J.S. Nelson, University of Alberta, Edmonton (Chairman, committee on Common Names of Fishes, American Fisheries Society and American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists). Official French names were created in consultation with J.-C. Quero, Institut Français pour l'Exploitation de la Mer, l'Houmeau and T. DoChi, FAO. Spanish FAO names were adapted from the literature or translated from the English FAO names with help of D. Die, FAO.

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### ABSTRACT

This is the fourteenth issue in the FAO series of world-wide annotated and illustrated catalogues of the groups of marine organisms that enter marine fisheries. The present volume on the family Sillaginidae includes 31 species in 3 genera and 3 subgenera. Three species, formerly recognized as subspecies, are herein recognized as distinct species, one of them for the first time. This volume includes an introductory section with general remarks on habitat, biology, fisheries, systematics, zoogeography and problems of identification, a glossary of technical terms, illustrated keys to genera and species, including regional keys, detailed accounts of species, and a table of species by major fishing area. Species accounts include illustrations, scientific and vernacular names, references to scientific names, information on habitat, biology and fisheries, and a distribution map. The work is fully indexed and there is an extensive reference to pertinent literature.

### Distribution

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## Acknowledgements

I owe a great debt to Dr Walter Fischer (FAO, Rome) in initiating this catalogue series which is now recognised as one of the most important programmes for the publication of worldwide taxonomic revisions of marine organisms. My debt also includes that of his long personal encouragement, friendship, advice and concern during a trying period in the compilation of this catalogue. When my sight was impaired Walter was particularly supportive. For this, and innumerable other occasions whilst engaged in the Expert Consultants Programme, Cochin, India, I am greatly appreciative. I wish Walter Fischer a happy retirement.

To Dr Marie-Louise Bauchot of the Museum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris my sincere thanks for her long encouragement and assistance with the study of the type species of the families Sillaginidae and Haemulidae under her care. I wish her a happy and fruitful retirement. The studies undertaken by Dr Bauchot and co-workers established a secure systematic foundation for catalogues of this kind. It should be recognised that a large number of colleagues assisted in the preparation of the revision of the Sillaginidae by McKay (1985); their assistance, although acknowledged in that work, is again appreciated in providing the basis for this catalogue. Help with the fishery statistics was kindly provided by Dr. P. Kailola. Finally, the corrections to the manuscript, the layout of the text and illustrations were undertaken by FAO staff including K.E. Carpenter, C. Sommer and P. Lastrico.