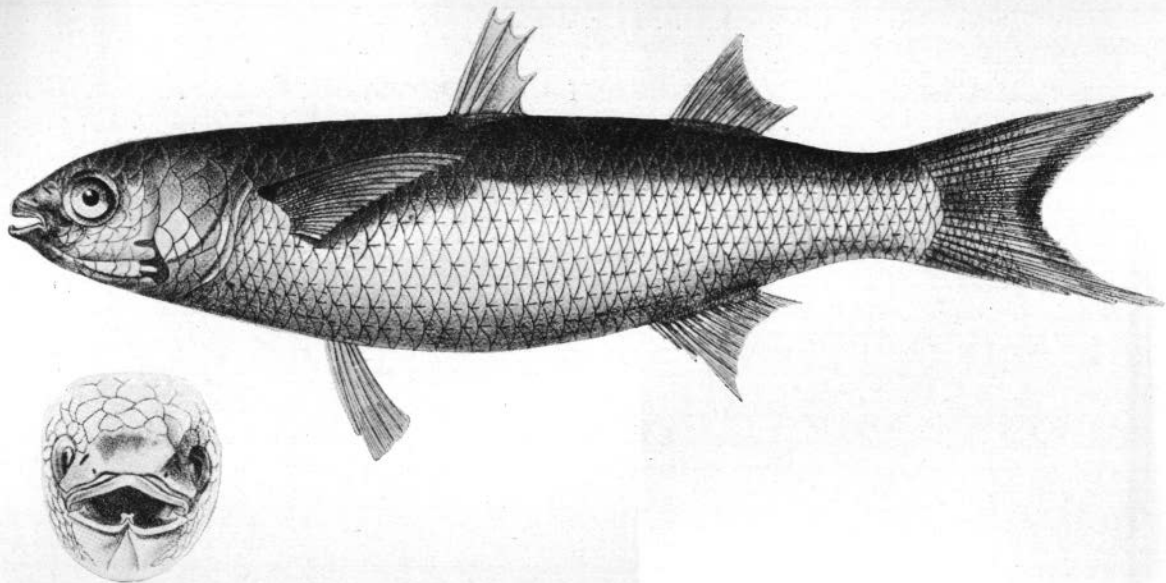


TELEOSTEI
Acanthopterygii-Mugilidæ

Mugil seheli
(FORSK.)



DIAGNOSIS — Length of head $4 \frac{2}{3}$ to 5 ($6 \frac{1}{5}$), of caudal $5 \frac{1}{2}$, height of body $4 \frac{2}{3}$ to $5 \frac{1}{2}$ in total length.

Eyes without adipose lids, diameter $3 \frac{1}{2}$ to 4 in the length of the head, $\frac{1}{2}$ a diameter from end of snout, and $1 \frac{1}{2}$ to 2 diameters apart. The width of the head equals its length behind the first third of the eye, its height equals its length excluding the snout.

Preorbital scarcely emarginate, denticulated at its extremity: the end of the maxilla visible, sometimes concealed; upper lip forms the end of the snout.

Fins. The first dorsal commences midway between the snout and the base of the caudal fin, it is not quite so high as the second, which last is a little lower than the anal. Pectoral nearly as long as the head. Anal commences slightly before the second dorsal. Caudal emarginate.

B. VI, D. $4 \frac{1}{8}$, P. 15, V $\frac{1}{5}$, A $\frac{3}{9}$, C. 16, L. 1. 42-43, L tr 13-14.

Scales 21 or 22 between the snout, and the base of the first dorsal fin, the twelfth and twenty fourth scales of the lateral line correspond to the origin of the first and second dorsal fins, soft dorsal and anal scaly. A long axillary scale. Free portion of the tail in its least depth equals $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the head.

Colours. Silvery with a bluish-green tinge along the head and back; a black mark in the axilla. Ventral white.

HABITAT — From the Eastern Mediterranean through the Red Sea through those of India to the Malay Archipelago. Day (Fishes of India) gives it as attaining at least of a foot in length. Examples of this size are extremely rare in the Eastern Mediterranean where the bulk of the mature individuals are 10-15 c. m. long.

SPAWNING PERIOD. Ripe individuals are met with in the Eastern Mediterranean in January and February.

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