

Catfish: Ecology and Characteristics

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Catfish are a differing bunch of ray-finned angle. Named for their unmistakable barbels, which take after a cat's bristles, catfish run in estimate and behavior from the three biggest species lively, the Mekong monster catfish from Southeast Asia, the wels catfish of Eurasia, and the piraiba of South America, to detritivores (species that eat dead fabric on the foot), and indeed to a modest parasitic species commonly called the Candiru, *Vandellia cirrhosa*. Not one or the other the armour-plated sorts nor the bare sorts have scales. In spite of their title, not all catfish have noticeable barbels or "bristles". Individuals of the Siluriformes arrange are characterized by highlights of the cranium and swimbladder. Catfish are of impressive commercial significance; numerous of the bigger species are cultivated or angled for nourishment. Numerous of the littler species, especially the sort *Corydoras*, are vital within the aquarium side interest. Numerous catfish are nocturnal.

Ecology

Conveyance and habitat Extant catfish species live inland or in coastal waters of each landmass but Antarctica. Catfish have occupied all landmasses at one time or another. They are most differing in tropical South America, Asia, and Africa, with one family local to North America and one family in Europe. More than half of all catfish species live within the Americas. They are the as it were ostariophysans that have entered freshwater living spaces in Madagascar, Australia, and Modern Guinea. They are found in new water situations, in spite of the fact that most occupy shallow, running water. Agents of at slightest eight families are hypogean (live underground) with three families that are too troglobitic. One such species is *Phreatobius cisternarum*, known to live underground in phreatic habitats. Various species from the families *Ariidae* and *Plotosidae*, and a number of species from among the *Aspredinidae* and *Bagridae*, are found in salt water.

As obtrusive species Representatives of the sort *Ictalurus* have been presented into European waters within the trust of getting a wearing and nourishment asset. Be that as it may, the European stock of American catfishes has not accomplished the measurements of these angle in their local waters, and have as it were expanded the biological weight on local European fauna. Strolling catfish have also been presented within the freshwaters of Florida, with the unquenchable catfish getting to be a major alien bother there. Flathead catfish, *Pylodictis olivaris*, is additionally a North American bug on Atlantic slant drainages. *Pterygoplichthys* species, discharged by aquarium fish keepers, have moreover built up non domesticated populaces in numerous warm waters around the world.

Physical characteristics

Outside life systems of catfish most catfish are foot feeders. In common, they are adversely buoyant, which implies that they will as a rule sink instead of drift due to a decreased gas bladder and a overwhelming, hard head. Catfish have a assortment of body shapes, in spite of the fact that most have a round and hollow body with a smoothed ventrum to permit for benthic feeding. A smoothed head permits for burrowing through the substrate as well as may be serving as a hydrofoil. A few have a mouth that can grow to a expansive measure and contains no incisiform teeth; catfish for the most part nourish through suction or swallowing instead of gnawing and cutting prey. Be that as it may, a few families, outstandingly *Loricariidae* and *Astroblepidae*, have a suckermouth that permits them to secure themselves to objects in fast-moving water. Catfish moreover have a maxilla diminished to a back for barbels; this implies that they are incapable to jut their mouths as other angle such as carp. The channel catfish has four sets of barbels.

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Received August 06, 2021; Accepted August 13, 2021; Published August 20, 2021

Citation: Bokuniewicz H (2021) Catfish: Ecology and Characteristics. J Fisheries Livest Prod 9: e124.

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