

GENUS ANTENNARIUS, COMMERS.

Head very large, high, compressed; cleft of the mouth nearly vertical; jaws and palate armed with cardiform teeth. Body naked, or covered with minute spines. The spinous dorsal fin is composed of three insolated spines, the first modified into a tentacle placed above the snout. The soft dorsal of moderate length, longer than the anal. No cleft behind the fourth gill; only half of the anterior branchial arch provided with lamellæ. No pseudobranchiæ. Stomach very wide; no pyloric appendages on air bladder.

ANTENNARIUS MITCHELLII. SP. NOV.

BY ALEX. MORTON.

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Depth of body $1\frac{2}{3}$ in its length. Mouth subvertical, the width of the lower jaw equal to its length. Eyes high up in the side of the head, three diameters from the tip of the snout. Jaws with two series of curved, cardiform, unequal-sized teeth, those of the lower jaw much the stronger and numerous; vomerine teeth in two patches; palatines with a short biserial band; pterygoids with two large patches; tongue with lateral bands anteriorly. First dorsal spine as long as the second, terminating in a small, bifid tentacle, and having a spiny tentacle ending in a hair-like filament on its anterior edge a short distance above its base; second spine much stronger, terminating in a flap, the whole being densely clothed with spinules; the third short as broad as long, spinulose; the six posterior rays of the soft dorsal connected by membrane, and extending, when laid back, beyond the base of the caudal, the others free; anal commencing beneath the middle of the connected dorsal rays and extending as far backwards, the rays longer than the base of the fin; ventral and pectoral rays simple; caudal rounder, with the rays branched. Skin densely clothed with spines, each of which has a broad base, and terminates in two long slender divergent bristles; all the fins, except a portion of the ventrals and pectorals spinulose. No lateral line.

Pale yellow, the head, back, and pectoral regions densely blotched.

Locality:—East Coast, Tasmania,