

Atherinopsidae - New World silversides

Rough silverside - *Membras martinica* (Valenciennes, 1835)

FEATURES: Translucent greenish, bluish to yellowish dorsally, with dusky cross-hatching or peppering. Pale below. Silver stripe with narrow, dark margin on sides. Anal fin weakly concave. Scale edges scalloped, rough to the touch. **HABITAT:** NY to Mexico. Along coast and in saline bays, estuaries, and inlets. **BIOLOGY:** Rough silverside typically school near the surface. Preyed on by other fishes and birds.

Inland silverside - *Menidia beryllina* (Cope, 1867)

FEATURES: Pale yellowish to olivaceous dorsally; may have stippling or cross-hatching, pale below. Silver stripe on sides. May have reddish tinge during breeding. Swim bladder extends over anal fin. Anal-fin margin concave; 15–18 rays. **HABITAT:** MA to FL, N Gulf of Mexico. In fresh water, inland waterways, and estuaries and along coast in low salinities. **BIOLOGY:** Form large schools. Tolerate varying salinities. Omnivorous. **SIMILAR SPECIES:** Texas silverside, *Menidia clarkhubbsi*, p. 431.

Atlantic silverside - *Menidia menidia* (Linnaeus, 1766)

FEATURES: Translucent greenish to grayish green dorsally. Pale below. May have cross-hatching. Silver stripe with narrow, dark margin on sides. Anal fin long-based, weakly concave with 19–29 rays. **HABITAT:** Gulf of St. Lawrence to FL. Near shore along sandy beaches, inlet mouths, and estuaries. **BIOLOGY:** Atlantic silverside are schooling omnivores. Follow tides. Preyed on by Striped bass and Bluefish.

Tidewater silverside - *Menidia peninsulae* (Goode & Bean, 1879)

FEATURES: Translucent yellow green to greenish dorsally. Pale to translucent below. Silver stripe with narrow, dark margin on sides. Anal fin with nearly straight margin and 13–19 rays. Body comparatively deep. **HABITAT:** NE FL to MS. Galveston Bay, TX, to Mexico. Along coast and in high-salinity tidal creeks and marshes.

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Hardhead silverside - *Atherinomorus stipes* (Müller & Troschel, 1848)

FEATURES: Translucent bluish green dorsally. Pale below. Silver stripe with black margin on sides. Scales flecked with black. Head and eyes large. Outer caudal-fin lobes blackish in large specimens. First dorsal fin with 4–6 spines. **HABITAT:** S FL, E and S Gulf of Mexico, Bahamas, and Caribbean Sea to Brazil. Found in coastal waters. **BIOLOGY:** Hardhead silverside are schooling planktivores.

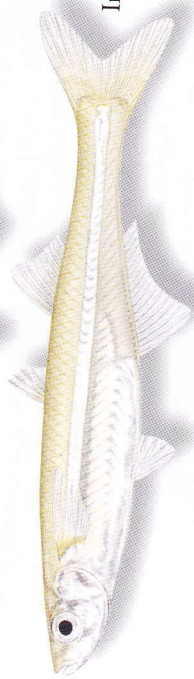
Reef silverside - *Hypoatherina harringtonensis* (Goode, 1877)

FEATURES: Translucent greenish dorsally. Silvery below. Broad silver stripe with black margin bordered by iridescent green. Black flecks on scales do not reach stripe. Caudal fin tips dusky to black. First dorsal fin with 5–7 spines. **HABITAT:** E FL, S FL, and S Gulf of Mexico. Bahamas. A...

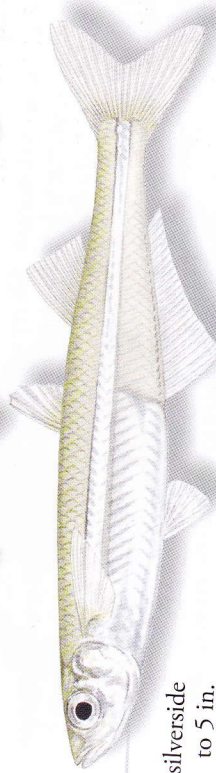
New World silversides



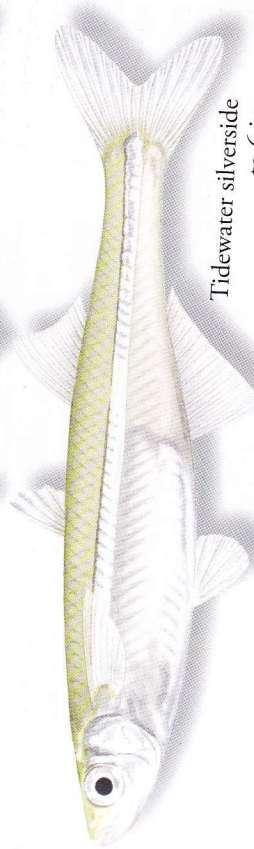
Rough silverside
to 4 in.



Inland silverside
to 4 in.

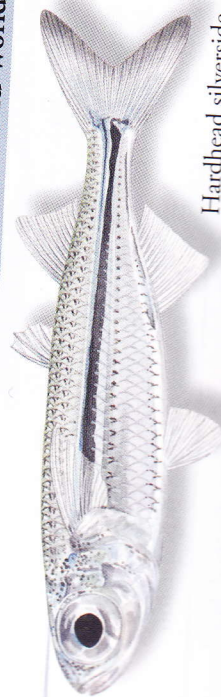


Atlantic silverside
to 5 in.



Tidewater silverside
to 6 in.

Old World silversides



Hardhead silverside
to 4 in.