

Key to the Atlantic Species of *Microgobius*

From Birdsong 1981

- 1a. Three pores in preopercle sensory canal; soft dorsal fin with more than 17 elements; anal fin with more than 18 elements; lateral scale rows greater than 65 2
- 1b. Two pores in preopercle sensory canal; soft dorsal fin usually with 17 or fewer elements; anal fin with 18 or fewer elements; lateral scale rows fewer than 653
- 2a. Soft dorsal-fin elements 20-21; anal fin elements 21 (occasionally 20); lateral scale rows about 77-90; scales mostly cycloid; females with pale bar edged in black on body above pectoral fin [signatus](#)
- 2b. Soft dorsal fin elements 18-19; anal fin elements 19 (occasionally 20); lateral scale rows about 68-78; scales mostly ctenoid; no dark markings on body in either sex [microlepis](#)
- 3a. A fleshy median crest present on nape; a prominent dark spot on body below spinous dorsal fin origin; caudal fin usually greater than 40% of SL [meeki](#)
- 3b. Fleshy median crest absent or poorly developed on nape; body with no dark spot below spinous dorsal origin or with many dark spots; caudal fin usually less than 40% of SL4
- 4a. Scales mostly ctenoid; about 4 enlarged caninoid teeth in outer row of each dentary; interorbital width broad (about 4% of SL); a broad yellow stripe on side with 2 narrow yellow stripes above [carri](#)
- 4b. Scales mostly cycloid; about 8 enlarged caninoid teeth in outer row of each dentary; interorbital width narrow (less than 3% of SL); no yellow stripe on body 5
- 5a. Three pores in lateral cephalic sensory canal; body with numerous dark blotches; mouth of males greatly enlarged (greater than 15% of SL in males larger than 25 mm)..... [gulosus](#)
- 5b. Two pores in lateral cephalic sensory canal; body without dark spots; mouth of males little enlarged (less than 15% of SL in males) [thalassinus](#)