

## Mugil (Mullet)

### Classification :

**Kingdom** : Animalia

**Phylum** : Chordata

**Class** : Actinopterygii

**Order** ; Mugiliformes

**Family** : Mugilidae

**Genus** : Mugil



For further details [link](#)

### Characteristics :

- Mugil, or mullet, are Mugilidae family fish found globally in temperate, subtropical, and tropical waters, including estuaries and freshwater.
- A fascinating fact about mullet (fish in the family Mugilidae) is their unique, gizzard-like stomach, which helps them digest sand and detritus by acting as a grinding organ, supplementing their diet of algae and micro-invertebrates.
- Mugil, or grey mullet, is an adaptable and ubiquitous family of fish with important roles as a primary consumer of detritus and algae, a link in the food chain for larger predators, a target for global fisheries, and a **biomonitor of environmental quality**.
- **Appearance:** Mulletts have elongated, typically grey or silver bodies with a distinctive shape.
- **Teeth:** They possess small, unicuspid teeth on the lower jaw and small, bicuspid teeth on the upper jaw, perfect for scraping food.
- **Scales:** The bases of the second dorsal and anal fins are covered in scales.
- **Pectoral Fin:** They have a distinct pectoral axillary process.
- **Omnivorous:** Mulletts are omnivores, feeding on a diverse diet.
- **Food Sources:** They consume micro-algae, detritus, and small benthic organisms.

- **Feeding Technique:** They use their lips and pharyngeal teeth to scrape and grind food from the substrate.
- **Reproduction:** Adult mullets migrate offshore to spawn.
- **Larval Migration:** The developing larvae then move inshore to find cover.
- **Growth:** Juveniles feed on zooplankton until they reach a certain size before transitioning to the adult diet.
- **Maturity:** They typically become sexually mature around the age of three or four years.

#### **Habit and Habitat :**

- **Water Type:** Mulletts are euryhaline, meaning they can tolerate a wide range of salinities, from freshwater to highly salty environments.
- **Location:** They inhabit coastal areas, including estuaries, mangroves, seagrass beds, and brackish bays.
- **Bottoms:** They are often found over sandy or muddy bottoms.
- **Schooling:** Adults typically form large schools.
- **Activity:** Mulletts are diurnal, meaning they are most active during the day.