

Notes on fish guide

Status

- Species with abundant status are those most likely to be encountered.
- Species with a common status are those which there is a good chance that they will be encountered.
- Species with a rare status are those that have been recorded but are less likely to be encountered.
- Species with a potential status are those that have not been recorded but could occur.

Having trouble identifying a fish species?

- Keep a specimen alive in a bucket.
 - Ensure there are only a couple of fish in the bucket.
 - Keep the bucket out of direct sunlight.
 - Change the water if they are being held for more than 1 hr.
 - Show the live specimen to an experienced practitioner.
- Carp gudgeon (*Hypseleotris*) and flathead gudgeon (*Philypnodon*) specimens can be very difficult to identify to species (even for experienced practitioners). Where possible ID specimens to species from the guide, these will mainly be mature males. Otherwise record as carp gudgeon sp. or flathead gudgeon sp.

General notes

- Smaller specimens are by far the hardest to identify.
- For some species there are distinct differences between males and females. Both sexes are shown where applicable.
- Important: Catfish species can impart a painful sting from the spines, and bullrout spines are venomous causing extreme pain. Check the pictures of these species before commencing sampling and treat them with respect!