

Atlas of marine bony fish otoliths of Southeastern-Southern Brazil Part VIII: Siluriformes (Ariidae) and Pleuronectiformes (Achiridae, Paralichthyidae, Cynoglossidae)

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ABSTRACT

To complement the series of manuscripts published as "Atlas of Teleostei Otoliths of the Southeastern-Southern Brazil", in this volume we present results for species of Siluriformes (two species) and Pleuronectiformes (thirteen species) orders. Considering that the *sagittae* of Siluriformes are very small we analyzed the left *lapillus*. Due to the asymmetry of the Pleuronectiformes otoliths, were analysed both left and right structures, being the circumsulcal depression the most important feature to diagnose these species.

Descriptors: *Sagittae*, *Lapilli*, Morphology, Morphometry, Siluriformes, Pleuronectiformes.

RESUMO

Em complemento à série de manuscritos publicados como "Atlas de Otólitos para os Teleósteos da região Sudeste-Sul do Brasil", neste volume apresentamos os resultados obtidos para espécies das ordens Siluriformes (duas espécies) e Pleuronectiformes (treze espécies). Tendo em vista que os *sagittae* dos Siluriformes são muito pequenos, foram analisados os *lapilli* esquerdos. Devido a assimetria dos Pleuronectiformes, foram analisados tanto *sagittae* esquerdos quanto direitos, sendo a depressão *circumsulcal* a feição mais importante para diagnosticar as espécies desta ordem.

Descritores: *Sagittae*, *Lapilli*, Morfologia, Morfometria, Siluriformes, Pleuronectiformes.

Submitted on: 07/Dec/2016

Approved on: 11/May/2017

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/S1679-87592017143106503>

INTRODUCTION

The analysis of otolith shapes is widely applied in taxonomical, phylogenetical, paleontological and food web studies, as well as for the discrimination of populations and other intraspecific forms (FITCH; BROWNELL, 1968; CAMPANA, 2005; & TUSSET et al, 2008). So, the use of the shape analysis to characterize otolith outlines has become a powerful tool with increasing popularity.

As a contribution for these and other studies, we have been improving the Collection of Teleostei Fish Otoliths of the Southeastern-Southern Brazil (COSS-Brasil) held at the Instituto Oceanográfico - USP, (IOUSP). Nowadays our collection contains around 52,000 pairs of otoliths related to 24 orders, 66 families and 202 species (ROSSI-WONGTSCHOWSKI et al., 2016). Also we have been developing a series of papers providing a permanent visual record of otoliths from the Southeastern-Southern Brazilian coast: ROSSI-WONGTSCHOWSKI et al. (2014), SILIPRANDI et al. (2016), BRENHA-NUNES et al. (2016) and two other: SANTIFICETUR et al. 2017 and GIARETTA et al. 2017 GIARETTA et al., 2017 being this volume the last part of the series. Herein, we present the features, measurements and related shape indices of Siluriformes and Pleuronectiformes otoliths.

Usually, lapilli are small, regular-shaped, homogenous otoliths, however use is not common to diagnose most species. With the exception of the Siluriformes order, in which the sagittae are small and extremely fragile, the use of lapilli is more advantageous in the characterization of this group of fish because they are larger (ADAMS, 1940; MARTÍNEZ; MONASTERIO DE GONZO, 1991; ASSIS, 2005).

The order Pleuronectiformes includes the flatfishes that are symmetrical and planktonic in the larval phase. Throughout the development, these fish undergo a metamorphosis resulting in asymmetry of the eyes, nerves and muscles of the skull, teeth, scales, paired fins and lateral line. Therefore, due to this asymmetry, the left and right *sagittae* may be different (CAMPANA, 1984; VOLPEDO; ECHEVERRÍA, 1997; LYCHAKOV et al., 2008) and in that case, it is important to characterize both. Considering that it is not usual to find results about the otolith pair of the flatfish we decided to present them in order to make easy the species diagnosis conducted in different areas especially in Paleontology.

We hope that our papers and our collection will provide a valuable legacy for all sort of studies involving otolith morphology.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The characteristics of the study area and the general methodology applied to the *sagittae* classification are described in ROSSI-WONGTSCHOWSKI et al. (2014), SILIPRANDI et al. (2016), BRENHA-NUNES et al. (2016). Additionally, due to the Pleuronectiformes asymmetry, the circumsulcal depression feature were analyzed and a new classification were proposed (being complete or incomplete) (Figure 1).

We analyzed the left *lapillus* of the Siluriformes following the terminology of ASSIS (2005), with modifications. The features adopted were: 1) otolith shape, 2) anterior region, 3) posterior region, 4) internal and external edges 5) otolith profile and, two more that are important for these order, 6) sulcus *lapilli* and 7) incisura *linea basalis*. A new terminology was created for these last features being sulcus *lapilli*: tubular strait and tubular curved (Figure 2) and the incisura *linea basalis*: absent, shallow, deep and deep bent (Figure 3).

When available three otoliths of each species were illustrated and photographed. The frequency of occurrence of each characteristic was calculated by total length classes (TL), and differences within and among classes have been analyzed applying multiple χ^2 test (significance 0.05).

The acronyms presented in the shape indices tables are: T=total fish length, OL=otolith length, OH=otolith height and OT=otolith thickness.

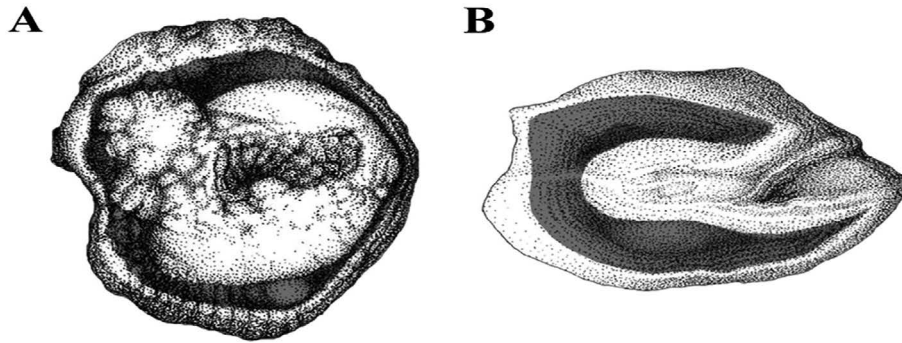


Figure 1. Circumsulcal depression illustrated by the black area: A- Complete (*Symphurus tessellatus*); B- Incomplete (*Paralichthys triocellatus*). (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa).

Sulculus Lapilli

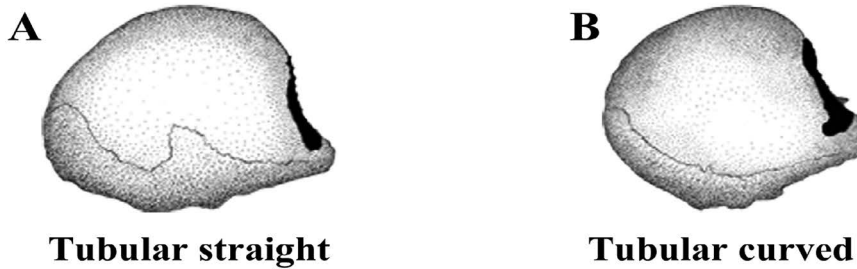


Figure 2. Proposed terminology for the *sulculus lapilli* (black area). A) *Genidens genidens*, B) *Genidens barbuis*. (Illustration: Laura Montserrat).

Incisura Linea Basalis

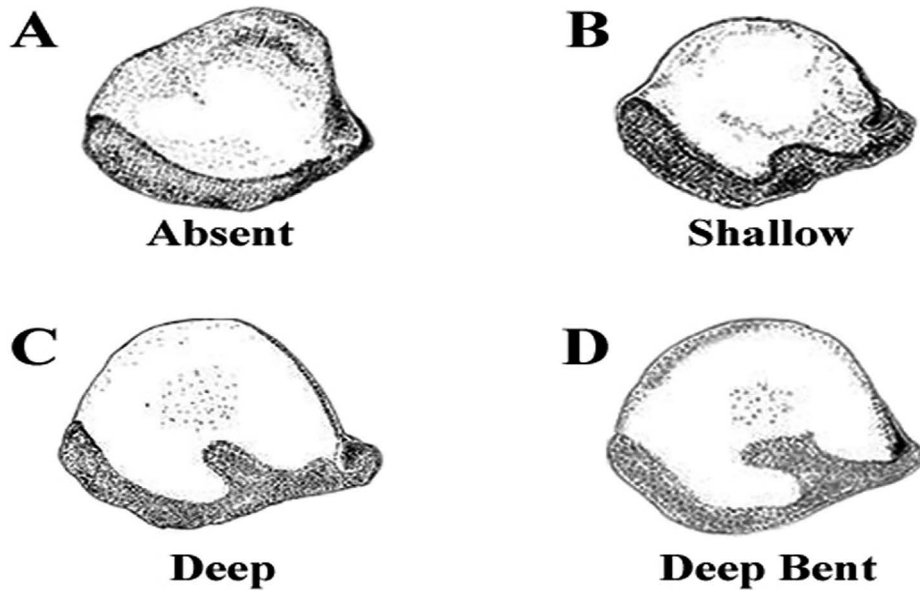


Figure 3. Proposed terminology for the *incisura linea basalis*. A) *Amphiarus rugispinis*, B) *Sciades herzbergii*, C) and D) *Bagreprotocaribbeanus sp.* (Adapted from AGUILERA et al., 2013).

RESULTS

ORDER SILURIFORMES

FAMILY ARIIDAE

Genidens barbatus (Lacepède 1803) **Plate 1**

Maximum Size:	1200 mm (TL) (MARCENIUK; FERRARIS, 2003).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic: from La Plata river (Argentina) to eastern of Brazil (FROESE; PAULY, 2016).
Habitat:	Coastal waters and estuaries over the continental shelf; performs anadromous migration during the reproduction season (VELASCO et al., 2007).
Diet:	Generalist. Feeds on detritus, crustaceans, fish, mollusks and polychaetes (FISCHER et al., 2011).
Collection:	2 otoliths (from 1 fish (TL 504 mm)).
Sample:	1 left <i>lapillus</i> (504 mm TL).

Shape: oval. **Anterior region:** oblique-round. **Posterior region:** round. **Lateral edge:** entire. **Medial edge:** entire. **Profile:** biconvex. **Incisura linea basalis:** absent. **Sulculus lapilli:** tubular curved.

Since only one *lapillus* was analyzed no statistical analysis were done, but its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.32±0	2.32	2.32
OH/OL (%)	95.80±0	95.80	95.80
OT/OL (%)	49.53±0	49.53	49.53
OT/OH (%)	51.70±0	51.70	51.70
Circularity	14.07±0	14.07	14.07
Rectangularity	0.70±0	0.70	0.70

Genidens genidens (Cuvier 1829) **Plate 2**

Maximum Size:	350 mm (TL) (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 1978).
Distribution:	Southwestern Atlantic along the Brazilian coast to La Plata river (Argentina) (FISCHER et al., 2011; MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Coastal waters and estuaries over sand or mud bottoms (CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Diet:	Benthic organisms and organic detritus (FISCHER et al., 2011).
Collection:	2 otoliths from 1 fish (TL 241 mm).
Sample:	1 left <i>lapillus</i> (241 mm TL).

Shape: oval. **Anterior region:** oblique-round. **Posterior region:** round. **Lateral edge:** entire. **Medial edge:** entire. **Profile:** biconvex. **Incisura linea basalis:** deep. **Sulculus lapilli:** tubular straight.

Since only one *lapillus* was analyzed no statistical analysis were done but its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	4.15±0	4.15	4.15
OH/OL (%)	92.31±0	92.31	92.31
OT/OL (%)	48.55±0	48.55	48.55
OT/OH (%)	52.60±0	52.60	52.60
Circularity	14.26±0	14.26	14.26
Rectangularity	0.69±0	0.69	0.69

ORDER PLEURONECTIFORMES

Most of the Pleuronectiformes does not present *rostrum* and *antirostrum* so, in this paper these characteristics are described when present.

FAMILY ACHIRIDAE

Achirus lineatus (Linnaeus 1758) Plates 3 and 4

Maximum Size:	230 mm (TL) (CERVIGÓN et al., 1992).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from South Carolina to northern Argentina (MUNROE, 2002b).
Habitat:	Shallow waters and estuaries over sand or mud bottoms to 20 m deep (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000; CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Diet:	Worms, crustaceans and small fishes (KEITH et al., 2000).
Collection:	2 otoliths from 1 fish (TL 151 mm).
Sample:	1 pair of <i>sagittae</i> (151 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: bullet-shape. **Anterior region:** round. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate. **Ventral edge:** sinuate. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.68±0	2.68	2.68
OH/OL (%)	74.75±0	74.75	74.75
OT/OL (%)	21.04±0	21.04	21.04
OT/OH (%)	28.15±0	28.15	28.15
Circularity	14.91±0	14.91	14.91
Rectangularity	0.77±0	0.77	0.77

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: bullet-shape. **Anterior region:** round. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate. **Ventral edge:** sinuate. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.54±0	2.54	2.54
OH/OL (%)	75.72±0	75.72	75.72
OT/OL (%)	22.98±0	22.98	22.98
OT/OH (%)	30.34±0	30.34	30.34
Circularity	14.86±0	14.86	14.86
Rectangularity	0.81±0	0.81	0.81

FAMILY PARALICHTHYIDAE

The *ostium* is frequently elliptic and the *cauda* morphology is round-oval in most otoliths. The *circumsulcal depression* is always incomplete and the *pseudorostrum* and *pseudoantirostrum* are always absent.

Citharichthys macrops Dresel 1885 Plates 5 and 6

Maximum Size:	200 mm (TL) (FROESE; PAULY, 2016).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from North Carolina to southern of Brazil (MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Coastal waters along the continental shelf over hard sand bottom (MUNROE, 2002a).
Diet:	Small crustaceans (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	21 otoliths from 13 fish (TL ranging from 35 to 134 mm).
Sample:	8 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 3, 20 mm classes (80 to 120 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal (75%), bullet-shaped. **Anterior region:** blunt (63%), peaked-round. **Posterior region:** notched-round (50%), blunt, peaked-round. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire (88%), lobed to sinuate. **Dorsal edge:** entire (50%), sinuate, does not apply. **Anterior ventral edge:** lobed (50%), entire, sinuate. **Posterior ventral edge:** sinuate (38%), lobed, does not apply. **Posterior edge:** entire (50%), does not apply, lobed, sinuate. **Profile:** concave-convex (75%), plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* descending (63%), horizontal; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic (88%), oval; *cauda:* round-oval (88%), elliptic. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.41±0.17	2.11	2.60
OH/OL (%)	79.90±5.16	72.56	87.40
OT/OL (%)	17.85±1.62	15.54	20.57
OT/OH (%)	22.35±1.59	20.09	25.00
Circularity	14.66±0.33	14.24	15.28
Rectangularity	0.73±0.01	0.70	0.74

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal (86%), oval. **Anterior region:** peaked-round. **Posterior region:** notched-round (57%), blunt, flattened, round. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire (86%), sinuate. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (43%), lobed, entire, does not apply. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire (71%), sinuate, does not apply. **Posterior edge:** entire (71%), sinuate, does not apply. **Profile:** concave-convex (86%), biconvex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* descending (86%), horizontal; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* oval (57%), elliptic; *cauda:* elliptic (57%), round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.42±0.14	1.97	2.42
OH/OL (%)	80.44±4.99	72.18	85.42
OT/OL (%)	21.77±2.41	19.05	25.00
OT/OH (%)	27.06±2.51	24.62	31.58
Circularity	14.89±0.61	13.97	15.71
Rectangularity	0.72±0.02	0.69	0.74

Citharichthys spilopterus Günther 1862 Plates 7 and 8

Maximum Size:	200 mm (TL) (ESPÍRITO SANTO et al., 2005).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from New Jersey to Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) (MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Coastal waters over mud or sand bottom to 75 m deep (FISCHER et al., 2011).
Diet:	Fishes and small invertebrates (ESPÍRITO SANTO et al., 2005).
Collection:	149 otoliths from 84 fish (TL ranging from 43 to 191 mm).
Sample:	37 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 7, 20 mm classes (40 to 180 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal. **Anterior region:** peaked. **Posterior region:** oblique (57%), blunt, flattened. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire. **Dorsal edge:** entire (97%), sinuate. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior edge:** entire. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* descending (95%), horizontal; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* pseudo-archaesulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior dorsal edge and *sulcus acusticus* orientation. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.39±0.22	1.98	2.88
OH/OL (%)	77.37±6.16	64.97	89.72
OT/OL (%)	18.7±1.84	15.99	23.73
OT/OH (%)	24.33±2.19	20.38	31.39
Circularity	14.54±0.43	13.62	15.55
Rectangularity	0.72±0.02	0.67	0.77

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal. **Anterior region:** peaked. **Posterior region:** blunt (80%), flattened. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire. **Posterior dorsal edge:** entire (94%), lobed. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Dorsal edge:** entire. **Posterior edge:** entire (94%), sinuate. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: descending; opening: mesial; morphology: pseudo-archaesulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior dorsal and posterior edges and posterior region. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.27±0.22	1.90	2.88
OH/OL (%)	76.45±5.82	66.66	89.36
OT/OL (%)	21.53±2.95	16.25	26.67
OT/OH (%)	28.77±3.97	23.30	45.10
Circularity	14.66±0.59	13.07	16.10
Rectangularity	0.70±0.03	0.64	0.75

Etropus crossotus Jordan & Gilbert 1882 Plates 9 and 10

Maximum Size:	200 mm (TL) (FROESE; PAULY, 2016).
Distribution:	Eastern Pacific and Western Atlantic from Virginia to Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) (LESLIE; STEWART, 1986; FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Habitat:	Shallow waters over soft bottoms (HENSLEY, 1995).
Diet:	Worms and small crustaceans (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	701 otoliths from 391 fish (TL ranging from 30 to 166 mm).
Sample:	61 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 7, 20 mm classes (20 to 140 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal. **Anterior region:** peaked. **Posterior region:** oblique (57%), blunt, flattened. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire. **Dorsal edge:** entire (97%), sinuate. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior edge:** entire. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: descending (95%), horizontal; opening: mesial; morphology: pseudo-archaesulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior region, posterior ventral, ventral, posterior, dorsal posterior and dorsal edges, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and morphology, *colliculum*, *ostium* and *cauda* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for ventral and posterior dorsal edge.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.71±0.33	2.13	3.56
OH/OL (%)	78.88±6.17	61.39	93.39
OT/OL (%)	21.39±2.63	17.07	27.59
OT/OH (%)	27.12±2.45	22.00	32.43
Circularity	14.44±0.40	13.66	15.79
Rectangularity	0.74±0.02	0.70	0.79

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal. **Anterior region:** peaked. **Posterior region:** oblique (57%), blunt, flattened. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire. **Dorsal edge:** entire (97%), sinuate. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior edge:** entire. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: descending (95%), horizontal; opening: mesial; morphology: pseudo-archaesulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior region, posterior ventral and ventral edges, and *sulcus acusticus* orientation. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found only for ventral edge.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.71±0.34	2.07	3.45
OH/OL (%)	77.09±7.50	59.73	93.75
OT/OL (%)	23.35±3.54	17.31	33.67
OT/OH (%)	30.62±5.80	21.63	43.04
Circularity	14.74±0.62	13.76	17.18
Rectangularity	0.70±0.10	0.65	0.80

Etropus longimanus Norman 1933 Plates 11 and 12

Maximum Size:	155 mm (TL) (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) to Argentina (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Habitat:	Coastal waters to 190 m deep, commonly found on 40 m deep (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Diet:	Polychaetes and small crustaceans (FIGUEIREDO et al., 2002).
Collection:	367 otoliths from 193 fish (TL ranging from 53 to 145 mm).
Sample:	44 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 6, 20 mm classes (40 to 140 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal. **Anterior region:** peaked (70%), peaked-round. **Posterior region:** flattened (66%), blunt, oblique. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire. **Dorsal edge:** entire (84%), sinuate, lobed to sinuate. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire (95%), sinuate. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire (91%), sinuate. **Posterior edge:** entire (95%), sinuate. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: horizontal (77%), descending; opening: mesial; morphology: archaesulcoid (73%), pseudo-archaesulcoid; **colliculum:** homomorphic (73%), heteromorphic; **ostium:** absent (73%), elliptic; **cauda:** absent (73%), round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior region, posterior ventral, ventral, posterior dorsal and posterior edges, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and morphology, *colliculum*, *ostium* and *cauda* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for *sulcus acusticus* morphology, *colliculum* and *cauda* morphology.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.79±0.27	2.03	3.46
OH/OL (%)	84.73±5.27	73.27	93.63
OT/OL (%)	23.84±2.85	18.62	31.38
OT/OH (%)	28.09±2.36	23.89	34.09
Circularity	14.06±0.38	13.40	15.09
Rectangularity	0.73±0.01	0.70	0.76

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: pentagonal (70%), oval. **Anterior region:** peaked (82%), peaked-round. **Posterior region:** flattened (64%), round, blunt, oblique. **Anterior dorsal edge:** entire (95%), lobed. **Dorsal edge:** entire (50%), does not apply, lobed, sinuate. **Anterior ventral edge:** entire. **Posterior ventral edge:** entire (66%), does not apply, sinuate. **Posterior edge:** entire (59%), does not apply, sinuate, lobed. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal (70%), descending; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* archaesusulcoid; *colliculum:* monomorphic; *ostium:* absent; *cauda:* absent. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior region, posterior ventral, posterior, dorsal and posterior dorsal edges and *sulcus acusticus* orientation. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found only for *sulcus acusticus* orientation.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.77±0.27	1.99	3.42
OH/OL (%)	85.24±5.59	75.47	98.20
OT/OL (%)	27.06±3.00	22.05	32.35
OT/OH (%)	31.74±2.65	25.26	36.17
Circularity	14.17±0.43	13.31	15.05
Rectangularity	0.71±0.02	0.66	0.76

Paralichthys isosceles Jordan 1891 Plates 13 and 14

Maximum Size:	420 mm (TL) (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) to northern Patagonia (Argentina) (HAIMOVICI et al., 1994).
Habitat:	Demersal species from coastal waters to 190 m deep (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Diet:	Fishes and cephalopods (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Collection:	429 otoliths from 219 fish (TL ranging from 197 to 377 mm).
Sample:	73 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 10, 20 mm classes (180 to 360 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: elliptic (75%), oval. **Anterior region:** round (82%), peaked-round, peaked. **Posterior region:** round. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (62%), entire. **Ventral edge:** entire (74%), sinuate. **Profile:** biconvex (56%), flattened, plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal (89%), ascending; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* tubular; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior region, ventral and dorsal edges, profile and *sulcus acusticus* orientation. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found only for profile.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.43±0.16	1.94	3.19
OH/OL (%)	71.11±5.64	58.98	82.79
OT/OL (%)	22.72±2.15	16.93	27.44
OT/OH (%)	32.12±3.72	25.74	40.68
Circularity	14.52±0.5	13.73	16.75
Rectangularity	0.74±0.02	0.69	0.77

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: oval (38%), elliptic (33%), rectangular to elliptic (29%). **Anterior region:** round (53%), peaked-round, round. **Posterior region:** round. **Dorsal edge:** entire (67%), sinuate. **Ventral edge:** entire (86%), sinuate. **Anterior edge:** does not apply (71%), entire. **Posterior edge:** does not apply (75%), entire. **Profile:** pane-convex (67%), concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal (60%), ascending; *opening:* mesial (92%), para-ostial, ostial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior region, posterior, ventral, dorsal and anterior edges, profile and *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for shape, posterior and dorsal edges and *sulcus acusticus* orientation.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.34±0.19	1.74	3.32
OH/OL (%)	69.76±5.1	58.45	82.25
OT/OL (%)	24.30±3.22	16.88	32.73
OT/OH (%)	34.96±4.9	21.95	54.11
Circularity	14.99±0.80	13.44	17.47
Rectangularity	0.73±0.04	0.58	0.83

Paralichthys patagonicus Jordan 1889 Plates 15 and 16

Maximum Size:	570 mm (TL) (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Distribution:	Western Pacific and Southwest Atlantic from Cabo Frio (Brazil) to Patagonia (Argentina) (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000; PEQUEÑO; PLAZA, 1987).
Habitat:	Associated to the bottom from coastal waters to 200 m deep (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Diet:	Fishes and shrimps (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	268 otoliths from 137 fish (TL ranging from 91 to 555 mm).
Sample:	95 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 21, 20 mm classes (80 to 540 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: elliptic (74%), oval. **Anterior region:** peaked-round (77%), peaked, round, double-peaked. **Posterior region:** round (82%), flattened. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (79%), lobed, entire. **Ventral edge:** sinuate (47%), entire (39%), lobed, lobed to sinuate. **Profile:** concave-convex (92%), biconvex, flattened. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply. **Rostrum:** developed (99%), absent. **Antirostrum:** absent (99%), underdeveloped. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal (98%), ascending; *opening:* ostial (66%), para-ostial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic (93%), funnel-like; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior region, ventral and dorsal edges, profile, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening, *rostrum* development and *ostium* morphology. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.21±0.15	1.93	2.61
OH/OL (%)	66.42±4.68	57.52	78.57
OT/OL (%)	18.26±1.67	14.35	21.75
OT/OH (%)	27.53±2.1	20.71	32.57
Circularity	16.45±1.41	14.71	22.59
Rectangularity	0.70±0.02	0.64	0.79

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: elliptic (73%), oval. **Anterior region:** peaked-round (77%), peaked, round, angled. **Posterior region:** round (88%), flattened, oblique. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (62%), entire, lobed. **Ventral edge:** entire (51%), sinuate, lobed. **Profile:** concave-convex (98%), biconvex. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply (89%), in agreement. **Rostrum:** developed (99%), absent. **Antirostrum:** absent (88%), underdeveloped, developed. **Sulcus acusticus: position:** median; **orientation:** horizontal (99%), ascending; **opening:** ostial (67%), para-ostial; **morphology:** heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic (92%), funnel-like; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior region, ventral and dorsal edges, profile, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening, *rostrum* and *antirostrum* orientation and development and *ostium* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for shape, dorsal edges.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.10±0.13	1.71	2.43
OH/OL (%)	65.25±5.26	47.21	93.97
OT/OL (%)	21.23±2.91	14.38	27.80
OT/OH (%)	32.63±4.57	22.30	47.64
Circularity	16.33±1.37	14.39	21.37
Rectangularity	0.70±0.05	0.63	0.98

Paralichthys triocellatus Miranda Ribeiro 1903 Plates 17 and 18

Maximum Size:	350 mm (TL) (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic from Cabo Frio, Brazil to Uruguay (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Habitat:	Live between 60 and 192 m deep (BERNARDES et al., 2005).
Diet:	--
Collection:	248 otoliths from 130 fish (TL ranging from 70 to 338 mm).
Sample:	75 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 13, 20 mm classes (60 to 320 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: elliptic (78%), oval. **Anterior region:** round (55%), peaked-round. **Posterior region:** round (88%), flattened, angled-round. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (80%), entire. **Ventral edge:** entire (57%), sinuate. **Profile:** biconvex (64%), concave-convex, plane-convex. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply. **Rostrum:** absent (75%), developed, underdeveloped. **Antirostrum:** absent. **Sulcus acusticus: position:** median; **orientation:** horizontal (91%), ascending; **opening:** pseudo-ostial (43%), mesial, para-ostial, ostial; **morphology:** heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic (87%), funnel-like, rectangular; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior region, dorsal edges, profile, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening, *rostrum* development and *ostium* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for anterior region, profile and *sulcus acusticus* opening.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.46±0.24	2.04	3.37
OH/OL (%)	72.62±5.77	64.06	87.43
OT/OL (%)	21.47±2.68	16.59	31.75
OT/OH (%)	29.63±3.42	24.32	42.55
Circularity	14.76±1.62	13.21	26.20
Rectangularity	0.73±0.03	0.64	0.81

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: oval (68%), elliptic. **Anterior region:** round (67%), peaked, oblique, angled. **Posterior region:** round. **Dorsal edge:** entire (80%), sinuate. **Ventral edge:** entire (90%), sinuate, lobed. **Profile:** biconvex (64%), concave-convex, plane-convex. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply (96%), in agreement. **Rostrum:** absent (54%), developed, underdeveloped. **Antirostrum:** absent (96%), developed. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal; *opening:* ostial (67%), mesial, para-ostial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic (87%), funnel-like, rectangular; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior region, ventral and dorsal edges, profile, *sulcus acusticus* opening, *rostrum* and *antirostrum* development and *ostium* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for shape, anterior region and profile and *rostrum* development.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.71±0.28	1.27	2.60
OH/OL (%)	72.11±5.59	61.70	84.64
OT/OL (%)	24.52±3.7	17.46	36.49
OT/OH (%)	34.07±4.95	26.13	49.54
Circularity	20.16±1.04	12.35	14.79
Rectangularity	0.73±0.04	0.65	0.96

Syacium papillosum (Linnaeus 1758) Plates 19 and 20

Maximum Size:	300 mm (TL) (CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from North Carolina (USA) to Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) (MUNROE, 2002a).
Habitat:	Inhabits shallow waters over sand or mud bottoms to 40 m deep (CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Diet:	Small crustaceans (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	138 otoliths from 71 fish (TL ranging from 60 to 275 mm).
Sample:	44 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 9, 20 mm classes (60 to 260 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: bullet-shaped. **Anterior region:** oblique-round. **Posterior region:** flattened (60%), blunt, oblique, round. **Dorsal edge:** entire (74%), sinuate, sinuate to entire, lobed to sinuate. **Ventral edge:** lobed to sinuate (74%), sinuate to entire, dentate to lobed. **Posterior edge:** lobed to sinuate (65%), entire. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* ascending; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* straight tubular (98%), round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior region, dorsal, ventral and posterior edges, *cauda* morphology. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.94±0.26	2.54	4.10
OH/OL (%)	76.36±3.84	66.62	83.64
OT/OL (%)	22.24±2.48	16.51	27.33
OT/OH (%)	29.10±2.71	23.13	33.33
Circularity	15.60±1.19	13.85	19.16
Rectangularity	0.79±0.02	0.75	0.83

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: bullet-shaped. **Anterior region:** oblique-round. **Posterior region:** flattened (71%), blunt. **Dorsal edge:** entire (45%), lobed to sinuate, lobed, sinuate. **Ventral edge:** lobed to sinuate (64%), entire, sinuate, sinuate to entire. **Posterior edge:** lobed to sinuate (76%), entire. **Profile:** concave-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: ascending; opening: mesial; morphology: heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic; **cauda:** straight tubular (98%), round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for posterior region, dorsal, ventral and posterior edges, *cauda* morphology. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found only for dorsal edge.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.95±0.27	2.57	4.15
OH/OL (%)	77.78±12.09	67.27	89.36
OT/OL (%)	21.06±3.02	14.85	28.64
OT/OH (%)	26.43±3.25	20.85	35.62
Circularity	15.45±1.27	13.78	19.64
Rectangularity	0.75±0.04	0.68	0.82

Xystreurys rasile (Jordan 1891) Plates 21 and 22

Maximum Size:	450 mm (TL) (CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) to Patagonia (Argentina) (MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Mud and sand bottoms between 5 to 200 m deep (CARVALHO-FILHO, 1992).
Diet:	Amphipods, small crabs and polychaetes (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	310 otoliths from 163 fish (TL ranging from 76 to 392 mm).
Sample:	81 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 12, 20 mm classes (60 to 380 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: trapezoidal to elliptic (52%), elliptic (48%). **Anterior region:** peaked-round (84%), peaked, oblique. **Posterior region:** round (33%), flattened (32%), angled (29%), oblique. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (94%), entire. **Ventral edge:** entire (51%), sinuate (49%). **Profile:** concave-convex (88%), plane-convex. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply. **Rostrum:** absent (96%), developed. **Antirostrum:** absent. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: horizontal (93%), ascending; opening: mesial (93%), para-ostial, pseudo-ostial; morphology: pseudo-archaesulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** elliptic; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained shape, anterior and posterior region, dorsal, ventral and edges, profile, *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening and *rostrum* development. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for posterior region, ventral edge and profile.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.30±0.16	1.70	2.65
OH/OL (%)	63.76±4.40	54.33	76.65
OT/OL (%)	18.71±3.64	14.51	44.89
OT/OH (%)	28.85±2.65	22.97	36.33
Circularity	15.13±0.56	14.40	17.50
Rectangularity	0.72±0.02	0.68	0.76

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: elliptic (74%), trapezoidal to elliptic. **Anterior region:** peaked-round (89%), peaked, round. **Posterior region:** round (54%), angled, flattened, peaked-round. **Dorsal edge:** sinuate (75%), entire. **Ventral edge:** entire (60%), sinuate, lobed. **Profile:** concave-convex (88%), plane-convex. **Rostrum and antirostrum orientation:** does not apply. **Rostrum:** absent. **Antirostrum:** absent. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* horizontal (99%), ascending; *opening:* mesial (93%), pseudo-ostial; *morphology:* pseudo-archaesulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* elliptic; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** incomplete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained shape, anterior and posterior region, dorsal, ventral and edges, profile and *sulcus acusticus* orientation and opening. Along the fish growth statistical differences were found for ventral edge and profile.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	2.31±0.13	1.89	2.63
OH/OL (%)	62.86±4.68	53.17	72.98
OT/OL (%)	19.05±2.54	14.71	27.33
OT/OH (%)	30.32±3.06	23.94	41.36
Circularity	15.09±0.59	14.00	17.38
Rectangularity	0.71±0.02	0.68	0.79

FAMILY CYNOGLOSSIDAE

The otolith shape is frequently discoidal or tall. The anterior region is round and the posterior one flattened. The *ostium* and *cauda* are always round-oval. The *rostrum*, *antirostrum*, *pseudorstrum* and *pseudoantirostrum* are absent and the *circumsulcal depression* is always complete. The right otolith tends to be larger than the left.

Symphurus tessellatus (Quoy & Gaimard 1824) Plates 23 and 24

Maximum Size:	220 mm (TL) (FROESE; PAULY, 2016).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from Caribbean Sea to Uruguay (MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Inhabits waters of the continental shelf over mud bottom at depths between 7 and 110 m (MUNROE, 2002c).
Diet:	Small benthic invertebrates (FIGUEIREDO; MENEZES, 2000).
Collection:	16 otoliths from 9 fish (TL ranging from 103 to 218 mm).
Sample:	8 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 5, 20 mm classes (120 to 200 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: discoidal. **Anterior region:** round (75%), angled-round. **Posterior region:** round (75%), flattened. **Dorsal edge:** entire (88%), sinuate to entire. **Ventral edge:** entire (75%), sinuate to entire. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** *position:* median; *orientation:* descending; *opening:* mesial; *morphology:* heterosulcoid; *colliculum:* heteromorphic; *ostium:* round-oval; *cauda:* round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.48±0.09	1.38	1.59
OH/OL (%)	109.25±2.81	104.35	112.54
OT/OL (%)	33.18±2.60	30.14	36.64
OT/OH (%)	30.35±1.92	27.50	33.07
Circularity	13.52±0.41	13.09	14.29
Rectangularity	0.74±0.02	0.72	0.77

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: discoidal. **Anterior region:** round. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** entire (78%), sinuate. **Ventral edge:** entire (78%), sinuate. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: horizontal; opening: mesial; morphology: heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** round-oval; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.53±0.11	1.38	1.67
OH/OL (%)	106.33±2.64	102.33	110.03
OT/OL (%)	30.34±2.32	26.61	33.72
OT/OH (%)	28.56±2.44	24.80	32.95
Circularity	13.20±0.53	11.98	14.02
Rectangularity	0.76±0.01	0.75	0.77

Symphurus jenynsi Evermann & Kendall 1906 Plates 25 and 26

Maximum Size:	319 mm (TL) (MUNROE, 1998).
Distribution:	Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) to Argentina (MENEZES et al., 2003).
Habitat:	Coastal areas associated to estuaries (MUELBERT; WEISS, 1991).
Diet:	Polychaetes and other benthic organisms (MUNROE, 1998).
Collection:	24 otoliths from 13 fish (TL ranging from 138 to 231 mm).
Sample:	13 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 6, 20 mm classes (120 to 220 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: tall. **Anterior region:** round. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** entire. **Ventral edge:** entire. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: horizontal; opening: mesial; morphology: heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** round-oval; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.31±0.04	1.26	1.36
OH/OL (%)	114.13±5.84	105.36	123.83
OT/OL (%)	34.86±5.04	27.59	43.95
OT/OH (%)	30.57±4.39	24.10	37.50
Circularity	13.45±0.25	13.11	13.92
Rectangularity	0.77±0.02	0.74	0.79

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: tall (92%), discoidal. **Anterior region:** round. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** entire. **Ventral edge:** entire. **Profile:** biconvex. **Sulcus acusticus:** position: median; orientation: horizontal; opening: mesial; morphology: heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** round-oval; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

The small number of otoliths did not permit data statistical analysis; however its morphometric characteristics are shown below:

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.28±0.05	1.21	1.35
OH/OL (%)	113.03±4.70	104.92	121.53
OT/OL (%)	33.05±4.84	25.38	42.81
OT/OH (%)	29.27±4.34	24.10	37.75
Circularity	13.57±0.20	13.27	13.96
Rectangularity	0.77±0.02	0.71	0.80

Symphurus plagusia (Bloch & Schneider 1801) **Plates 27 and 28**

Maximum Size:	230 mm (TL) (ESPÍRITO SANTO et al., 2005).
Distribution:	Western Atlantic from the Caribbean Sea to Uruguay (ESPÍRITO SANTO et al., 2005).
Habitat:	Shallow and brackish waters reaching up to 51 m deep (MUNROE, 2002c)
Diet:	Crustaceans and worms (VASCONCELOS FILHO et al., 2010).
Collection:	114 otoliths from 63 fish (TL ranging from 105 to 204 mm).
Sample:	25 pairs of <i>sagittae</i> categorized into 6, 20 mm classes (100 to 200 mm TL).

LEFT OTOLITH

Shape: discoidal. **Anterior region:** round (96%), peaked. **Posterior region:** flattened. **Dorsal edge:** entire. **Ventral edge:** entire. **Profile:** plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus: position:** median; **orientation:** horizontal; **opening:** mesial; **morphology:** heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** round-oval; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for anterior region. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.52±0.41	1.25	3.31
OH/OL (%)	107.19±4.35	99.13	116.09
OT/OL (%)	33.33±4.08	27.14	42.86
OT/OH (%)	31.08±3.45	25.11	38.92
Circularity	13.49±0.31	13.08	14.42
Rectangularity	0.75±0.02	0.73	0.79

RIGHT OTOLITH

Shape: discoidal (84%), tall, triangular. **Anterior region:** round (96%), peaked. **Posterior region:** flattened (56%), round (44%). **Dorsal edge:** entire. **Ventral edge:** entire. **Profile:** biconvex (96%), plane-convex. **Sulcus acusticus: position:** median; **orientation:** horizontal; **opening:** mesial; **morphology:** heterosulcoid; **colliculum:** heteromorphic; **ostium:** round-oval; **cauda:** round-oval. **Circumsulcal depression:** complete.

Statistical differences ($p < 0.05$) within some length classes were obtained for shape, anterior and posterior regions and profile. No differences were found along the fish growth.

Shape indices	Mean±Sd	Minimum	Maximum
OL/TL (%)	1.47±0.15	1.24	1.80
OH/OL (%)	105.82±4.01	98.73	113.78
OT/OL (%)	31.78±3.67	26.19	40.78
OT/OH (%)	30.03±3.26	25.70	37.70
Circularity	16.73±16.26	12.97	94.77
Rectangularity	0.75±0.01	0.73	0.79

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank: Nicolas Nathan dos Santos for some otoliths measurements and Alexandre Arackawa, Laura Montserrat, Michelle Koing and Vanessa Seiko Sugihara for the otoliths drawings. This paper received substantial financial support from the Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP, Process number- 2010/51631-2 and 2014/03764-4).

Special thanks to Dr. Carlos A. Assis for his valuable comments, which greatly improved this paper.

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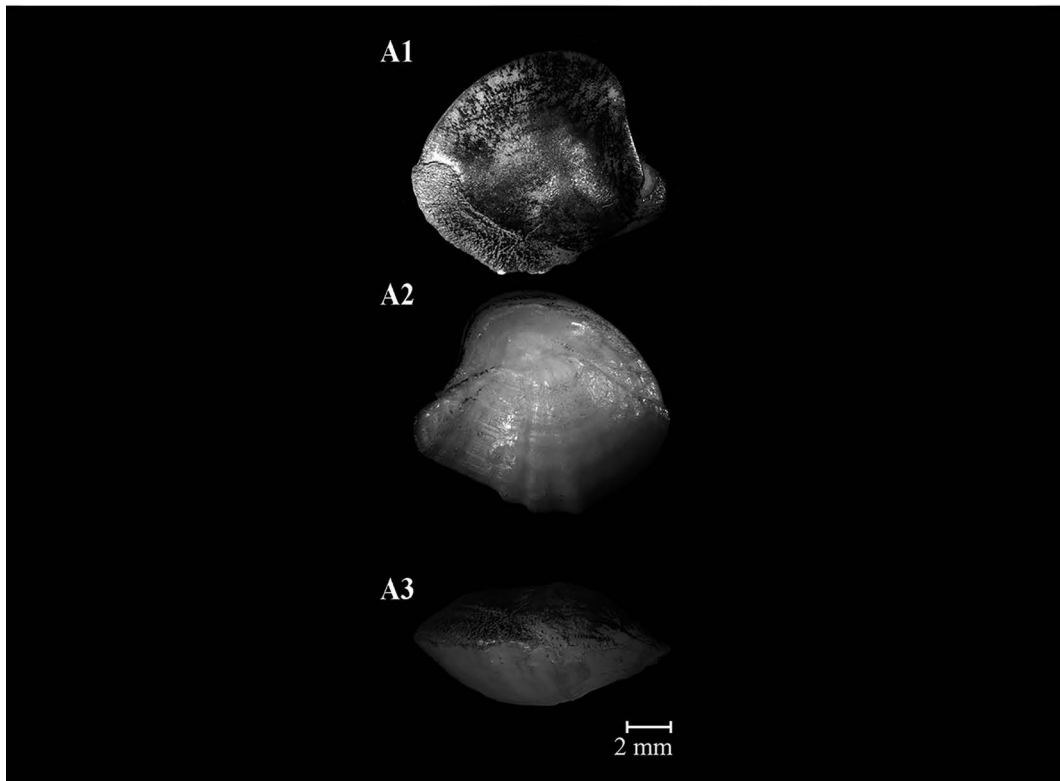
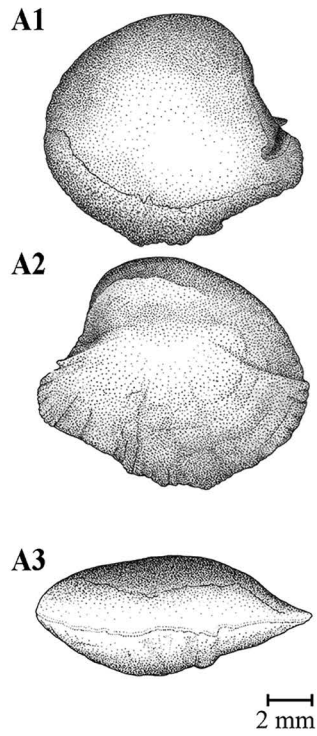


Plate 1. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Genidens barbatus lapillus* from fish with total length: A. 504 mm. The ventral face is shown in A1; the dorsal face in A2; and the medial face in A3; (Illustration: Laura Montserrat; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

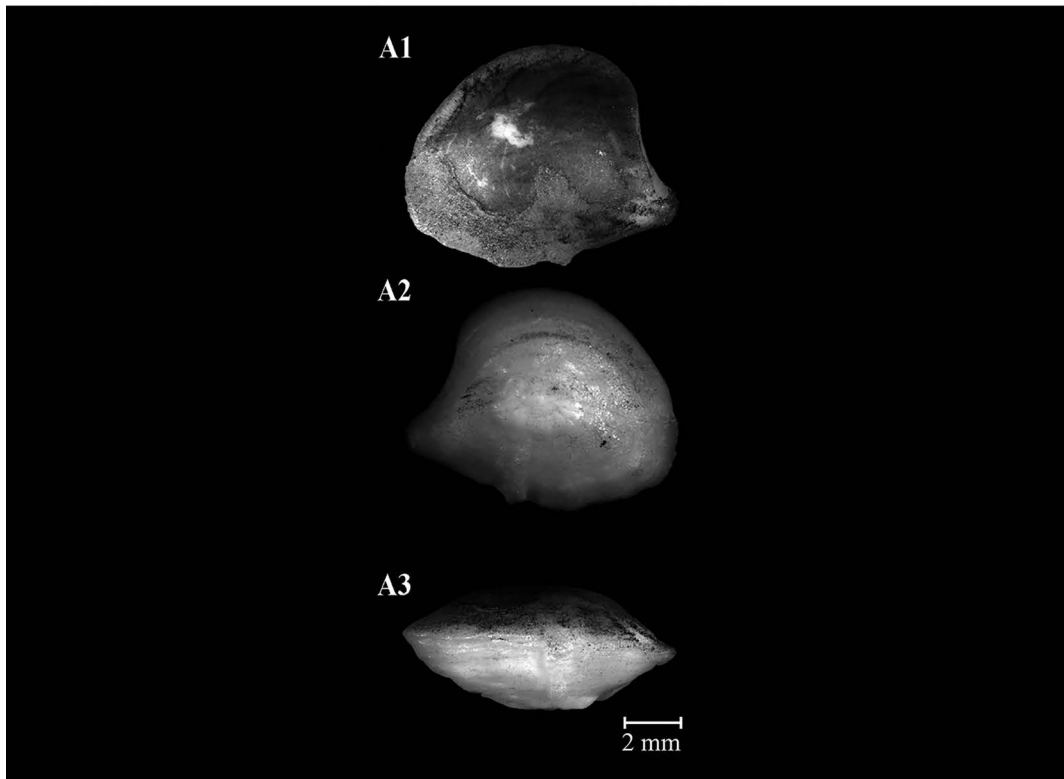
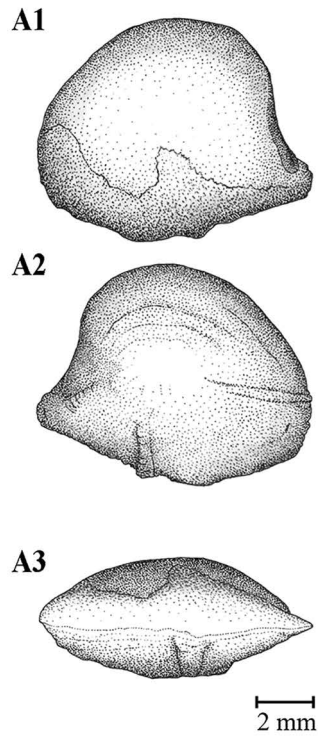


Plate 2. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Genidens genidens lapillus* from fish with total length: A. 241 mm. The ventral face is shown in A1; the dorsal face in A2; and the medial face in A3 (Illustration: Laura Montserrat; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

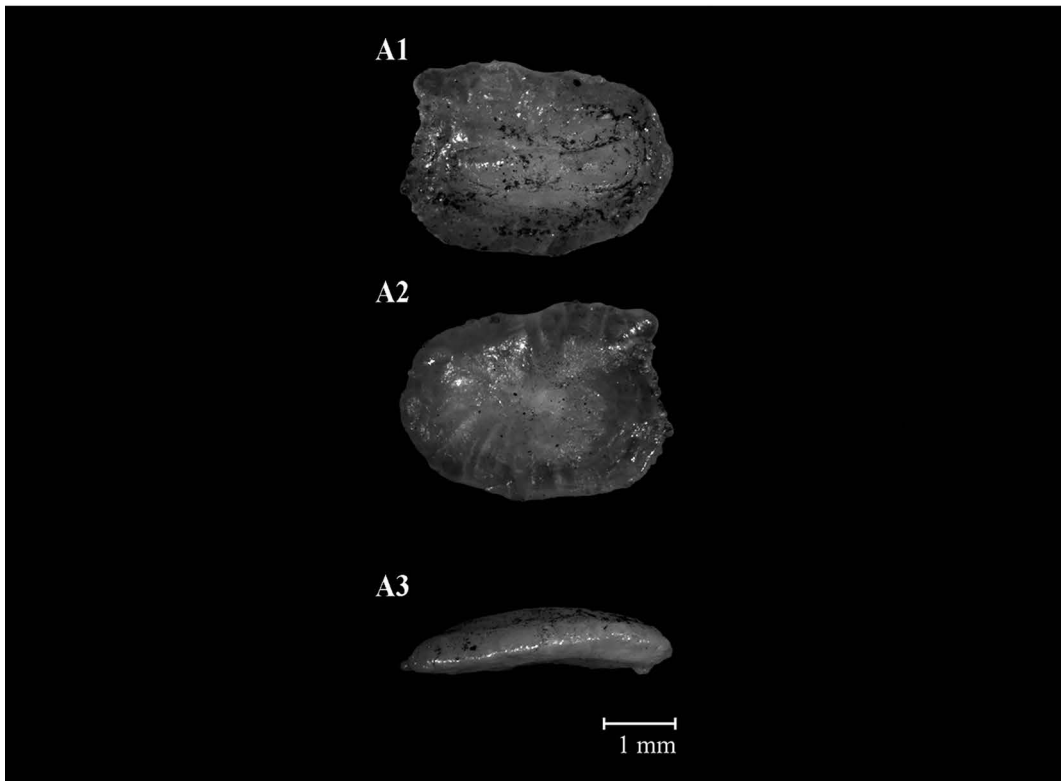
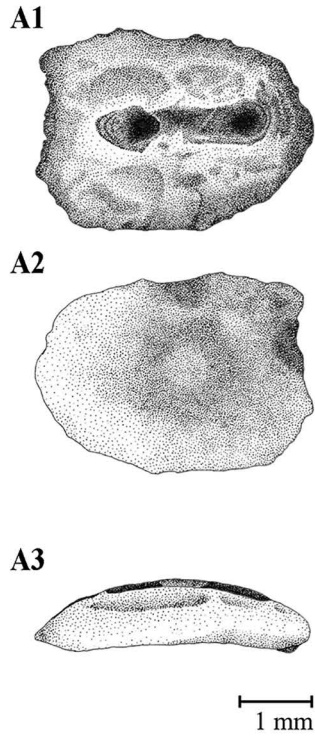


Plate 3. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Achirus lineatus* left sagitta from fish with total length: A. 151 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; the lateral face in A2; and the ventral profile in A3 (Illustration: Vanessa Seiko Sugihara; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

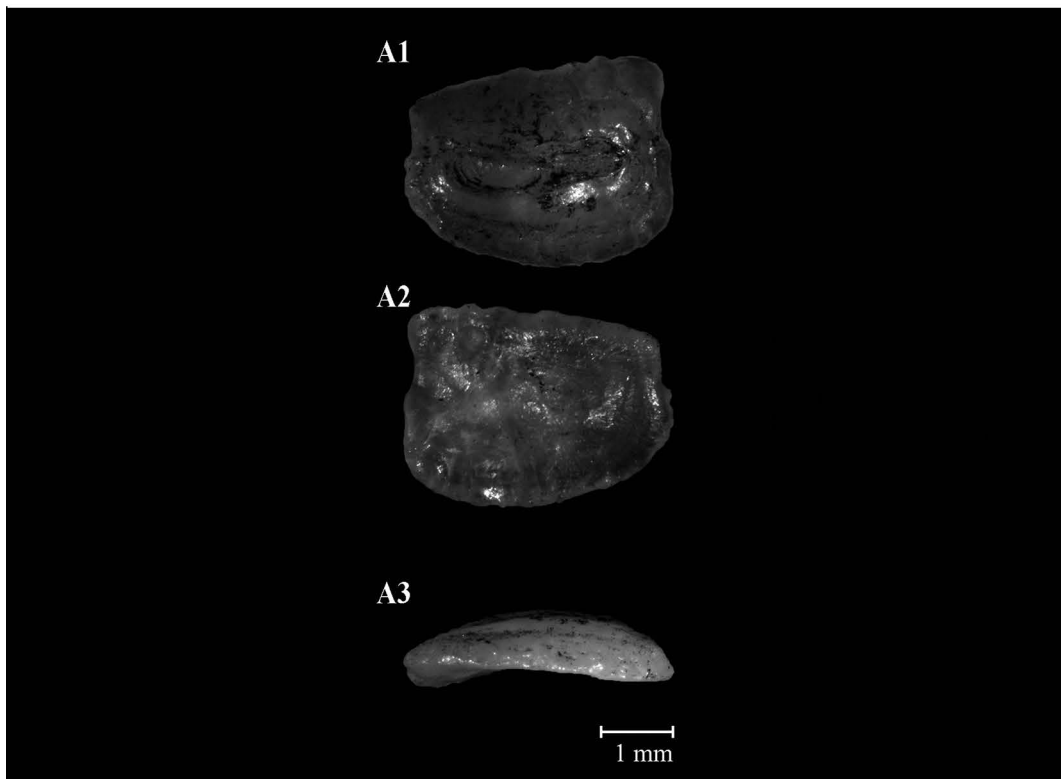
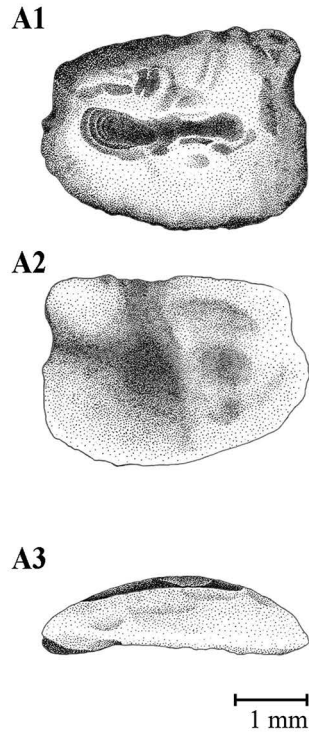


Plate 4. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Achirus lineatus* right *sagitta* from fish with total length: A. 151 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; the lateral face in A2; and the ventral profile in A3 (Illustration: Vanessa Seiko Sugihara; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

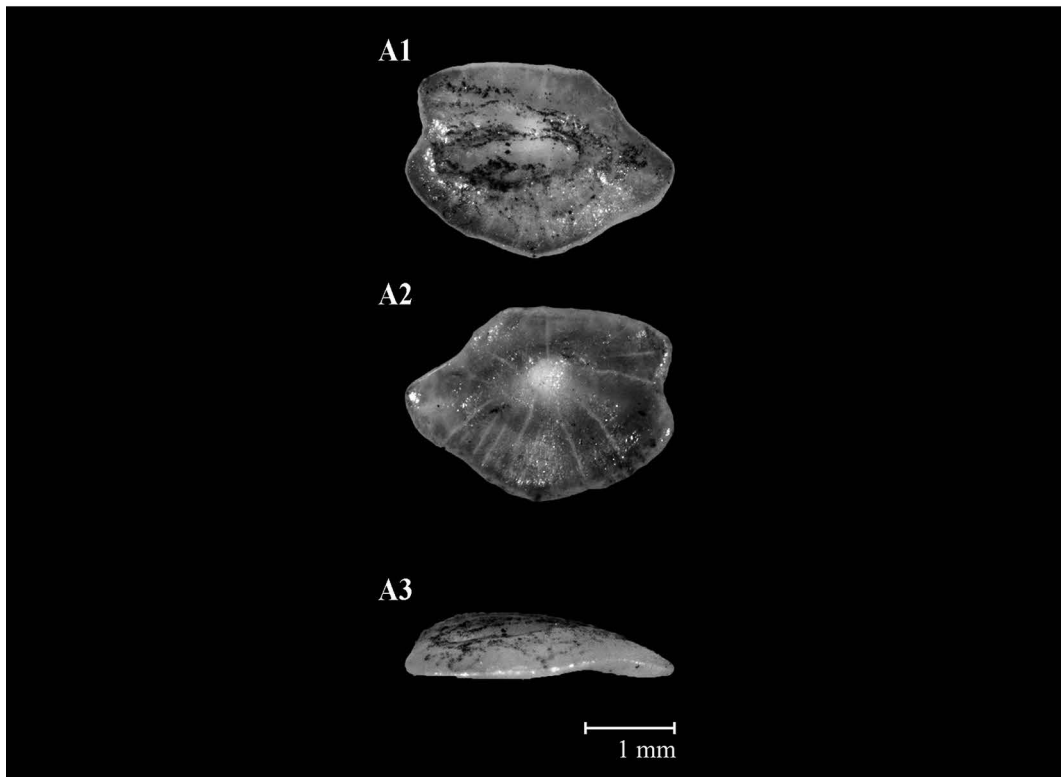
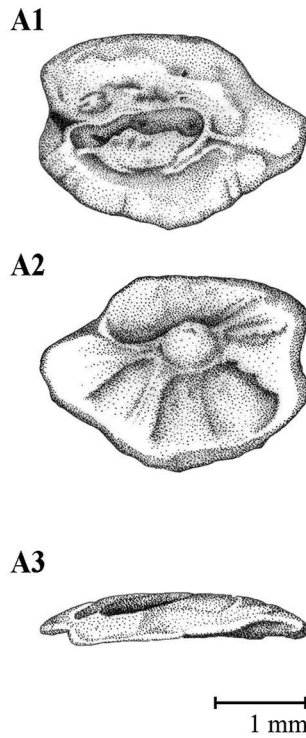


Plate 5. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Citharichthys macrops* left *sagitta* from fish with total length: A. 134 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; the lateral face in A2; and the ventral profile in A3 (Illustration: Michelle Konig; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

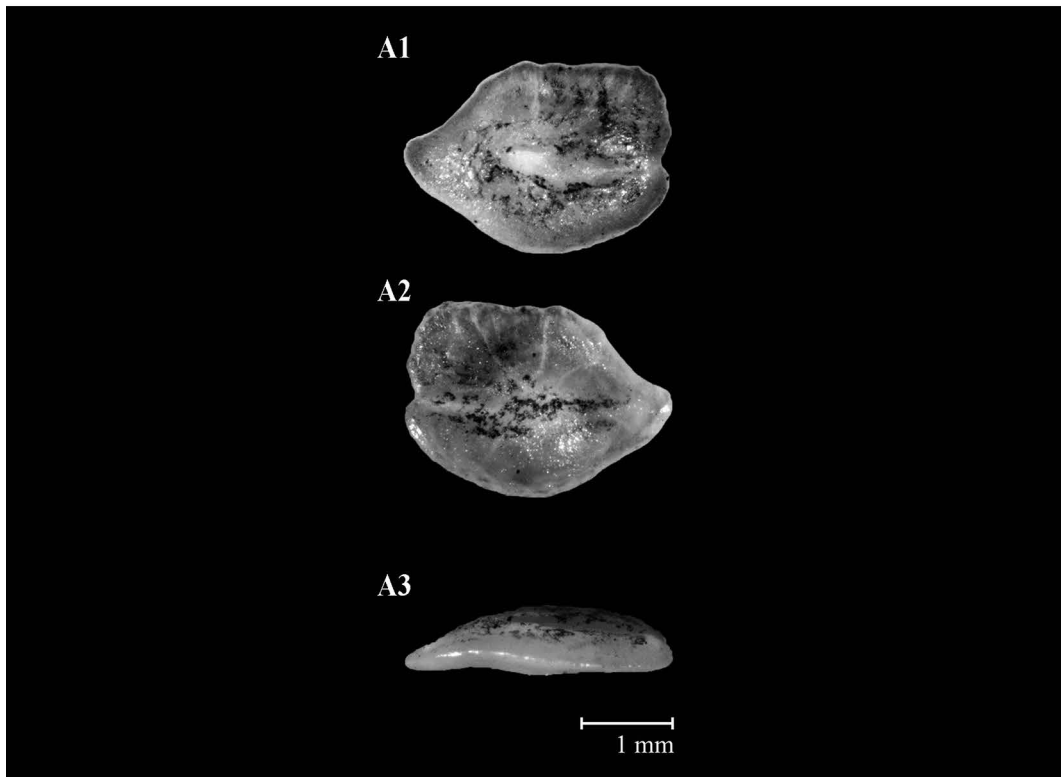
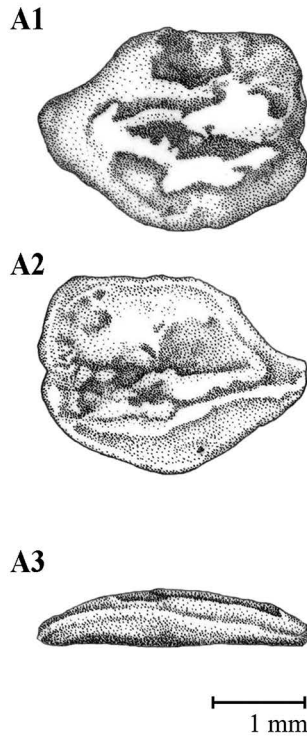


Plate 6. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Citharichthys macrops* right *sagitta* from fish with total length: A. 134 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; the lateral face in A2; and the ventral profile in A3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

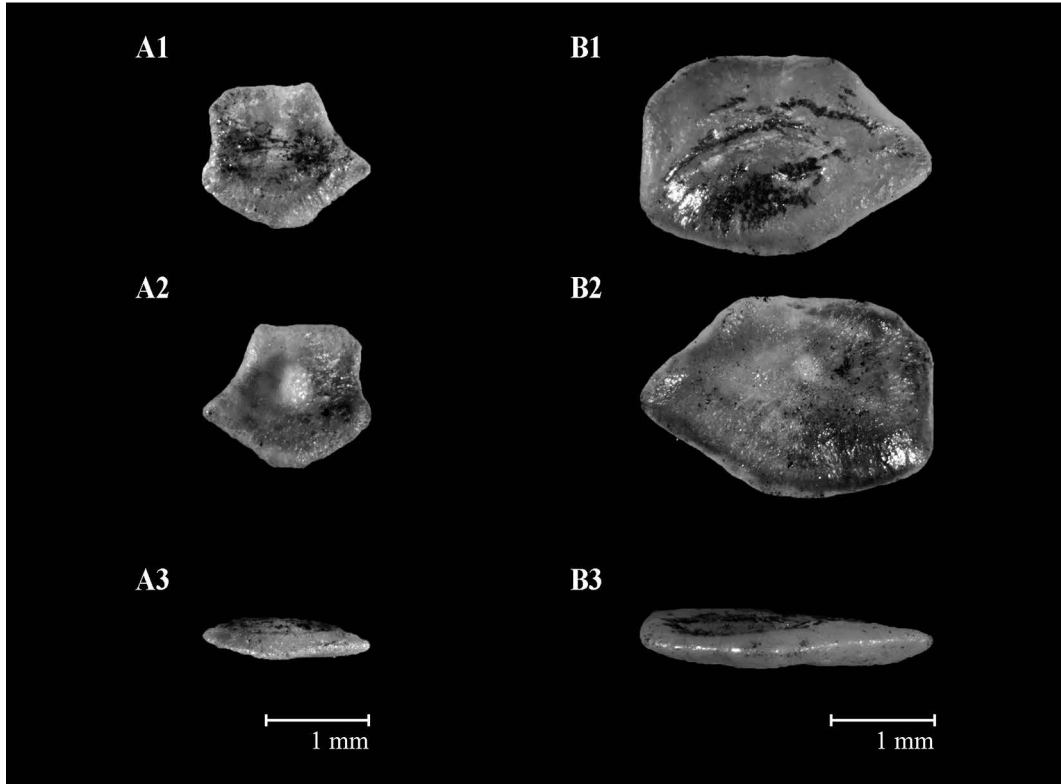
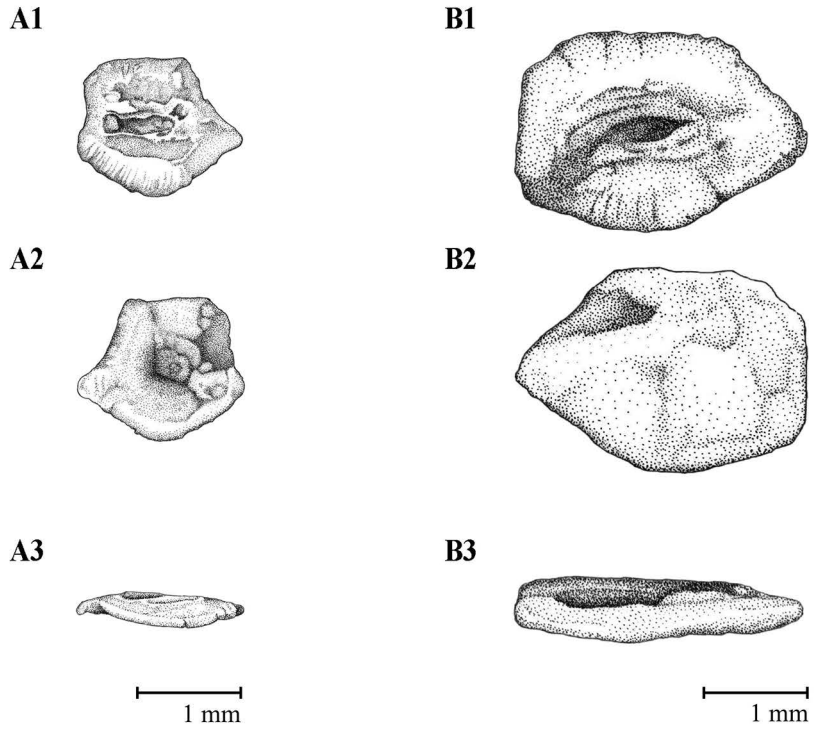


Plate 7. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Citharichthys spilopterus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 63 mm; B. 183 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

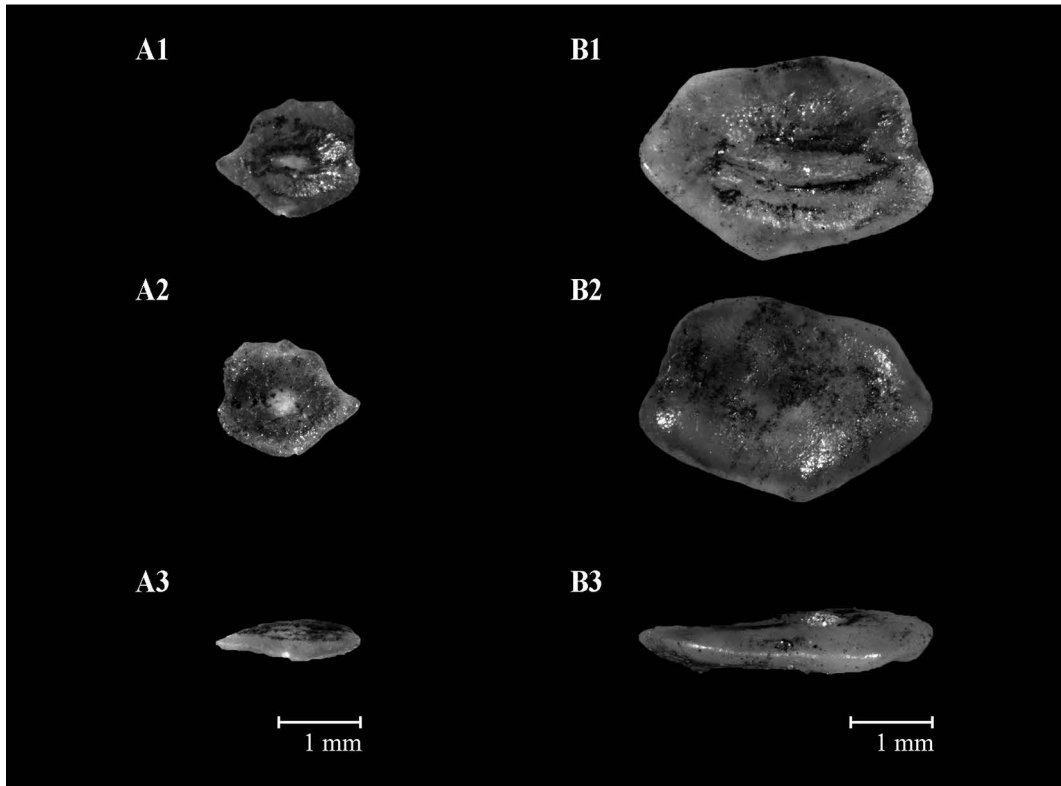
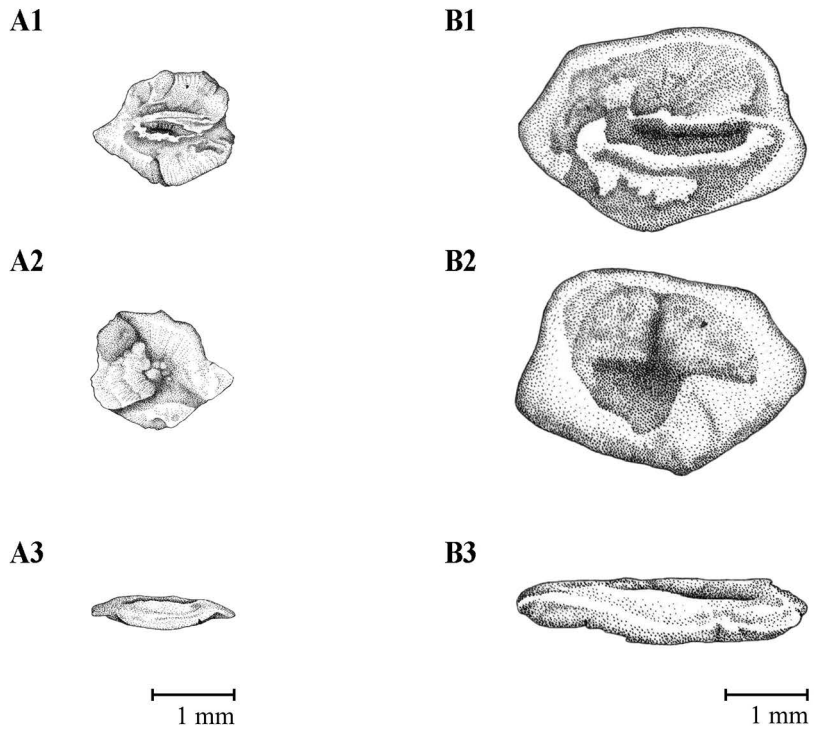


Plate 8. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Citharichthys spilopterus* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 63 mm; B. 183 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

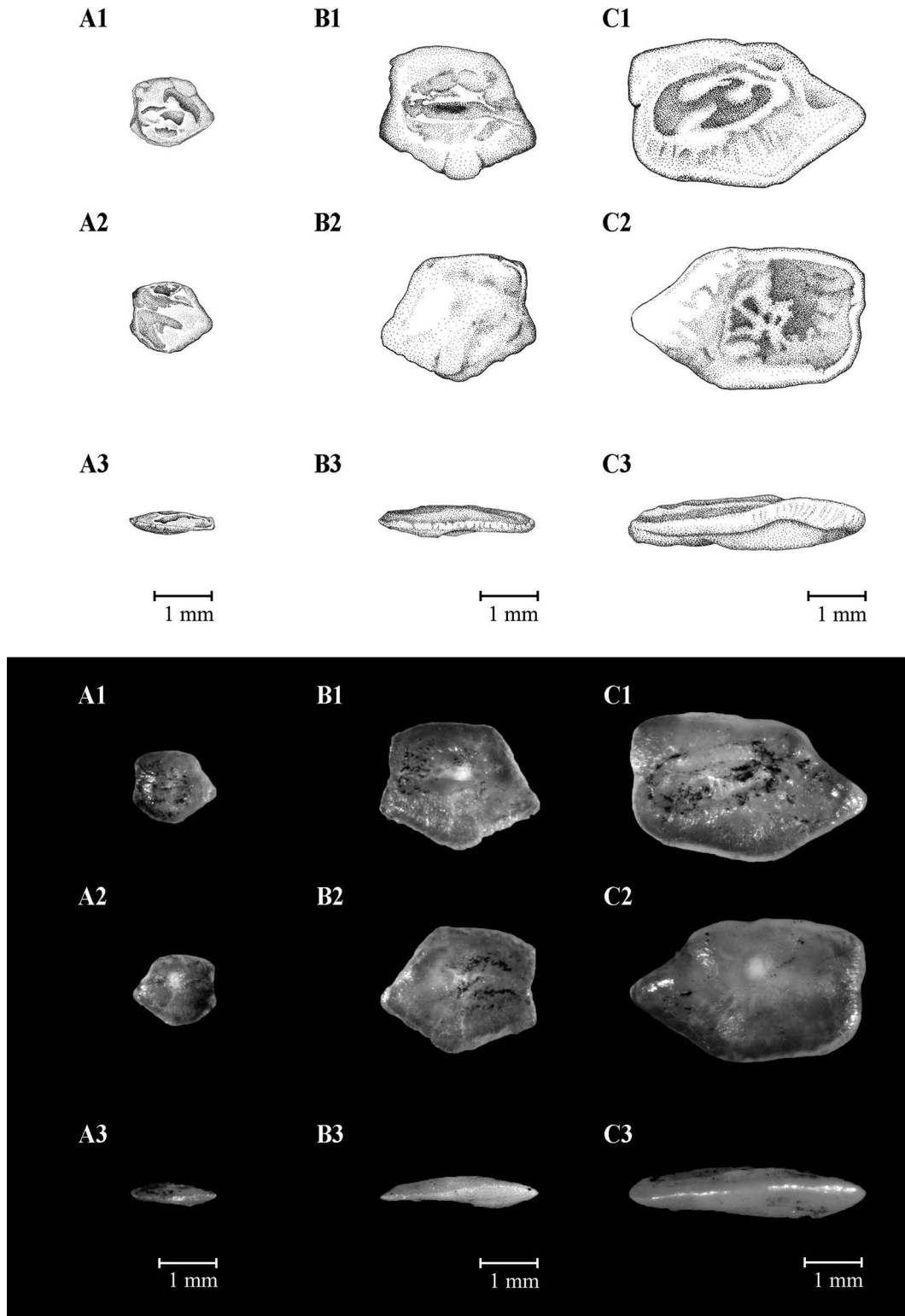


Plate 9. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Etropus crossotus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 50 mm; B. 109 mm; C. 157 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

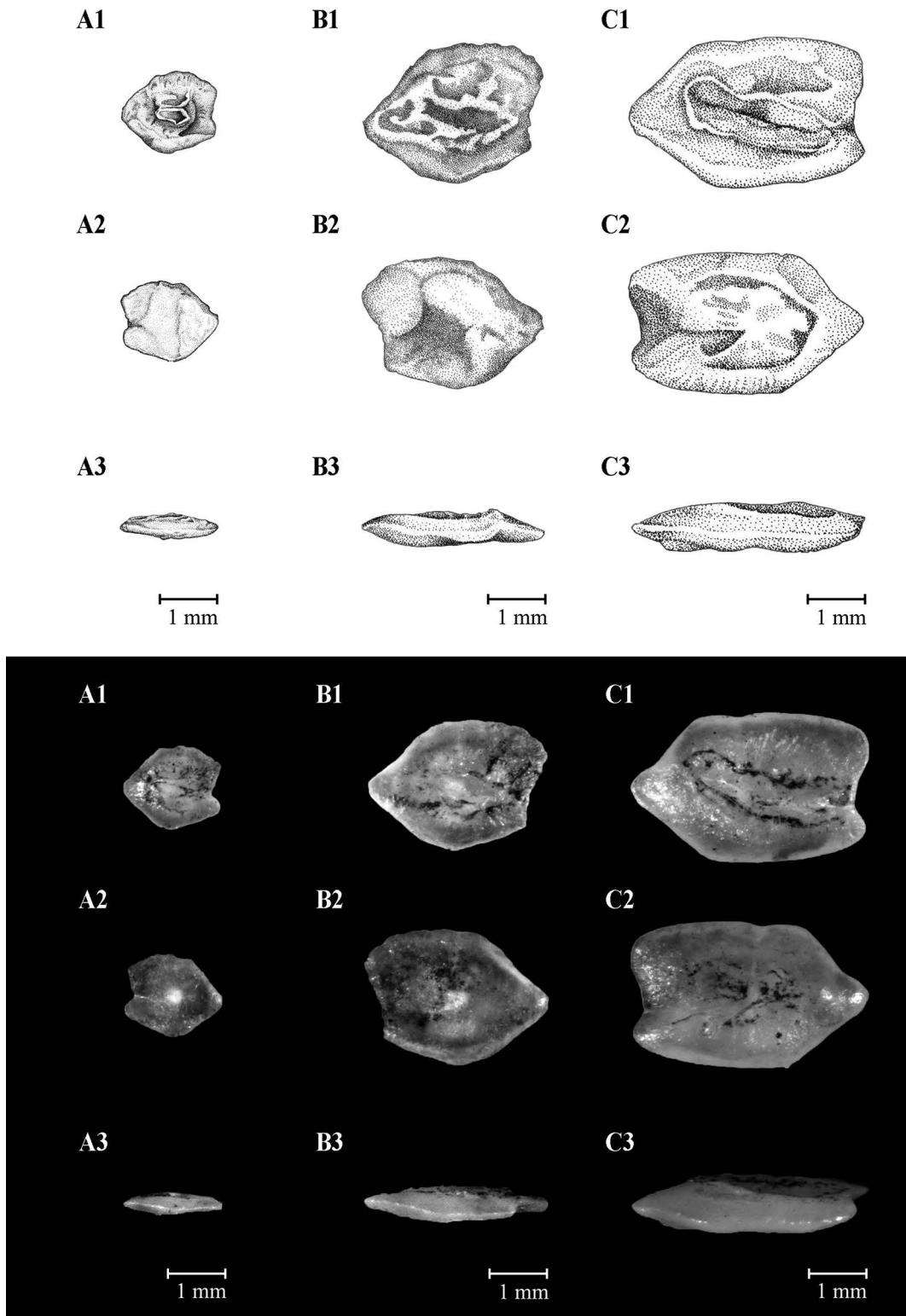


Plate 10. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Etropus crossotus* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 50 mm; B. 109 mm; C. 157 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

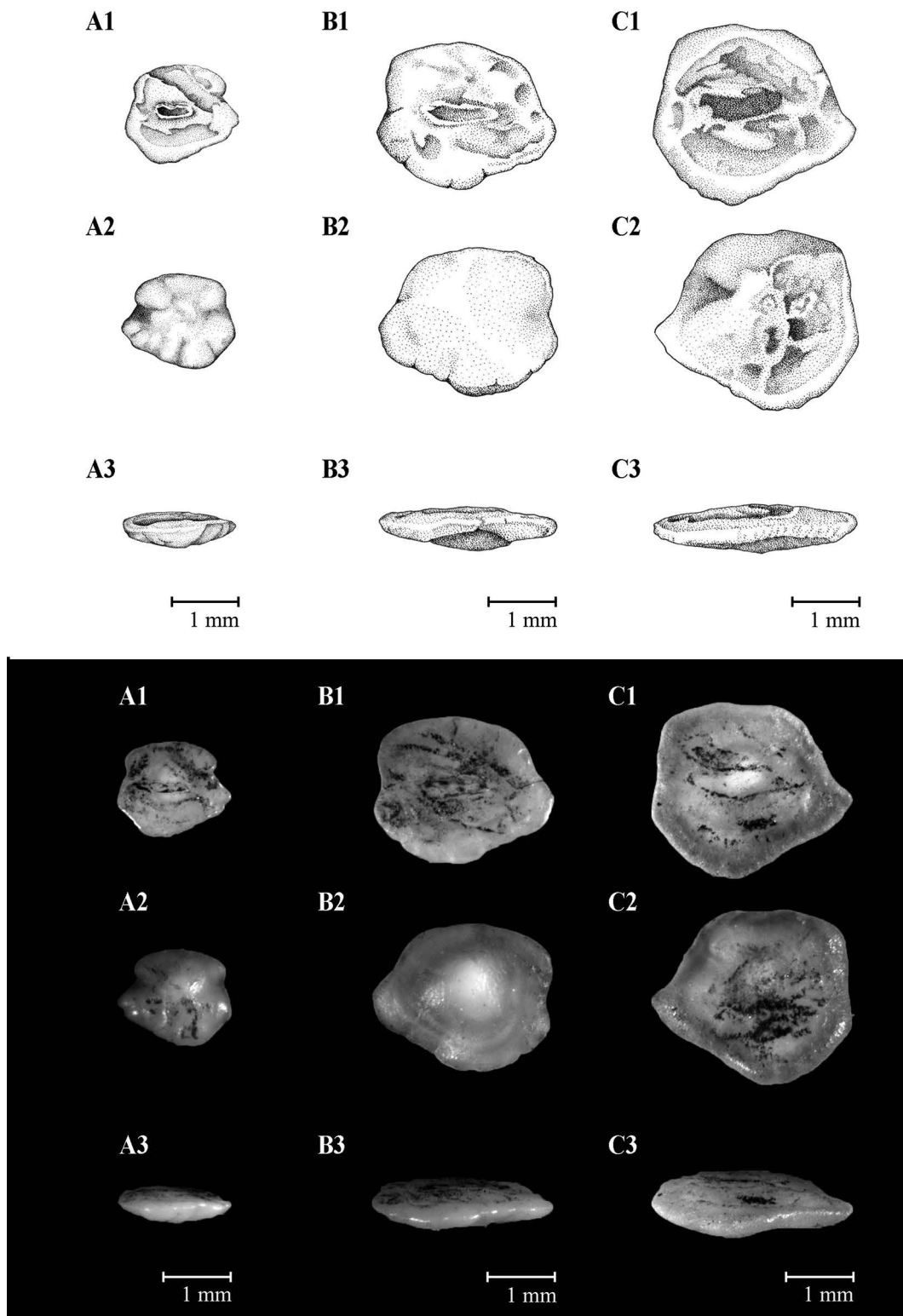


Plate 11. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Etropus longimanus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 53 mm; B. 98 mm; C. 145 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

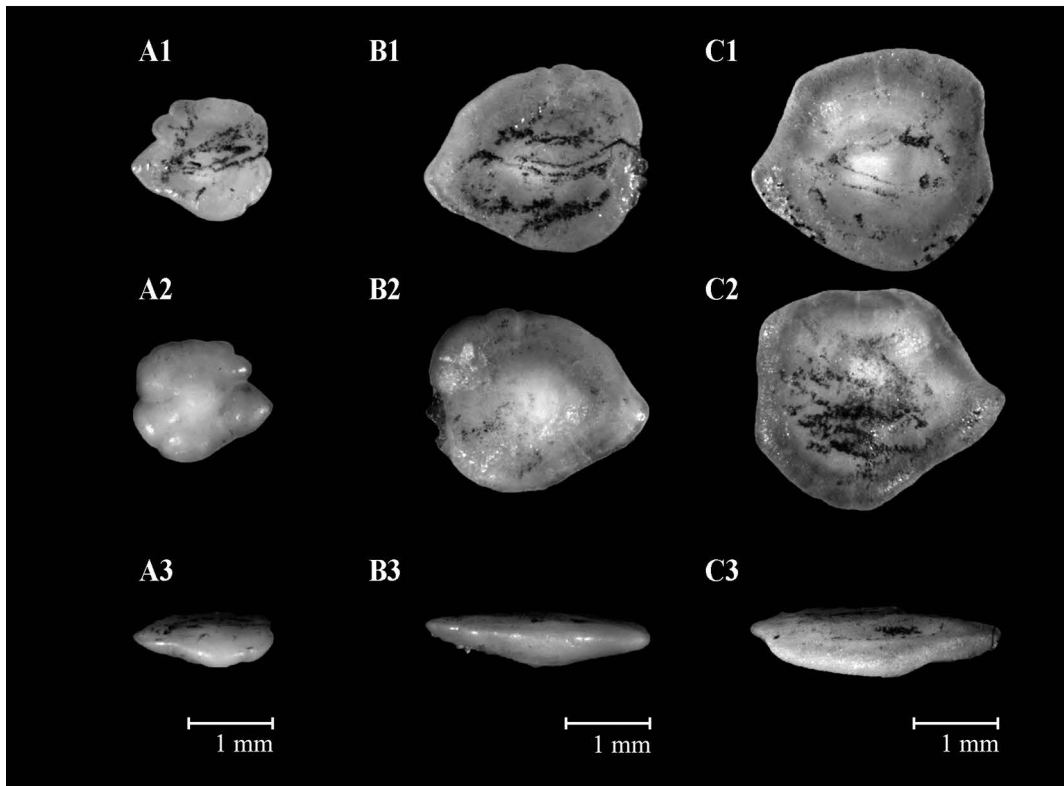
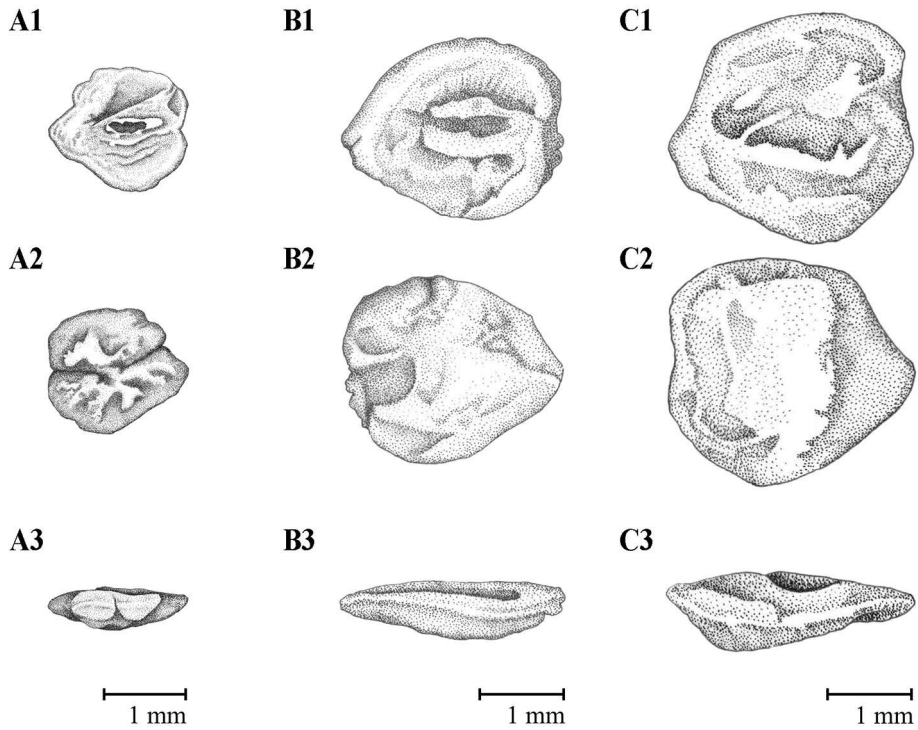


Plate 12. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Etropus longimanus* right sagittae from fish with total length: A. 53 mm; B. 98 mm; C. 145 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

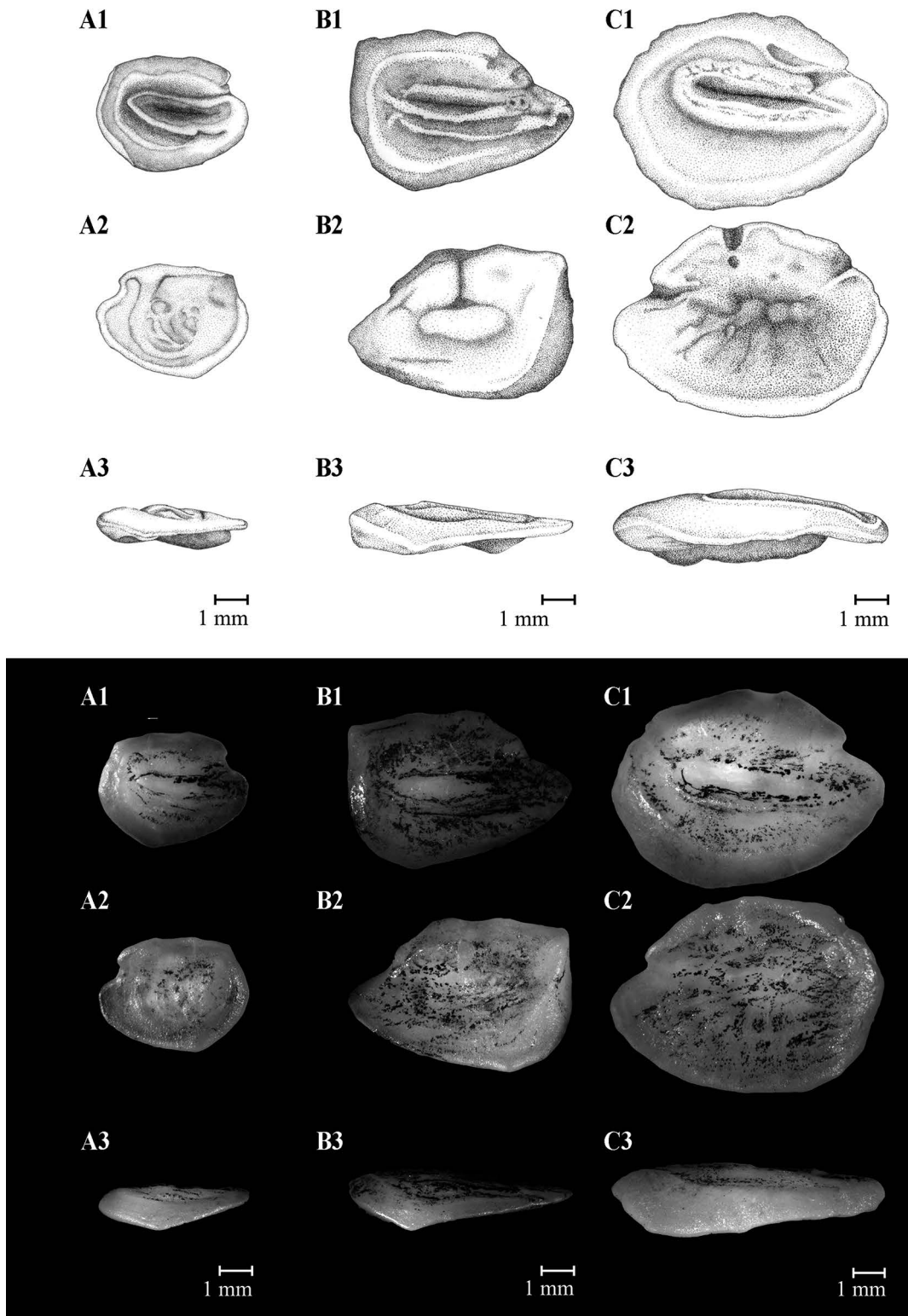


Plate 13. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys isoceles* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 197 mm; B. 287 mm; C. 377 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

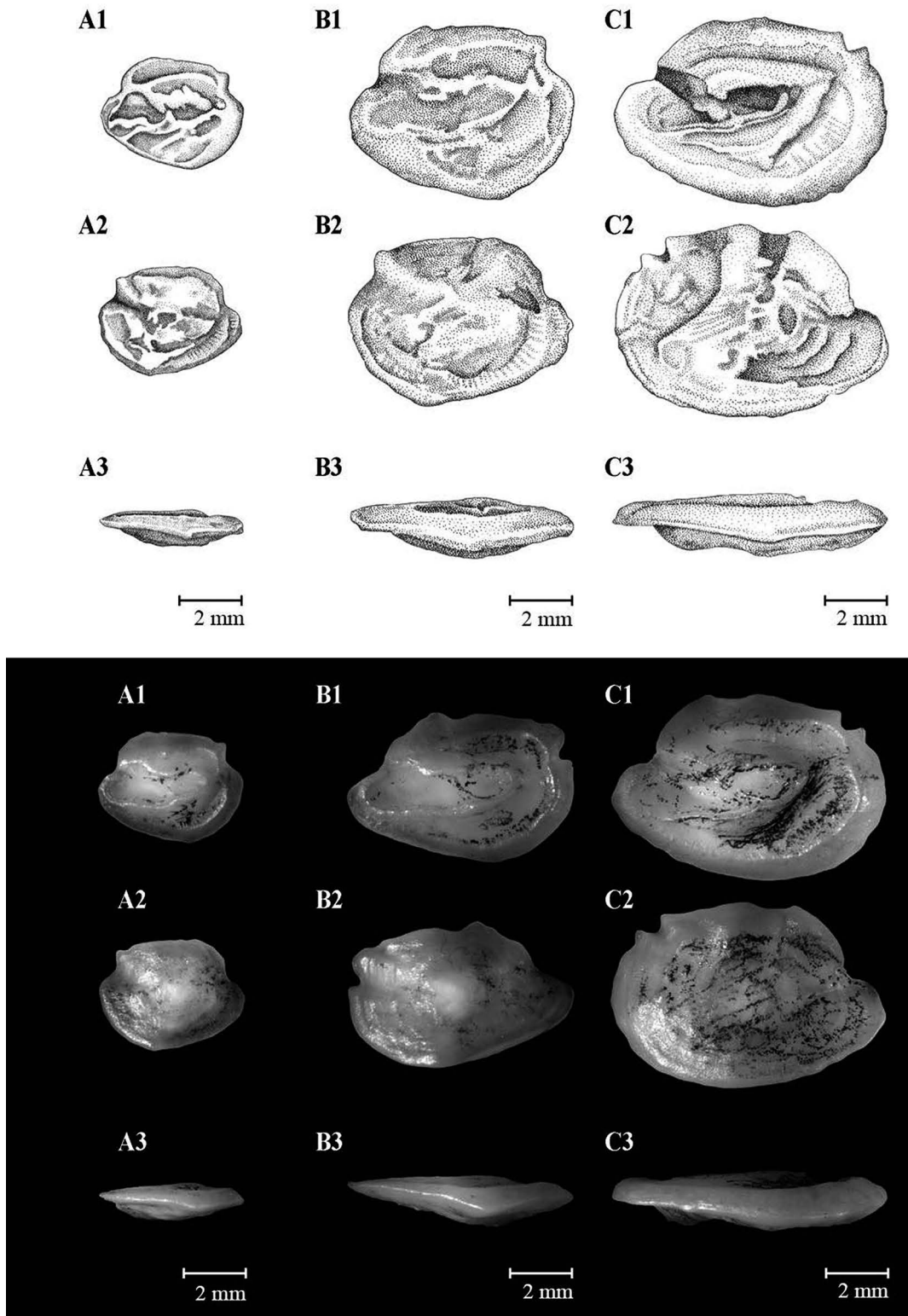


Plate 14. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys isosceles* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 197 mm; B. 287 mm; C. 377 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

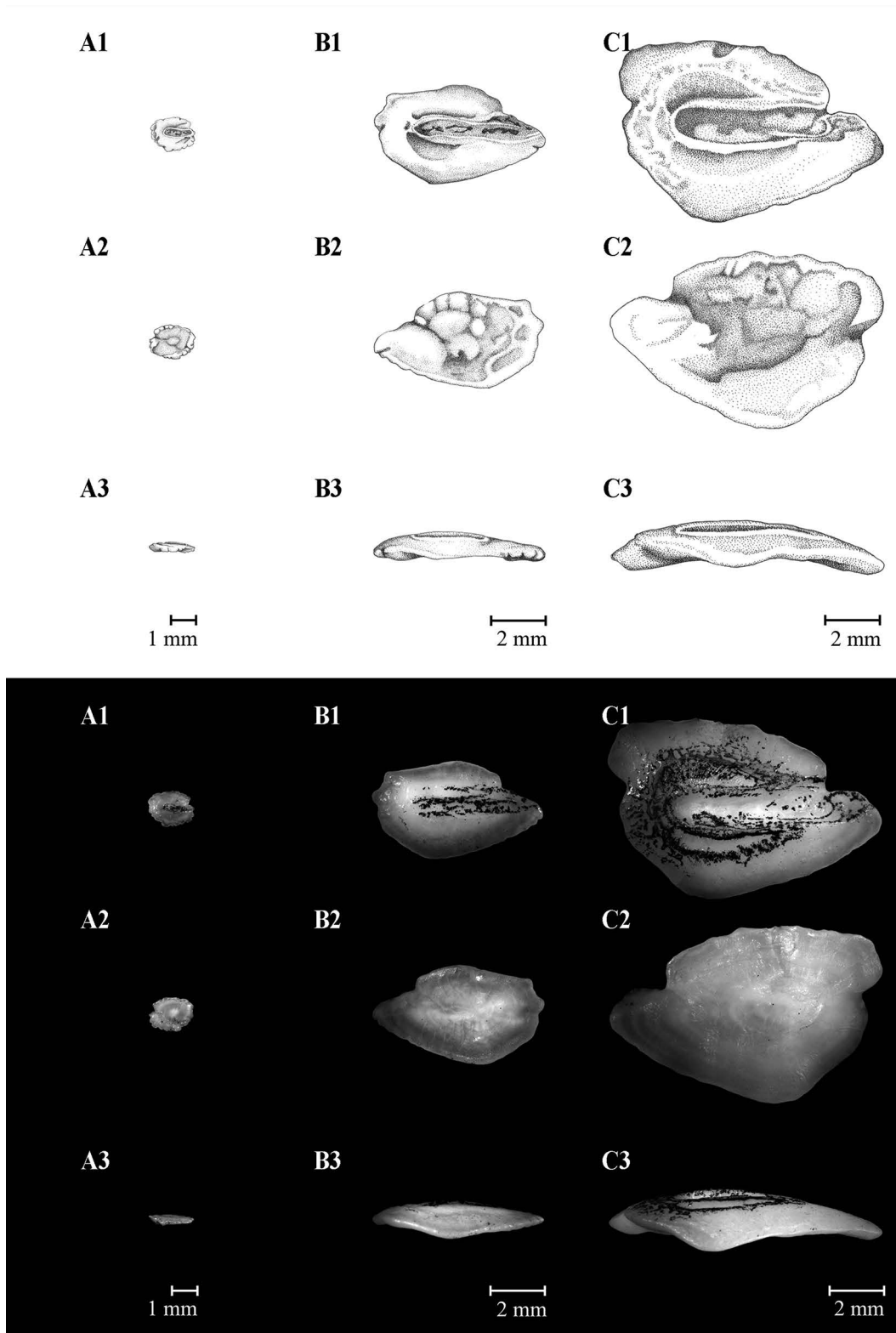


Plate 15. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys patagonicus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 125 mm; B. 323 mm; C. 555 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

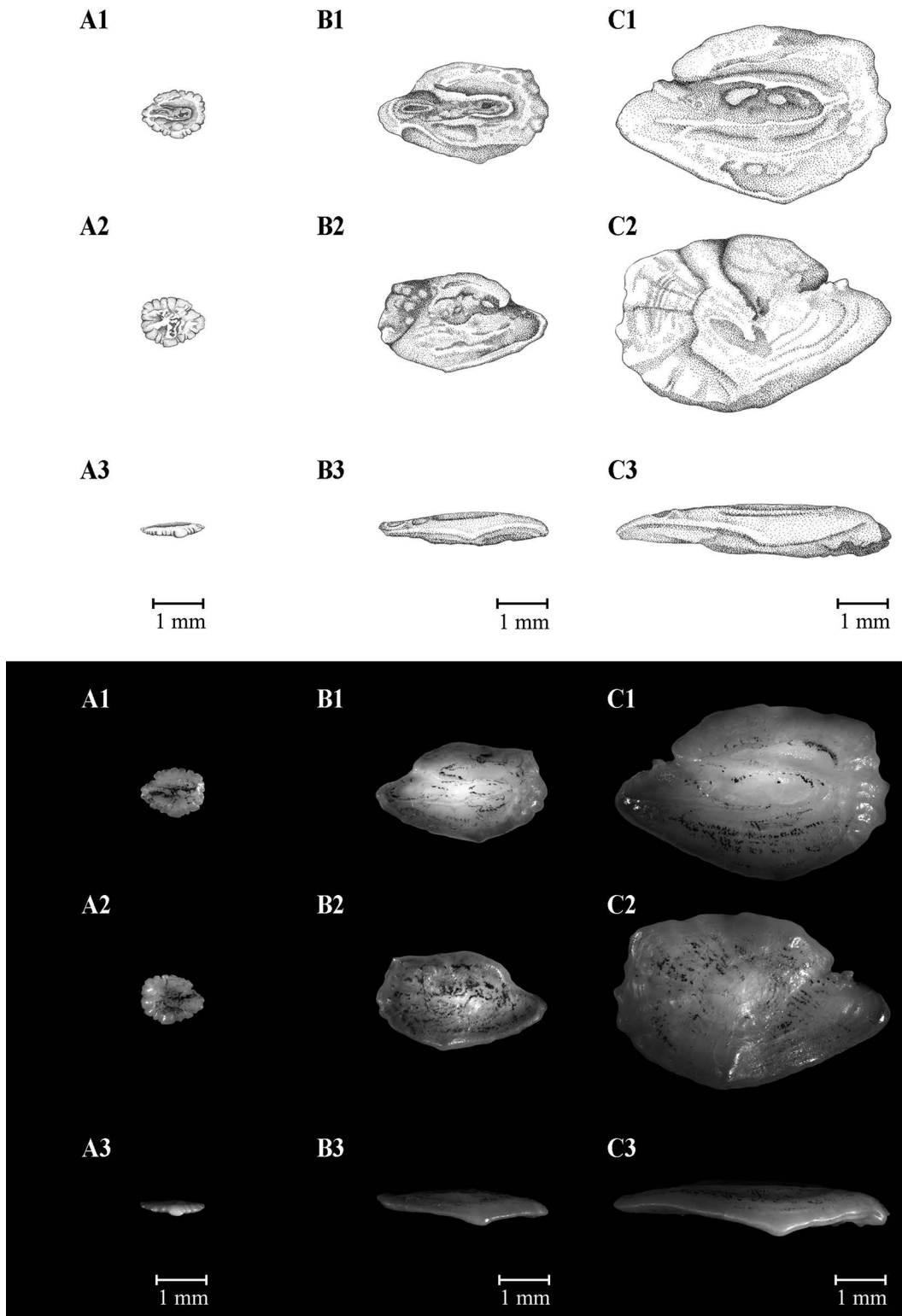


Plate 16. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys patagonicus* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 125 mm; B. 323 mm; C. 555 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

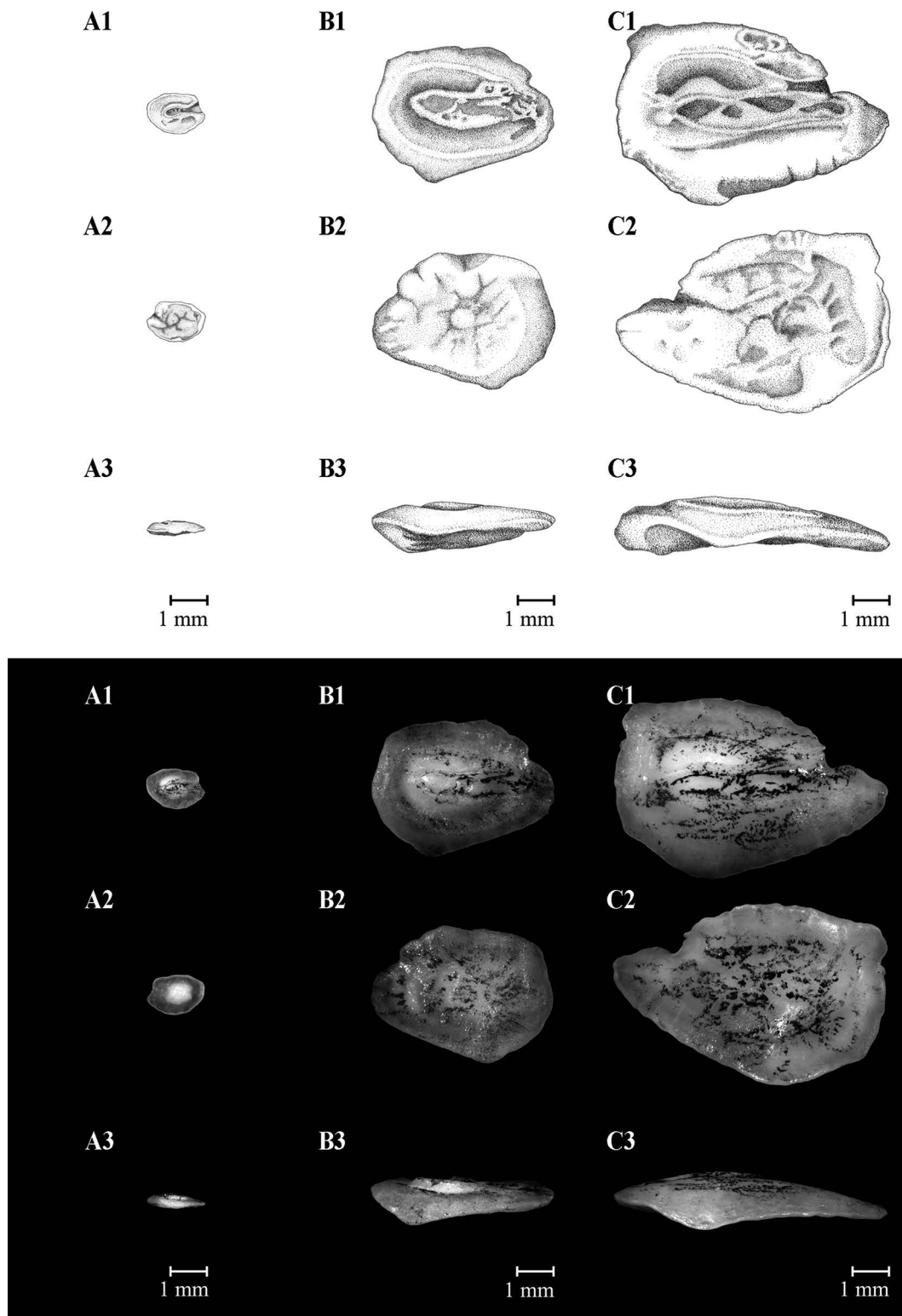


Plate 17. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys triocellatus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 70 mm; B. 205 mm; C. 338 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

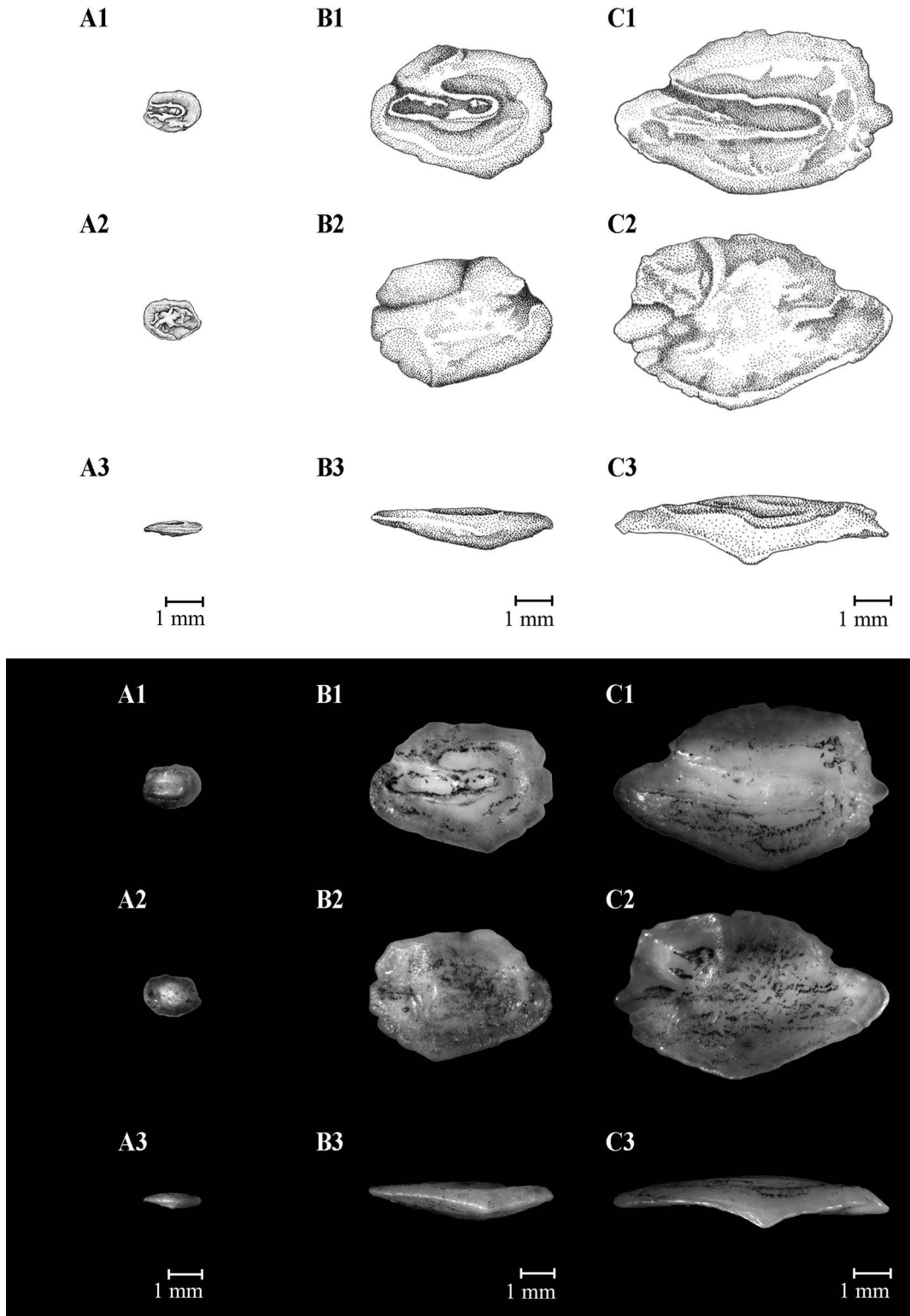


Plate 18. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Paralichthys triocellatus* right sagittae from fish with total length: A. 70 mm; B. 205 mm; C. 338 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

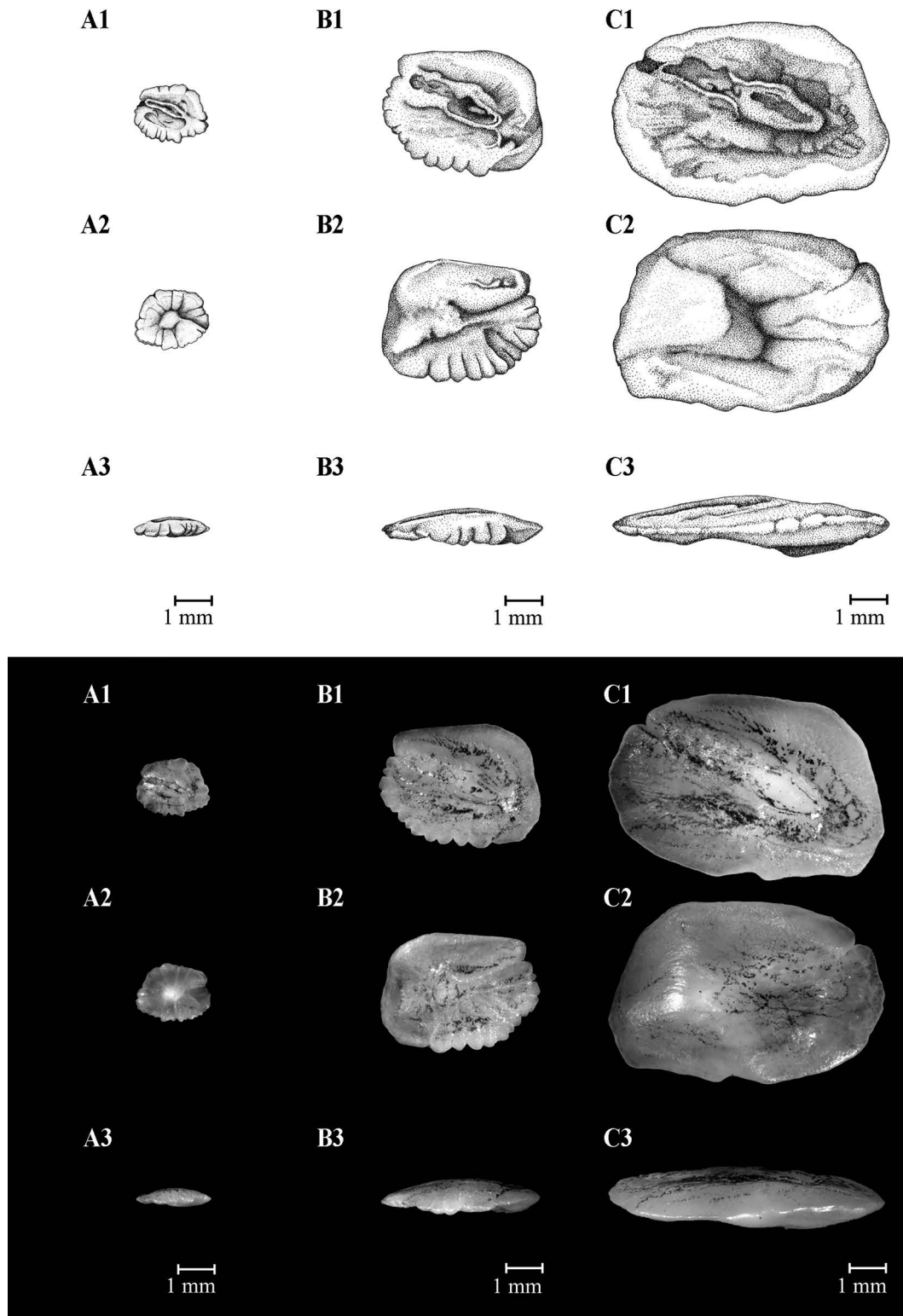


Plate 19. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Syacium papillosum* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 60 mm; B. 162 mm; C. 275 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

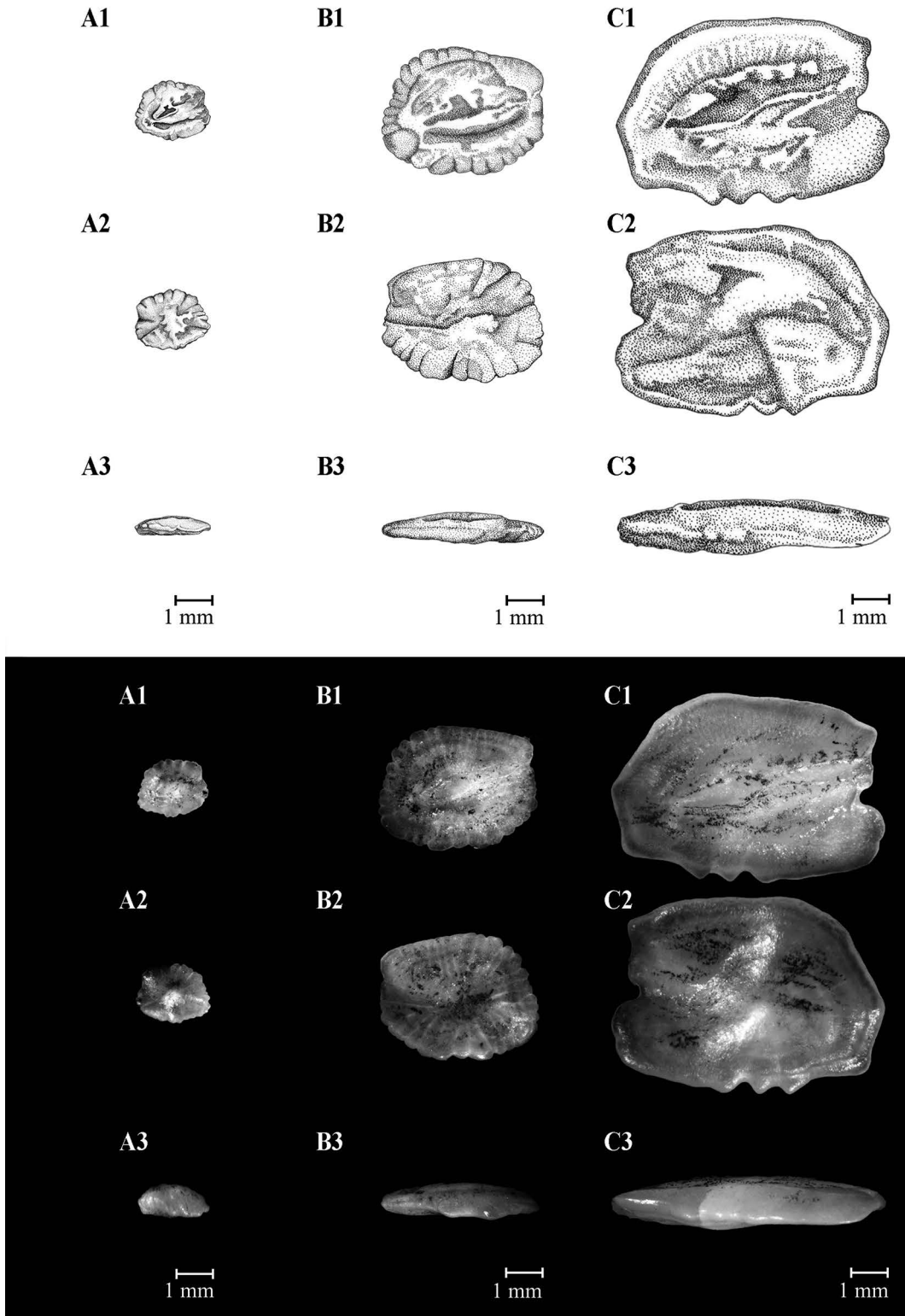


Plate 20. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Syacium papillosum* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 60 mm; B. 162 mm; C. 275 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

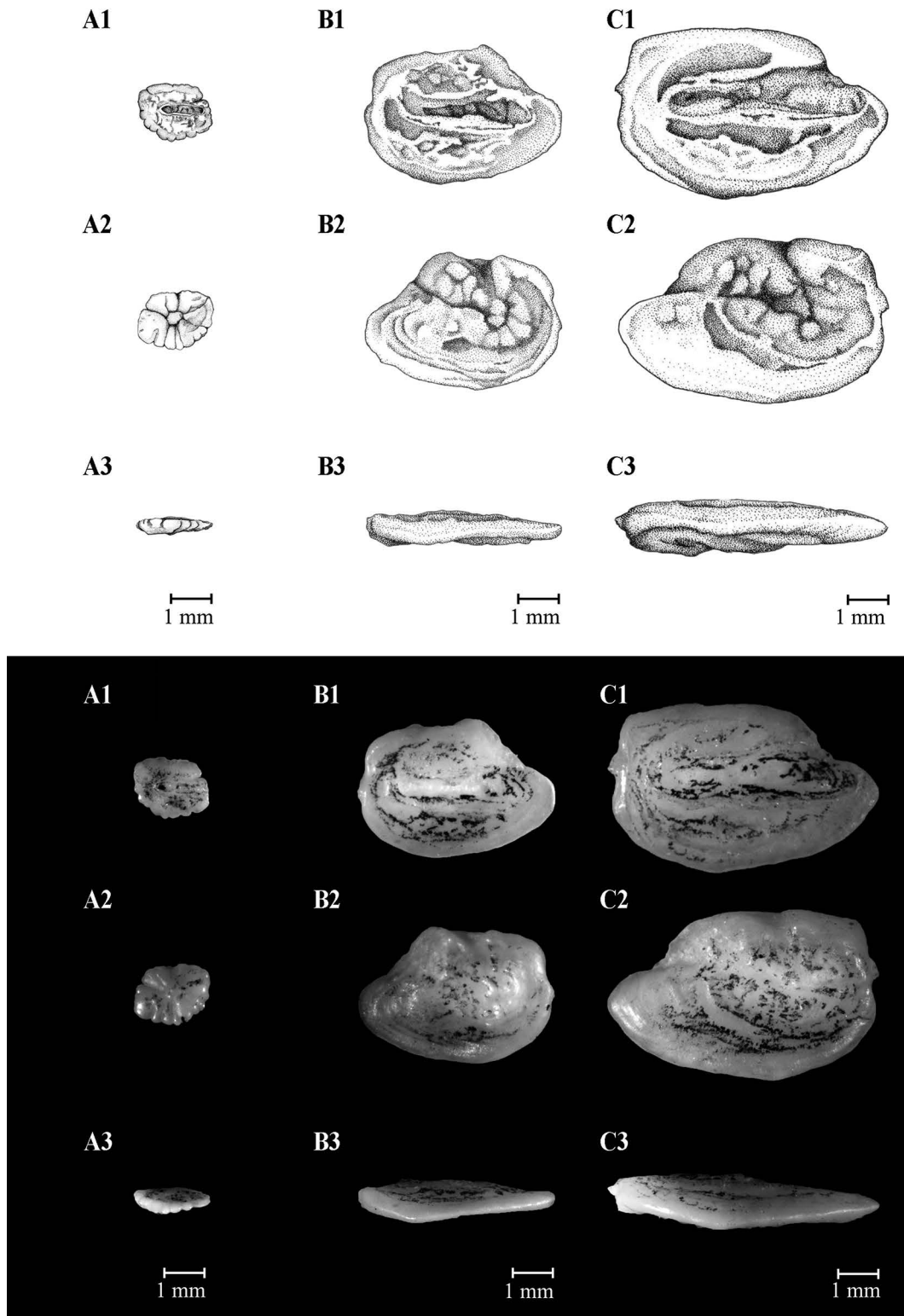


Plate 21. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Xystreuryx rasile* left sagittae from fish with total length: A. 76 mm; B. 248 mm; C. 392 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

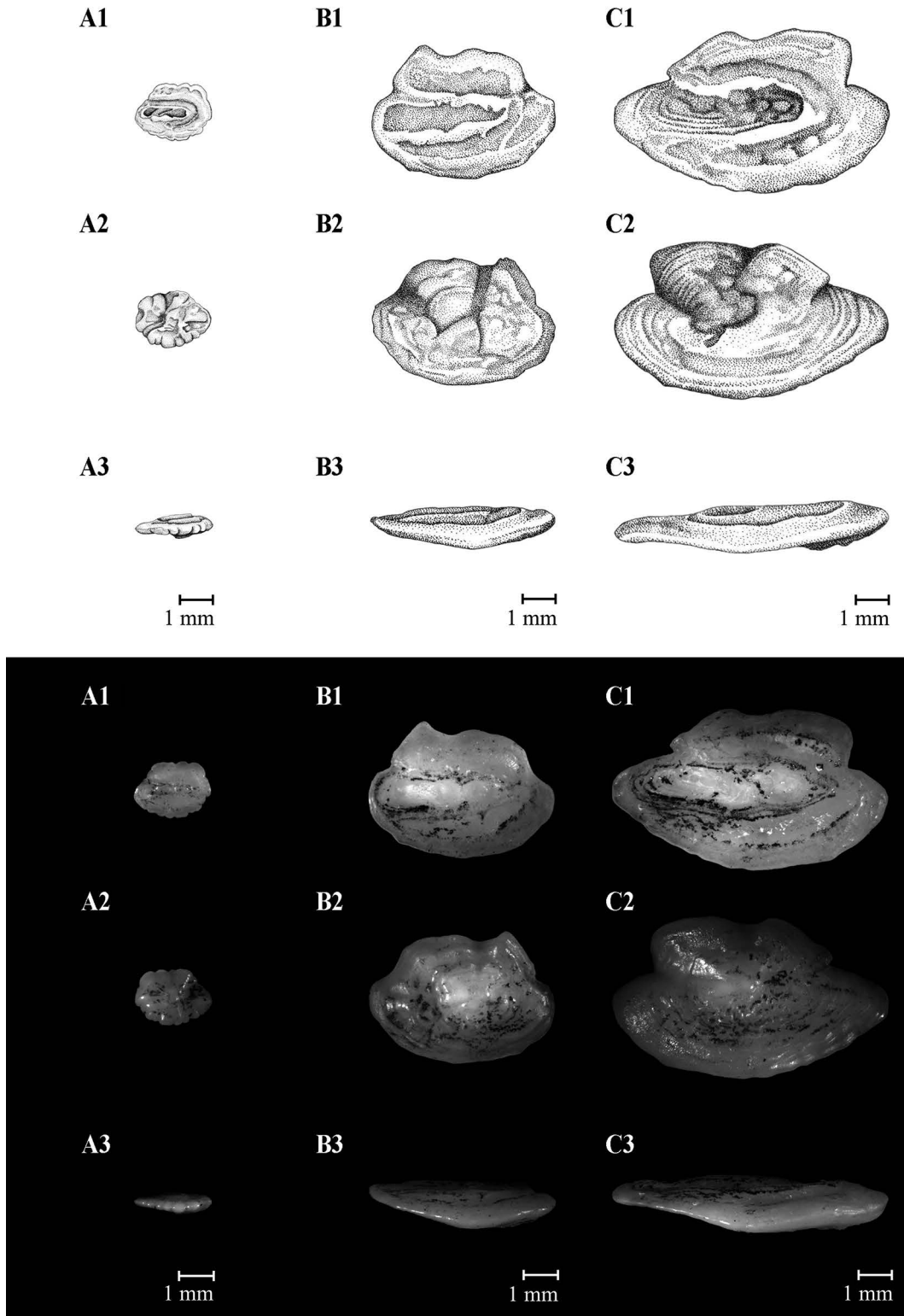


Plate 22. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Xystreurys rasile* right sagittae from fish with total length: A. 76 mm; B. 248 mm; C. 392 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; C1; the lateral face in A2; B2; C2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3; C3 (Illustration: Michelle König; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

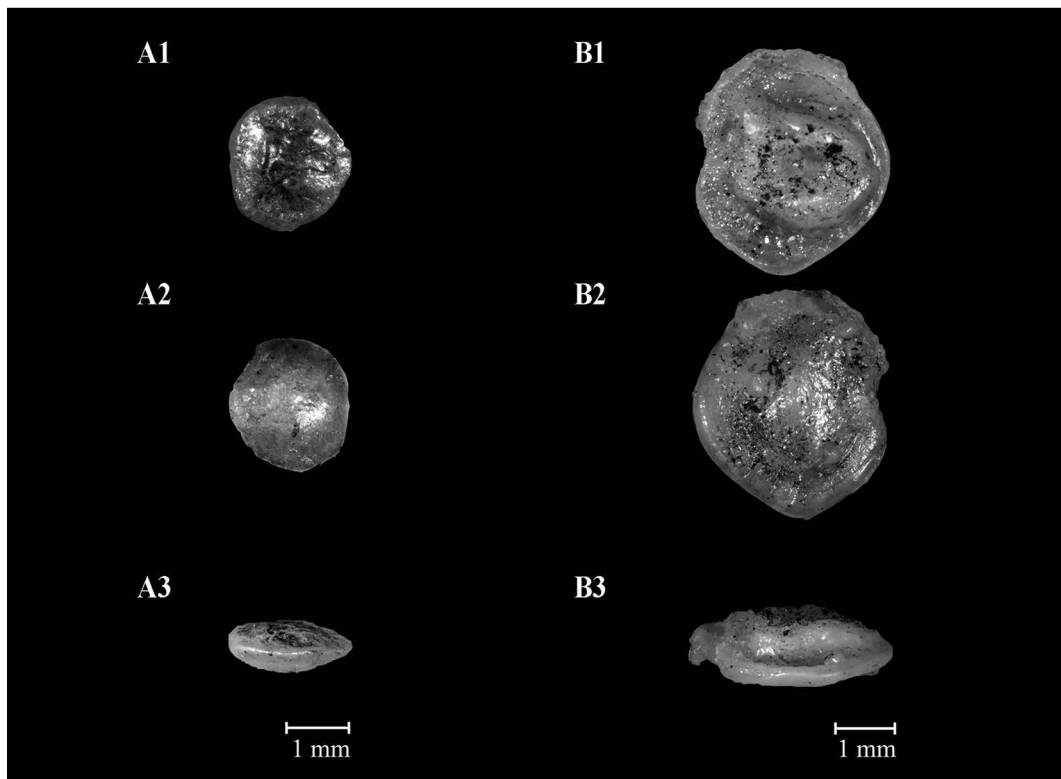
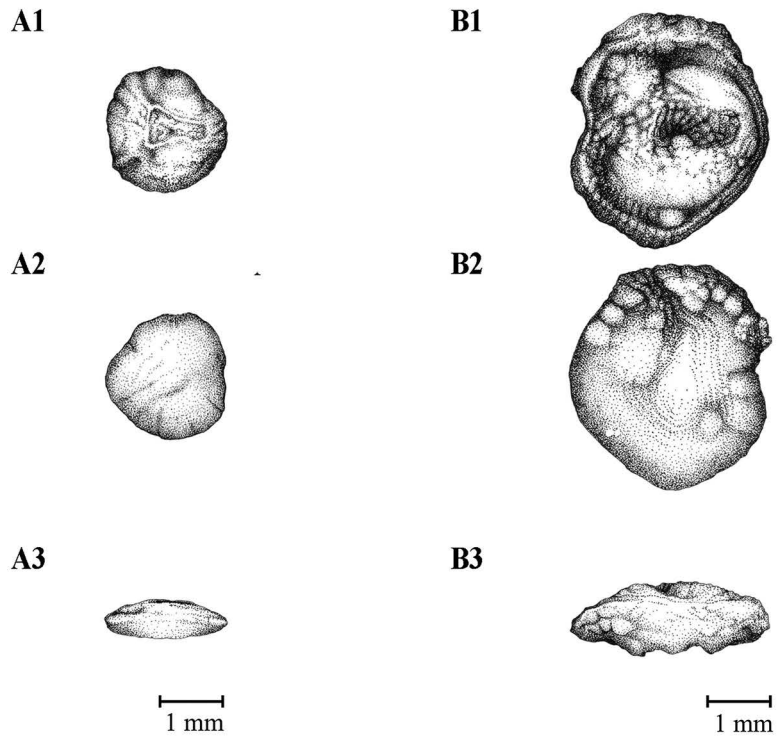


Plate 23. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus tessellatus* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 137 mm; B. 218 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

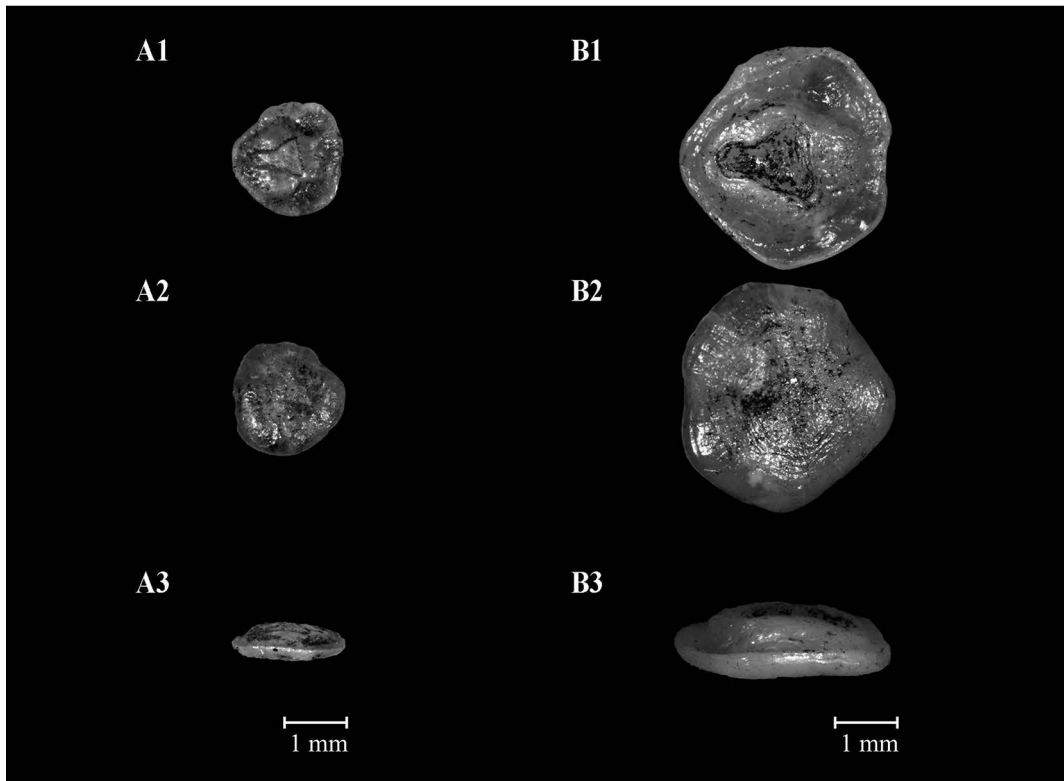
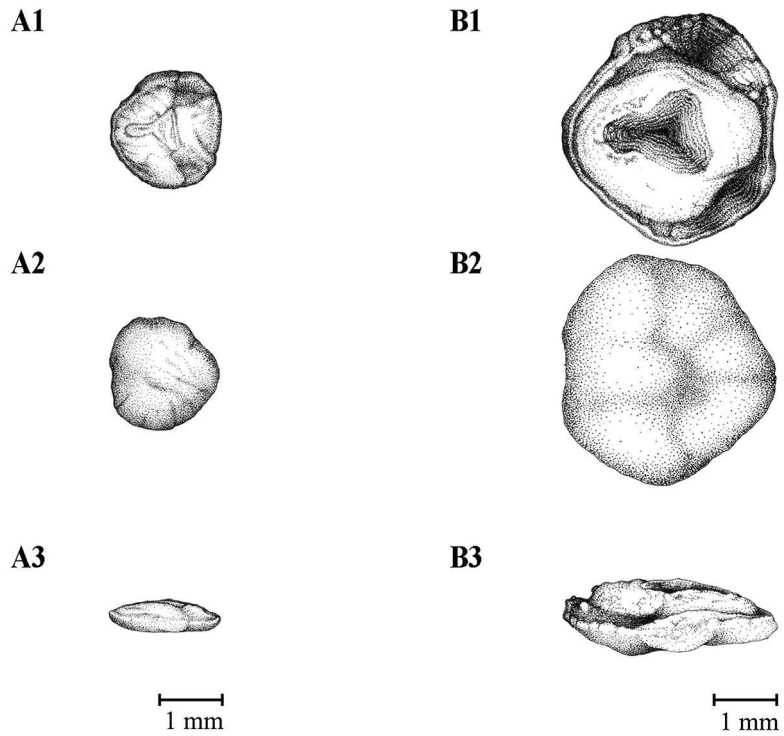


Plate 24. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus tessellatus* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 137 mm; B. 218 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

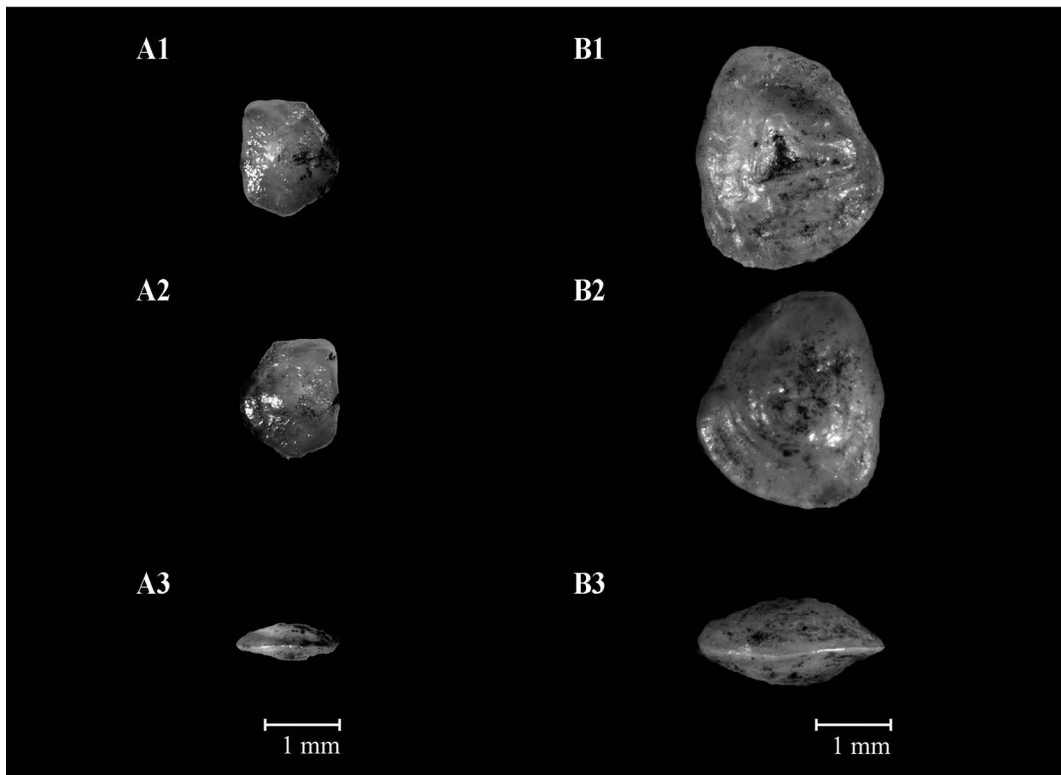
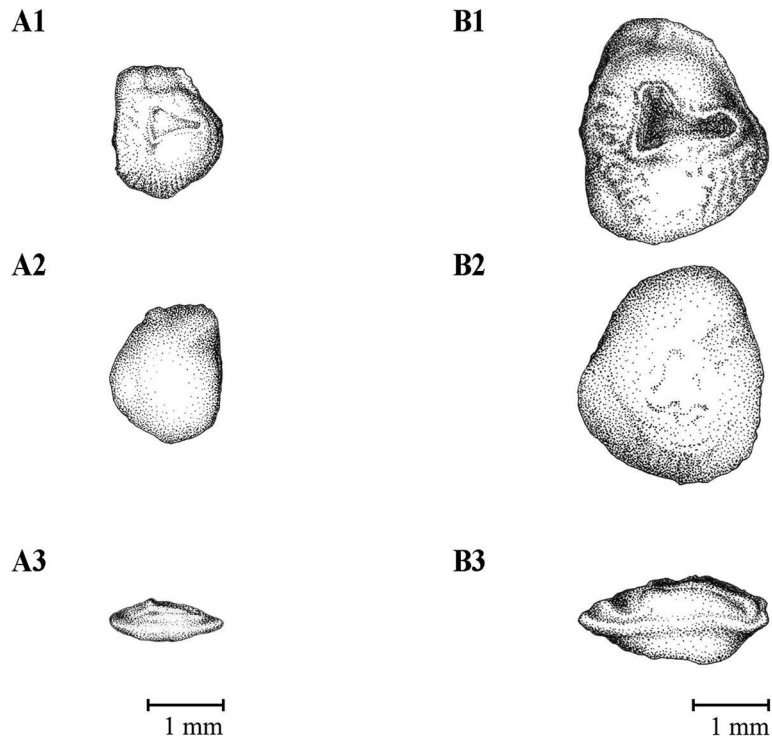


Plate 25. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus jenynsi* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 128 mm; B. 231 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

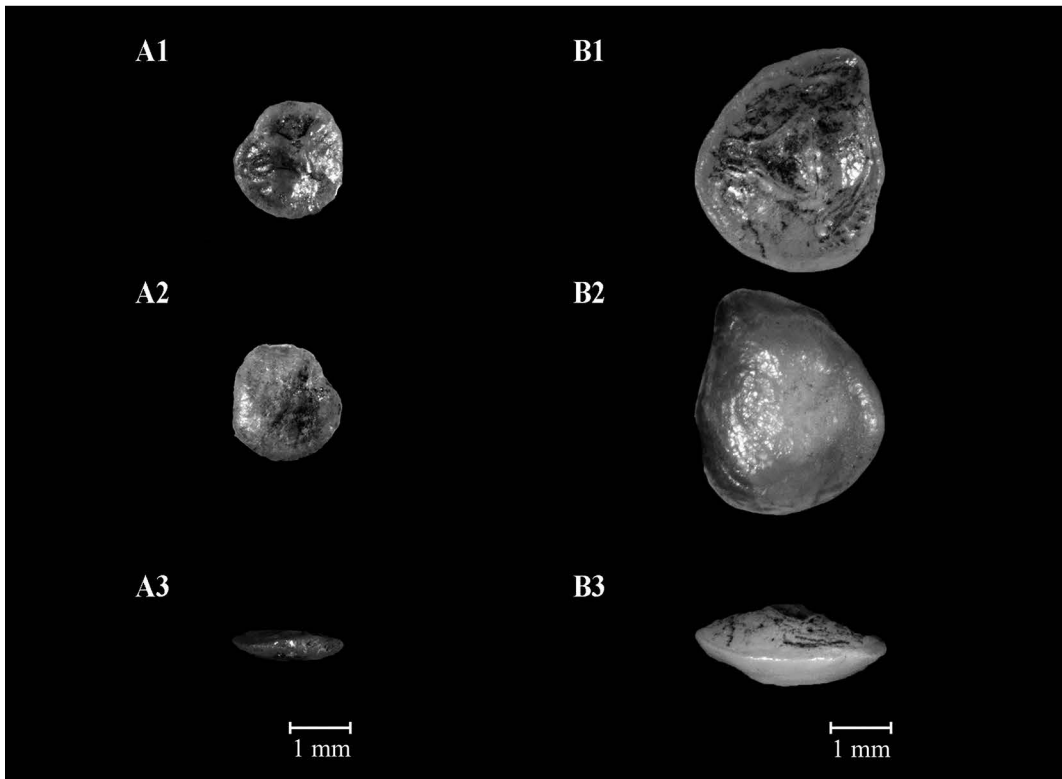
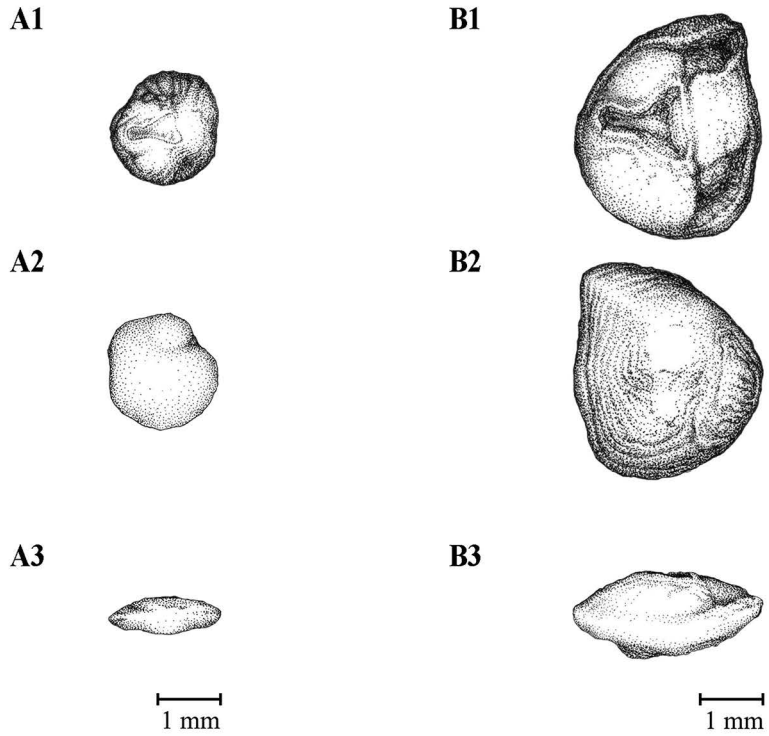


Plate 26. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus jenynsi* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 128 mm; B. 231 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

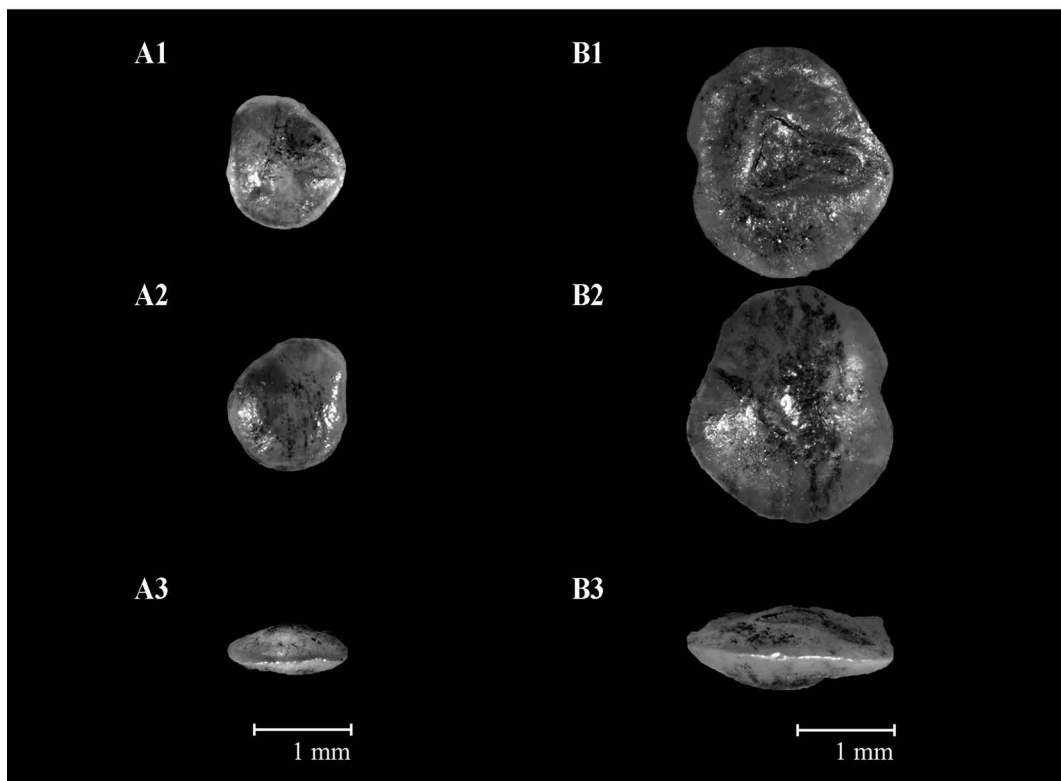
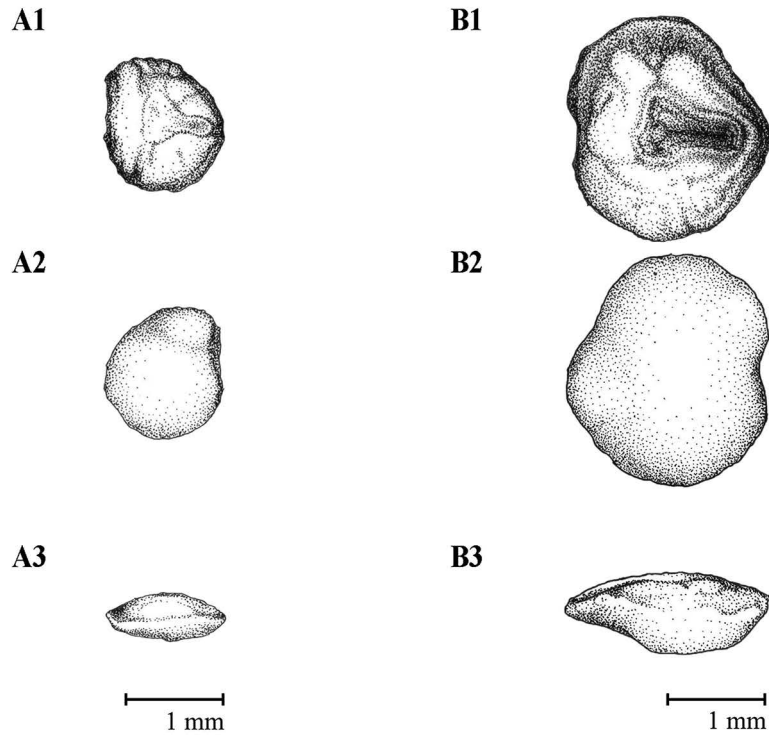


Plate 27. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus plagusia* left *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 113 mm; B. 204 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).

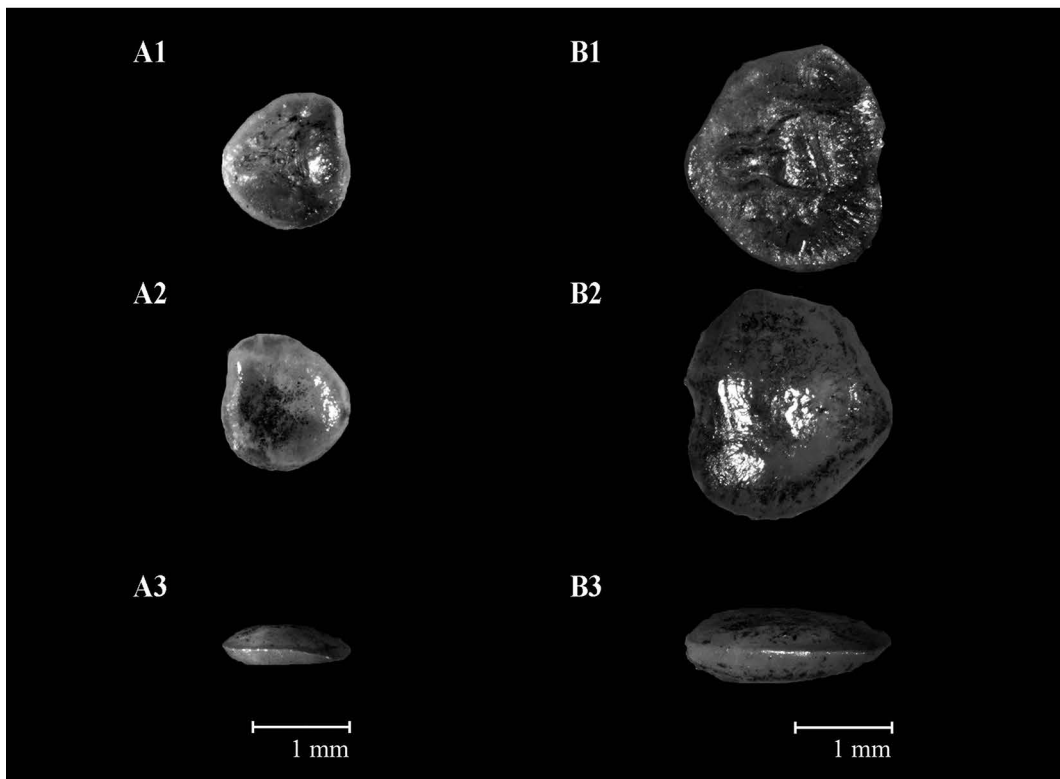
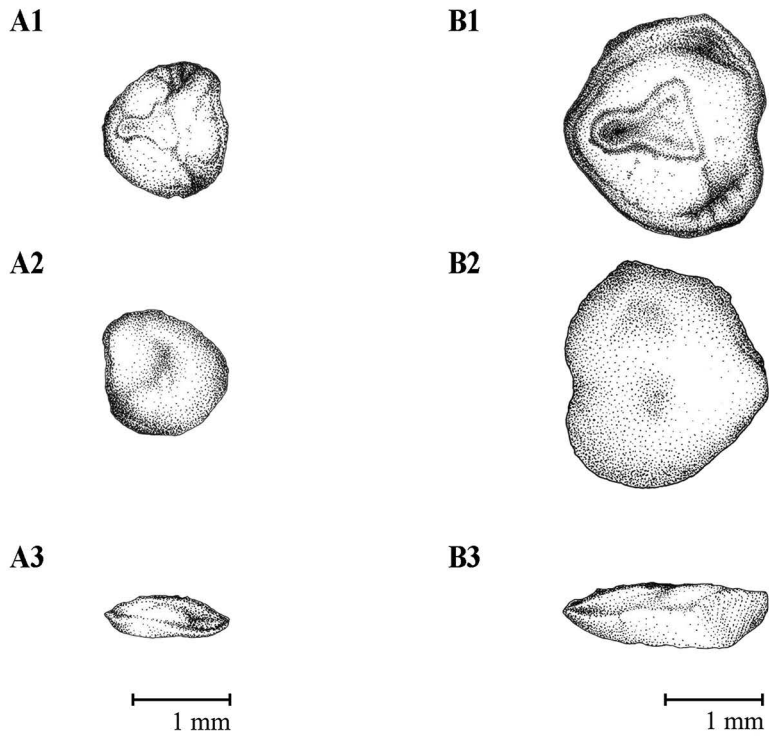


Plate 28. Illustrations (above) and photographs (below) of *Symphurus plagusia* right *sagittae* from fish with total length: A. 113 mm; B. 204 mm. The medial face is shown in A1; B1; the lateral face in A2; B2; and the ventral profile in A3; B3 (Illustration: Alexandre Arackawa; Photos: Cesar Santificetur).