

## **NEW DATA ABOUT THE SEMIONOTIDAE (ACTINOPTERYGII: HALECOSTOMI: SEMIONOTIFORMES) FROM THE LOWER CRETACEOUS SANTANA FORMATION**

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Semionotid fishes are a highly diverse group of Mesozoic Halecostomi, encompassing five distinct genera (*Lepidotes*, *Semionotus*, *Paralepidotus*, *Araripelepidotes*, and *Pliodetes*), with a world-wide distribution and confirmed temporal range from the Mid Triassic to the Late Cretaceous. The monophyletic condition of this family is well established, although the interrelationships of its genera as well as the exact taxonomic position of some species are still debatable.

In Brazil, the family Semionotidae is represented by, at least, two genera: *Lepidotes*, with eight nominal species (e.g. *Lepidotes piauiensis*, *L. roxoi*, *L. souzai*, *L. llewellyni*, *L. mawsoni*, *L. oliverai*, *L. dixseptiensis*, and *L. n. sp.*), and the monospecific clade *Araripelepidotes* (e.g. *A. temnurus*).

Semionotids are known from the Araripe Basin since 1841, when Louis Agassiz erected *Lepidotes temnurus*, from the Santana Formation. This taxon, later considered as a distinct genus, *Araripelepidotes* by R. S. SANTOS, was also described from the Crato Member of the Santana Formation. Recently, a second species, *Lepidotes* n. sp., has been found in the nodule bearing Romualdo Member of the Santana Formation.

The aim of the present note is to discuss some anatomical complexes from the Santana Formation semionotid fishes, providing additional comments on other semionotids from Western Gondwana.