



- : Silver pomfret



Latin Name: *Pampus argenteus*

French: Castagnole

Availability: North, Middle-West and North-East coasts of India Maharashtra, Gujarat and Orissa coasts

Pomfret are perciform fishes belonging to the family Bramidae.

They are found in the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, and the largest species, the Atlantic pomfret, *Brama brama*, grows up to 1 metre (3.3 ft) long.

Several species are important food fish, especially *Brama brama* in south Asia. The earlier form of the pomfret's name was pamflet, a word which probably ultimately comes from Portuguese pampo, referring to various fish such as the blue butterflyfish (*Stromateus fiatola*).

It is known by various names, such as Vavval in Tamil and Maanji in Tulu.

[edit] Species

There are about twenty species in eight genera:

- * Genus *Brama*
 - o *Brama australis* Valenciennes, 1837.
 - o Atlantic pomfret, *Brama brama* (Fries, 1837).
 - o Caribbean pomfret, *Brama caribbea* Mead, 1972.
 - o Lesser bream, *Brama dussumieri* Cuvier, 1831.
 - o Pacific pomfret, *Brama japonica* Hilgendorf, 1878.
 - o *Brama myersi* Mead, 1972.
 - o Bigtooth pomfret, *Brama orcini* Cuvier, 1831.
 - o *Brama pauciradiata* Moteki, Fujita & Last, 1995.
- * Genus *Collybus*
 - o *Collybus drachme* Snyder, 1904.
- * Genus *Eumegistus*
 - o *Eumegistus brevorti* (Poey, 1860).
 - o *Eumegistus illustris* Jordan & Jordan, 1922.
- * Genus *Pteraclis*
 - o Pacific fanfish, *Pteraclis aesticola* (Jordan & Snyder, 1901).
 - o *Pteraclis carolinus* Valenciennes, 1833.
 - Pteraclis carolinus*
 - o Spotted fanfish, *Pteraclis velifera australiae* Whitley, 1935.
- * Genus *Pterycombus*
 - o Atlantic fanfish, *Pterycombus brama* Fries, 1837.
 - o Prickly pomfret, *Pterycombus petersii* (Hilgendorf, 1878).
- * Genus *Taractes*
 - o Rough pomfret, *Taractes asper* Lowe, 1843.
 - o Pomfret, *Taractes rubescens* (Jordan & Evermann, 1887).
- * Genus *Taractichthys*
 - o Bigscale pomfret, *Taractichthys longipinnis* (Lowe, 1843).
 - o Sickie pomfret, *Taractichthys steindachneri* (D