

# Scientific Terminology (Latin & Greek) for Ichthyologists

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<u>Term</u>	<u>Greek</u>	<u>Latin</u>
<b>Common Animals</b>		
animal	zoo-, -zoon	
bird	ornis	avi-, -avis
cat		feli-, -felis
dog	cyno, cyon	cani-, -canis
fish	ichthyo-, -ichthys	pisci-, -piscis
frog	batracho-, -batrachus	rani-, -rana
hare	lago-	
horse	hippo-, -hippus	equi-, -equus
lizard	sauro-, -saurus, -seps	lacerti-, -lacerta
man	anthropo-, -anthropus	homini-, -homo
reptile	herpeto-	
snake	ophio-, -ophis	aspidi-, -aspis, colubri-, -coluber
squirrel		sciurus
toad	phryno-	
turtle	emydo-, -emys,	testudini-, -testudo
turtle	chelono-, -chelys	
<b>Numbers</b>		
one	mono-	uni-
two	di	bi- duo-
three	tria-	tri-
four	tetra-	quadri-
five	pento-	quinque-
six	hexa-	sex-
seven	hepta-	septem-
eight	octo-	octo-
nine	ennea-	novem-
ten	deca-	decim-
hundred	hecato-	centi-
thousand	kilo-	milli-
<b>Quantities</b>		
equal	iso-	equi-
unequal	aniso-	
few	oligo-	pauci-
many	poly-, myria-	multi-
single	haplo-	
excess, many	pletho-	

	<u>Term</u>	<u>Greek</u>	<u>Latin</u>
<b>Colors</b>	color	chrom-	
	black	melano-	nigr-
	white	leuco-	alb-
	red	erythro-	rubr-
	red-orange	pyrrho-	
	scarlet		coccin-
	orange	cirrho-, croco-	auranti-
	yellow	xantho-	flav-
	lemon yellow	citrin-	
	green	chloro-	virid-
	blue	cyano-	coerule-
	violet	iono-, iodo-	violace-
	purple	phoenico-, porphyro-	purpur-
	brown		fusc-
	gray	polio-	glauco-
<b>Metallic colors</b>	gold	chryso-	aur-
	silver	argyr-	argent-
	bronze	chalco-	aene-
	copper	chalco-	cupri-
	iron		ferr-
	lead	molybdo-	plumb-
<b>Patterns</b>	banded/striped	fasciat-	*fasciat-
	striped		vittat-
	checkered		tesselat-
	spotted	stigmato-	maculat-, guttat-
	bright	sela-	
<b>Geographic terms</b>	mountains	ore-	montan-
	woods	hyl-	sylvat-
	western		occident-
	eastern		orient-
	earth	geo-	

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<b>Body Parts</b>		
ankle		tars-
anus	procto	-anus
arm	brachi-	
back	noto-	dors-
beak	rhyncho-	rostr-
belly		ventr-
body	soma	corporo-
bone	osteo-	os
brain	encephalo-	cerebr-
breast		pector-, stern-
bristle	chaeto-	seti-
cell	cyto-	celli-
cheek		bucc-
claw	chelo-	
crest	lopho-	cris-
crown	stephano-	coron-
digit	dactylo-	digiti-
ear	oto-	auri-
egg	oo-	ovi-
eye	ophthalmo-	oculi-
eyelash	blepharo-	
face	op-	
feather	pterylo-	plum-, -pinna
finger	dactylo-	digiti-
flesh	sarco-	carni-
foot	podo-	pedi-
gill	branch-	
hair	tricho-	pil-, capil-
hand	chiro-	mani-
head	cephalo-	capit-
heart	cardi-	cordi-
horn	cerato-	corn-
jaw	gnatho-, -genys	maxill-
joint	arthro-	articuli-
leg	scelo-	crur-
lip	chilo-	labi-, labr-
mouth	stomato-	ora-
muscle	myo-	
neck	aucheno-, trachelo-	cervic-
nose	rhino-	nasi-
scale	lepido-	squam-
shell	concho-	ostraco-
skin	derm-	cutan-
skull	cranio-	
sperm	spermato-	-semen, semin-
stomach	gastro-	ventr-
tail	cercu-, uro-, -ura	caud-
(cont'd)		

<u>Term</u>	<u>Greek</u>	<u>Latin</u>
thigh	mero-	femor-
thorax	thoraco-	
throat	pharyngo-, trachelo-	gula-, guttur-
tongue	glosso-	-lingu
tooth	odonto-	dent-
wing	ptero-, -pteryx	ala-, -ala

### Shapes and Descriptions of parts

bending	campto-	
blunt	ambly-	
crooked	scolio-	
cup-shaped	amby-	
flat	platy-	plani-
form	morpho-, -oid	-form
hard	sclero-	duri-
hooked	onco-, ancistr-	
large	macro-, megal-	
long	dolicho-	
naked	gymno-	
narrow	steno-	
punctures	sticto-	punctat-
rough	trach-, trachin-	asper-
round	cyclo-, gyro-,	
round	strongylo-	circuli-
sharp	oxy-	acri-, acuti-
short	brachy-	
slender	lepto-	gracil-
small	micro	
smooth	leio-	
spiny	acantho-, echino-	spini-
split	schisto-, schizo-	
straight	ortho-	recti-
thick	pachy-, pycno-	crassi-
twisted	strepto-, ileo-	
wide	EURY-, platy-	lati-

### Relative positions

above	hyper-	super-, supra
across	dia-	trans-
against	anti-	contra-
around	peri-	circum-
before	pro-	pre-
behind	opistho-	post-
below	hypo-	infra-
beside	para-	
between	meta-	inter-
(cont'd)		

<u>Term</u>	<u>Greek</u>	<u>Latin</u>
beyond		ultra
eastern	euro-	oriental-
far	tele-	
first	archo-	primi-
front	proto-	antero-
inner	endo-, ento-	
middle	meso-	medi-
near	para-	proxim-
northern		arctic-, boreal-
opposite	anti-	contra-
outside	ecto-, exo-	extern-, extra-
over	hyper-, epi-	super-, supra-
southern	noto-	austr-
under	hypo-	infra-, sub
western		occidental-

### **Miscellaneous**

without	a-	
self	auto-	
with, together	syn-	con-
half	hemi-	semi-
new	neo-	
eat	phago-	
glassy, shiny	hyalo-	
water	hydro-	
stone	litho-	
false	pseudo-	
science of	-ology	
good	eu-, ev-	

\* I'm not sure about the origins of this word (Latin or Greek) but it is used this way

-- Ron Coleman