



Accession Number: - ZOO148

Scientific Name: -*Chimaera* spp.

Family: Chimaeridae

Common Name: Ghost sharks, Ratfish, or Rabbitfish

Physical Characteristics:

Chimaeras have a distinctive appearance characterised by elongated bodies, large eyes, and a long, whip-like tail. They have smooth, scaleless skin and lack the typical bony plates found in other cartilaginous fish, such as sharks and rays. *Chimaeras* also possess a single gill opening, unlike most other fish, which have multiple gill slits.

Geographical Distribution:

Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Southern Ocean, Indian Ocean.

Economic Importance:

It holds limited direct economic value; its importance lies in scientific research, educational displays, and the broader ecological understanding it provides. Practical conservation and management efforts are necessary to protect these fascinating creatures from the impacts of deep-sea fishing and habitat disturbance.

