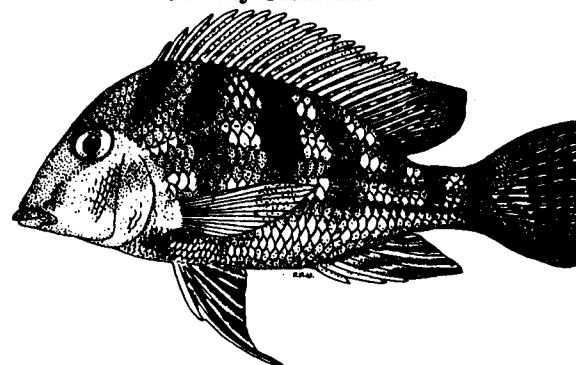


*Geophagus surinamensis* (Bloch)  
Redstriped eartheater

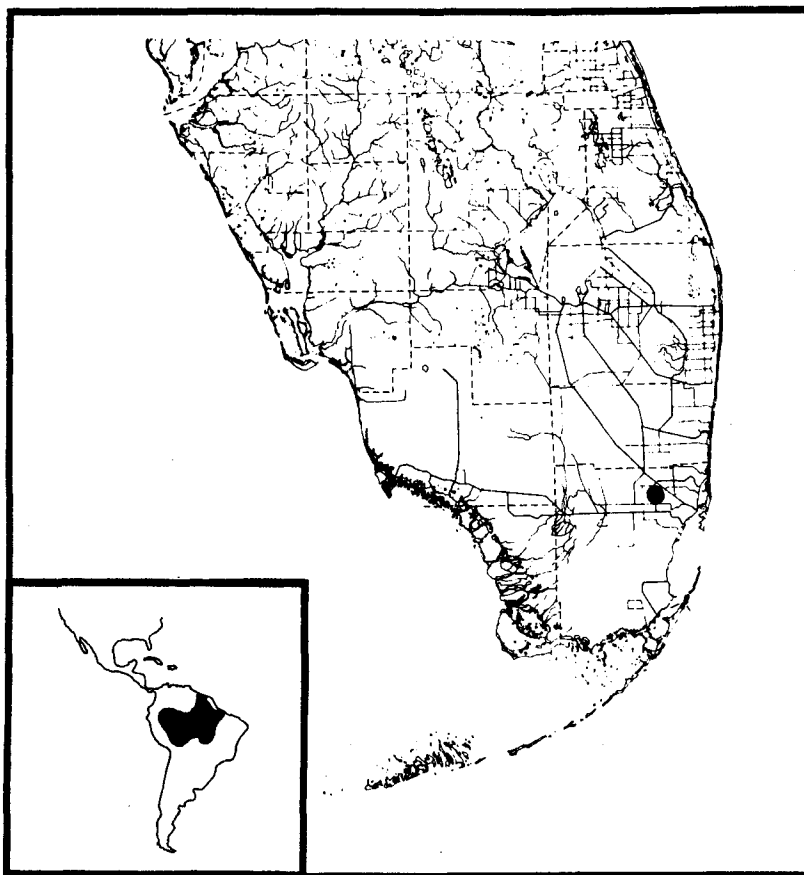
Order Perciformes  
Family Cichlidae

**TYPE LOCALITY:** Surinam (Bloch 1791.  
Natur. Ausl. Fische 5:112-13).

**SYSTEMATICS:** Type species for genus.  
Taxonomy reviewed and revised by Gosse  
(1975. Mem. Acad. Roy. Sci. Outre-Mer,  
Brussels 19:1-172).



FL: Snapper Creek, Dade Co.  
(FGFC).



**DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT:** Native to coastal rivers of Guianas, Amazon River, and its tributaries (Gosse 1975). Recently (April 1981) discovered and possibly established in a Dade Co., FL, canal where it occurs in low-moderate numbers (Metzger and Shafland, in press. FL Sci.). Source of FL introduction likely associated with ornamental fish industry.

**ADULT SIZE:** 120-200 mm TL; ca. 300 mm TL maximum (Puyo 1949. Poissons de la

Guyane française. Faune de l'Empire français XII: 1-280).

**BIOLOGY:** Flowing water, benthophagic sand-sifters that typically forage in small groups; adversely affected by temperatures below 19°C, considered a primitive mouth-brooder without sexual dimorphism (Loiselle 1980. Fresh. & Mar. Aquar. 3[6]:23-29, 86-87, 89-90).

Compilers: P. L. Shafland and R. J. Metzger.  
October 1982.