

Museum Specimens

Class – Agnatha

Specimen for Class Agnatha

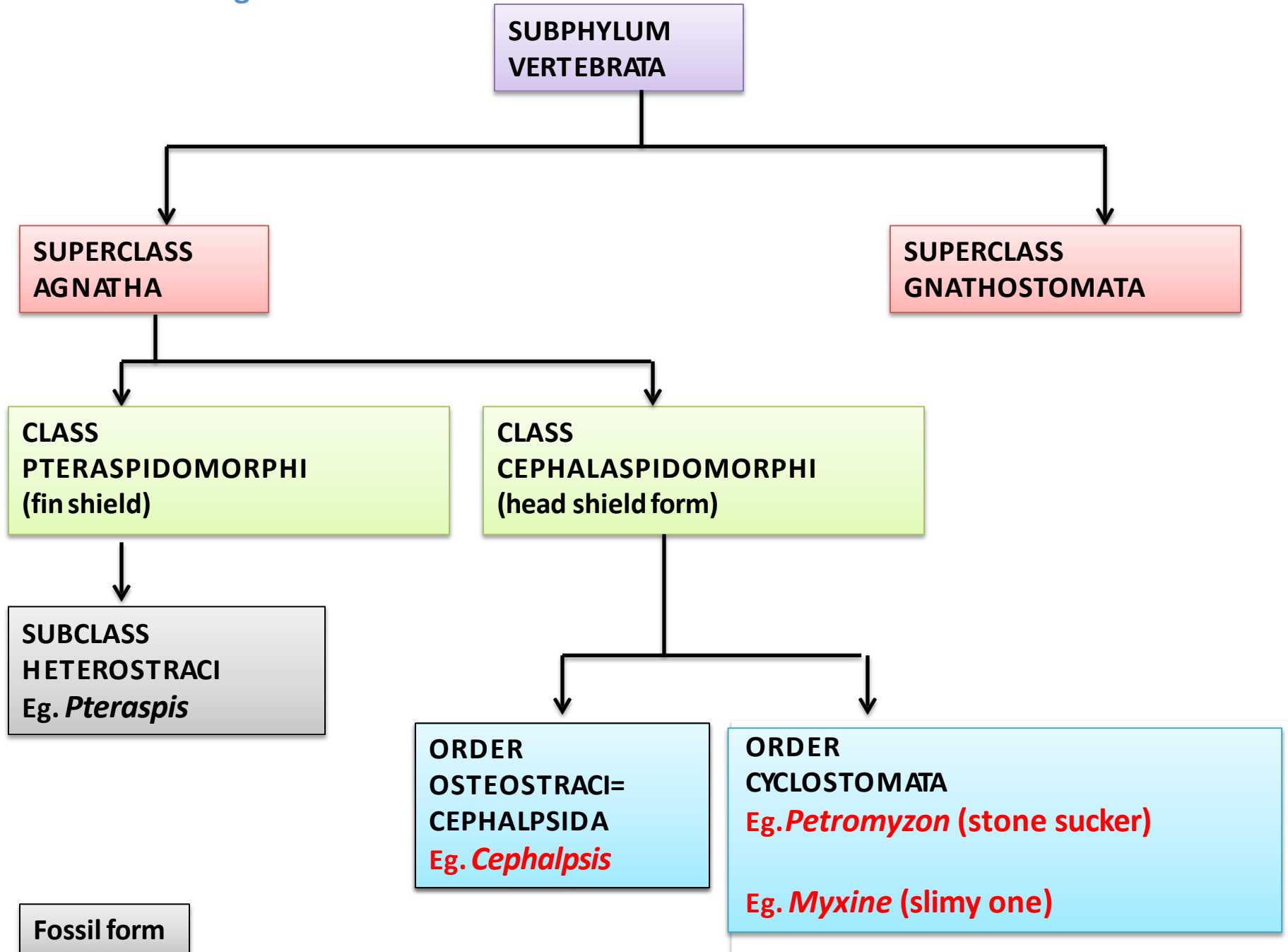
Petromyzon

Compiled by Dr. Sadqua Shameem

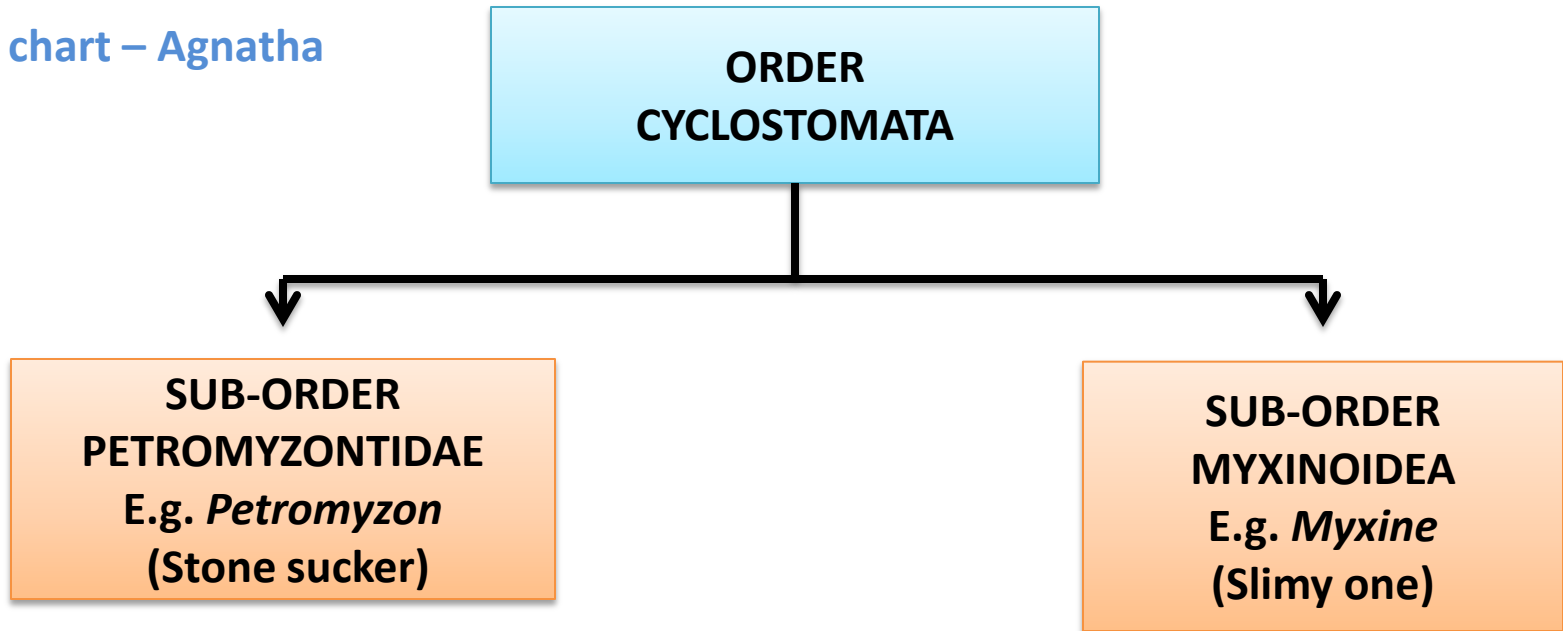
Diagram credits

Arnab Kapuria [B.Sc.(H) Zoology]

Flow chart – Agnatha



Flow chart – Agnatha



Petromyzon

Common name: Lamprey

Geographical Distribution: *Petromyzon* has an almost worldwide distribution, being present in both salt and freshwaters of North America, Europe, West Africa, Japan, Chili, Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania.

Scientific Classification with Justifications:

Phylum- Chordata Dorsal tubular nerve cord, notochord, and paired gill-slits are present.

Sub-phylum – Vertebrata Notochord is replaced by vertebral column.

Super- Class – Agnatha Jaws and appendages are absent.

Class – Cephalaspidomorphi Head shield form single nose.

Order – Cyclostomata Mouth suctorial devoid of functional jaws .

Sub-order – Petromyzontidae Eel like with suctorial mouth having horny teeth, 7 gill pouches.

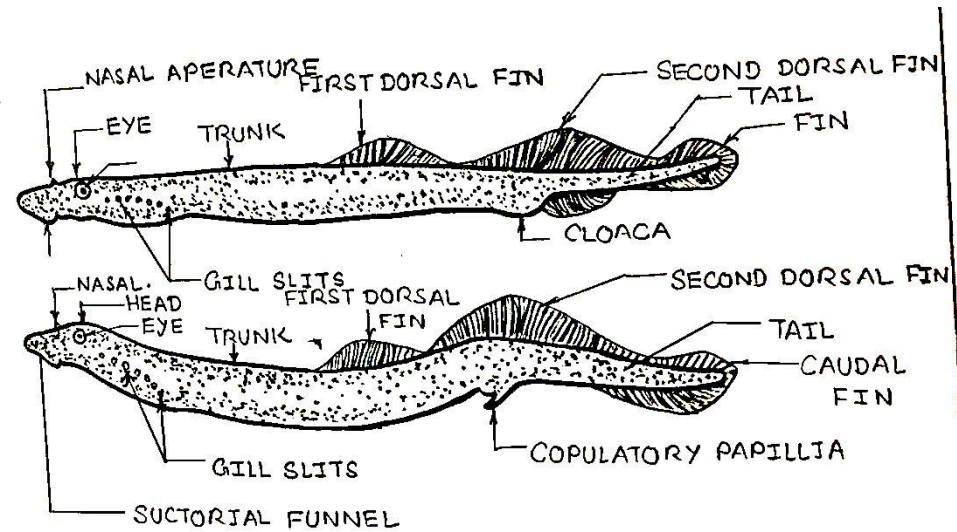
Genus – *Petromyzon*



Petromyzon

Characteristic features:

1. Body is cylindrical, elongated, eel-like, with unpaired fins.
2. Exoskeleton is absent and the skin is naked and slimy and heavily pigmented
3. Mouth ventral, suctorial with rasping tongue beset with many horny teeth.
4. Nostril dorsal. Nasohypophyseal sac terminates posteriorly in a blind sac, i.e., it does not communicate with the pharynx.
5. 7 pairs of gill-pouches and gill-slits which open into a separate respiratory pharynx below the oesophagus.
6. Dorsal fin well developed.
7. Ear with 2 semicircular canals.
8. Cloaca is present on ventral side, at the junction of trunk and tail.



Additional resources:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=aNKT6CUiBHI

www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5UZQmGyzBc