



Poisonous animals 4.2 Cat fish :

Scientific name : Siluriformes

Identification :

1. The name catfish refers to **the long barbels, or feelers**, which are present about the mouth of the **fish** and resemble cat whiskers.
2. All catfishes have at least one pair of barbels, on the upper jaw; they may also have a pair on the snout and additional pairs on the chin.
3. Many catfishes possess **spines in front of the dorsal and pectoral fins**.
4. These spines may be associated with **venom** glands and can cause painful injuries to the unsuspecting.
5. All catfishes are either naked or armoured with bony plates; none has scales.

Nature of venom :

Catfish venom contains **diverse structural proteins, chaperones, ion transport, carbohydrate metabolism, oxidoreductase, cell cycle, and protein binding in venom.**