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## Records of Three Cyprinid Fishes From The Tallapoosa River System<sup>1</sup>

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As part of a continuing study of the ichthyofauna of Alabama, an intense survey of the Tallapoosa River system was conducted by the author from the fall of 1963 to the winter of 1965. The Tallapoosa, the eastern most system of the Mobile Basin, drains an area of approximately 5,000 square miles. A total of 148 stations was established throughout the area and 162 collections were made. Primarily on the basis of this survey, we know the fish fauna of the Tallapoosa system to consist of 19 families and 114 species and subspecies. Most of these were to be expected; however, three species, *Notropis uranoscopus*, *Notropis zonistius* and *Hybognathus hayi* are worthy of special note.

In the following discussion these abbreviations are used: UAIC — University of Alabama Ichthyological Collection; T — Township; R — Range; sec. — Section; Co. — County; Cr. — Creek; Hwy. — Highway. In the list of material the number of specimens and the range in standard length in millimeters are indicated in parentheses following the UAIC accession number. For example, (2, 20-50) means two specimens ranging from 20 to 50 millimeters in standard length.

### *Notropis uranoscopus* Suttkus Stargazing Shiner

The Stargazing Shiner was described by Suttkus (1959) from the Cahaba River, 2.2 miles north of Centerville, Bibb County, Alabama. The three collections from the Tallapoosa system represent the first record of this species outside the Cahaba River drainage. It was collected at three localities in the Tallapoosa, below the Fall Line. Two collections, UAIC 1514 and 1478, were from moderate to large sized streams and one collection ( Auburn Univ.) was from the river proper. Specimens from UAIC 1514 and 1478 were collected over sand and gravel bottoms in moderate current. The water was two to three feet deep<sup>1</sup> and clear. Some algae were present on the gravel. This habitat is essentially the same as reported by Suttkus (1959) for this species in the Cahaba River.

Scale and fin ray counts made on 15 specimens were as follows: anal rays 7; caudal rays 19 ( one specimen had 17); pectoral rays 13 to 15 with a mode of 14 and a mean of 14.3; caudal peduncle scales 5-2-5;

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lateral line scales ranged from 34 to 36 with a mode of 36 and a mean of 35.2; predorsal scales ranged from 13 to 15 with a mode of 14 and a mean of 14.1; scales around the body before the dorsal and pelvic fins ranged from 20 to 23 with a mode of 22 and a mean of 21.8. These counts compare favorably with those reported in the original description.

Material – UAIC 1415 (2, 20-50) Uphapee Cr., 3 mi. NW. of Chehaw, T17N, R22E, Sec. 1, Macon Co., Alabama, 8 November 1964. UAIC 1478 (5, 42-46) Uphapee Cr., 2 mi. E. of Tuskegee, T17N, R24E, Sec. 21, Macon Co., Alabama, 26 September 1964. Auburn University Uncat. (8, 40-48) Tallapoosa River, approximately 5 mi. S. of Tallassee, T17N, R22E, Elmore-Tallapoosa Co. line, Alabama, 21 November 1959.

*Notropis zonistius* (Jordan)  
Bandfin Shiner

The Bandfin Shiner was described by Jordan (1880) from Suwannee Creek, a tributary of the Chattahoochee River in north Georgia. Moore (1957) gives the range as the Chattahoochee River in Georgia and Alabama. Yerger and Suttkus (1962) extend the range south and east to include the Flint and Apalachicola systems and Gilbert (1964) reported it from the upper Savannah River system in Georgia. The range is further extended to include the Tallapoosa River system in Alabama and Georgia. This species seems to prefer pools with a sand or gravel bottom at the end of riffles. Specimens from Wedowee Creek (UAIC 1380) were collected in midstream in moderate to swift current. *Notropis zonistius* may have reached the Tallapoosa River system through stream capture; however, its presence could be the result of bait introduction.

Gilbert (1964) found a slight gradient in anal ray counts with specimens from the southern part of the range having a modal count of ten as compared to nine in the north. The anal rays were counted in 100 specimens from the Tallapoosa and ranged from eight to ten. The mode was nine with a mean of 9.2. Pectoral rays on 25 specimens ranged from 13 to 16 with a mean of 15.2. Scale counts on 25 specimens were as follows: lateral line scales ranged from 38 to 42 with a mean of 39.5; scales above the lateral line were 7 to 8 with a mean of 7.6; scales below the lateral line were 3 to 4 with a mean of 3.8; pre-dorsal scales were 15 to 17 with a mean of 16.1; circumferential scales were 28 to 32 with a mean of 29.3. These counts compare favorably with those reported by Gilbert (1964).

A highly tuberculate male, 61.1 mm standard length, was collected in Indian Creek (UAIC 1316) on 5 July 1964. Tubercles were present

and well developed on the lower jaw and tip of snout with a single row extending from the upper jaw immediately below the nasal opening around the upper anterior edge of the orbit ending on the upper posterior margin of the orbit. There were several well developed **tubercles** scattered in the **interorbital** and supratemporal region. The sides of the head and gill membranes were covered with granular **tubercles**. Tubercles were present on the posterior margin of the scales along the lateral line and all scale rows above the lateral line. **Tubercles** were present on the upper surface of the pectoral fin and restricted to the fin rays. Granular tubercles were present on the dorsal and anal fins. **Tubercles** on the female were best developed on the lower jaw and the tip of the snout. Elsewhere they were granular. Tubercles were absent on the dorsal, anal and pectoral fins, and scales, on all females examined. Comparison of tuberculate specimens from the Tallapoosa and Chattahoochee revealed no significant differences.

*Material* — UAIC 1521 (2, 44-50) Allen Cr., 3.3 mi. south of Shiloh, T23N, R25E, Sec. 15, Chambers Co., Alabama, 11 November 1964. UAIC 1518 (3, 28-55) Comhouse Cr., across Tallapoosa River at Malone, T21S, R10E, Sec. 11, Randolph Co., Alabama, 11 November 1964. UAIC 1517 (22, 30-71) White Oak Cr., 1 mi. south of Craigford, T20S, R9E, Sec. 35, Clay Co., Alabama, 14 August 1964. UAIC 1381 (32, 32-75) Bear Cr., 2 mi. SW. of Woodland, T19S, R21E, Sec. 19 Randolph Co., Alabama, 14 August 1964. UAIC 1382 (76, 26-65) Cutnose Cr., 4 mi. N. of Woodland, T18S, R12E, Sec. 27, Randolph Co., Alabama, 14 August 1964. UAIC 1383 (4, 58-72) Cohobadiah Cr., at Newell, T18S, R12E, Sec. 30, Randolph Co., Alabama, 14 August 1964. UAIC 1317 (12, 37-69) Mountain Cr. on Georgia Hwy. 5, 3 mi. W. of Tyus, Carroll Co., Georgia, 5 July 1964. UAIC 1316 (2, 52-60) Indian Cr., 3.5 mi. E-NE. of Tyus, Carroll Co., Georgia, 5 July 1964.

*Hybognathus hayi* Jordan  
Cypress Minnow

The Cypress Minnow was described by Jordan (1884) from specimens collected in the Chickasawhay River at Enterprise, Mississippi. Moore (1957) gives the range as lowland streams in the lower Mississippi Valley and the Gulf Coast to western Florida. The Cypress Minnow was first reported from Alabama by Bailey, Winn and Smith (1954) in the Escambia River drainage. Cook (1959) reported it from one locality in the Upper Tombigbee drainage in Mississippi.

The two localities in the lower Tallapoosa are characterized by still, murky water over a mud bottom. The streams were 15 to 25 feet

wide and two to three feet deep. Some filamentous algae were present at one locality (UAIC 1484).

Lateral line scales were 37 on one and 38 on the other two. Predorsal scales were 14 on two and 15 on the other. Caudal peduncle scales were 7-2-5 on all three specimens. The dorsal and anal rays were eight on all three specimens. The pectoral rays were 15 on one specimen and 14 on two specimens.

Material — UAIC 1510 (2, 69-70) Johnsons Cr., just west of Montgomery - Bullock Co. line on Alabama Hwy. 110; T15N; R21E, Sec. 18; Montgomery Co., Alabama, 8 November 1964. UAIC 1484 (1, 58) Coleman Cr., 0.4 mi. W. of Fitzpatrick, T14N, R22E, Sec. 7, Bullock Co., Alabama, 27 September 1964.

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