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Glossogobius sparsipapillus, a New Species of Goby from Vietnam

Prince Akihito and Katsusuke Meguro

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Abstract A species of *Glossogobius* collected in Vietnam is described as a new species. It differs from other species of *Glossogobius* in having irregularly scattered short rows of pit organs on the opercle.

The species of *Glossogobius* resemble one another, but can be distinguished mainly by the differences in the arrangement of the sensory canal pores and pit organs (Prince Akihito and Meguro, 1975). A species of *Glossogobius* collected in Vietnam differs from any of the other species of *Glossogobius* in the characteristic arrangement of the pit organs on the opercle. For that reason the species is described as a new species.

Glossogobius sparsipapillus, sp. nov.
(Figs. 1 and 2)

Holotype. NSMT (The Department of Zoology, National Science Museum, Tokyo)–P. 18240, ♂, 76 mm in standard length (S. L.), branch of Can Tho River, vicinity of Can Tho City, Vietnam, August, 1971.

Paratypes. NSMT–P. 18241, ♂, 64 mm S.L., 18242, ♂, 73 mm S.L., 18243, ♀, 66 mm S.L. and 18244 (stained with arizarin), ♀, 72 mm S.L., collected with the holotype (NSMT–P. 18240); ZMUH (Zoology Museum, University of Hanoi, Vietnam) PT 137, ♂, 93 mm S.L., Bassac River, 1 km downstream from Can Tho City, Vietnam, March 1, 1974.

Diagnosis Lines of pit organs mostly in single rows. Many short irregular rows (24) scattered in the area surrounded by lines 20, 21 and 22.

Description of the holotype and paratypes Descriptions are made of the left side of the specimens. Proportions are expressed as per cent of standard length. Counts and proportions of the holotype are given first, followed by those of five paratypes in parentheses.

First dorsal rays VI (VI); second dorsal rays I, 9 (I, 9); anal rays I, 8 (I, 8); pectoral rays 20 (20～21); pelvic rays I, 5 (I, 5); scales in a longitudinal series 32 (31～33); scales in a transverse series 9 (9); predorsal scales 21 (20～21). Head length 29 (30～31); head depth and width at posterior margin of preopercle 13 (12～14) and 16 (14～18), body depth at origin of pelvic fins 16 (13～21), body width at origin of pectoral fins 17 (15～17). Anterior nostril tubular, tube reaching a point about halfway between base of tube and upper margin of upper lip. Posterior nostril a pore. Eye diameter 6 (5～6). Upper jaw length 11 (10～11), no difference between sexes, posterior end of maxillary extending below the anterior part of eye. Lower tip of gill-opening behind lower tip of cleithrum. Pelvic fins united into an oval disc and margin of interspinal frenum smooth. Genital papilla tapering to a point in the male and round in the female, distal end without processes. Tongue bilobate. Anterior oculoscapular canal with pores B′, C (single), D (single), E, F, G and H′; posterior oculoscapular canal with pores K′ and L′. Between pores C and D a single canal. Preopercular canal with pores M′, N and O′. Pit organs in single rows except line 2 which is in irregular double rows. Five longitudinal single-row lines (7, 8, 9, 10 and 11) below line 5. Line 6 present, two in the holotype and one in the paratypes, pit organs six in the upper line in the holotype and four to nine in the paratypes. Line 12 interrupted behind corner of mouth. Lines 20, 21 and 22 unbranched. Many short irregular rows (24) scattered in the area surrounded by lines 20, 21 and 22. A group (23) of irregular short rows present. No variations were found among the types except in the holotype in which line 6 on each side is in two lines as mentioned above.

Vertebrae 27 including urostyle.

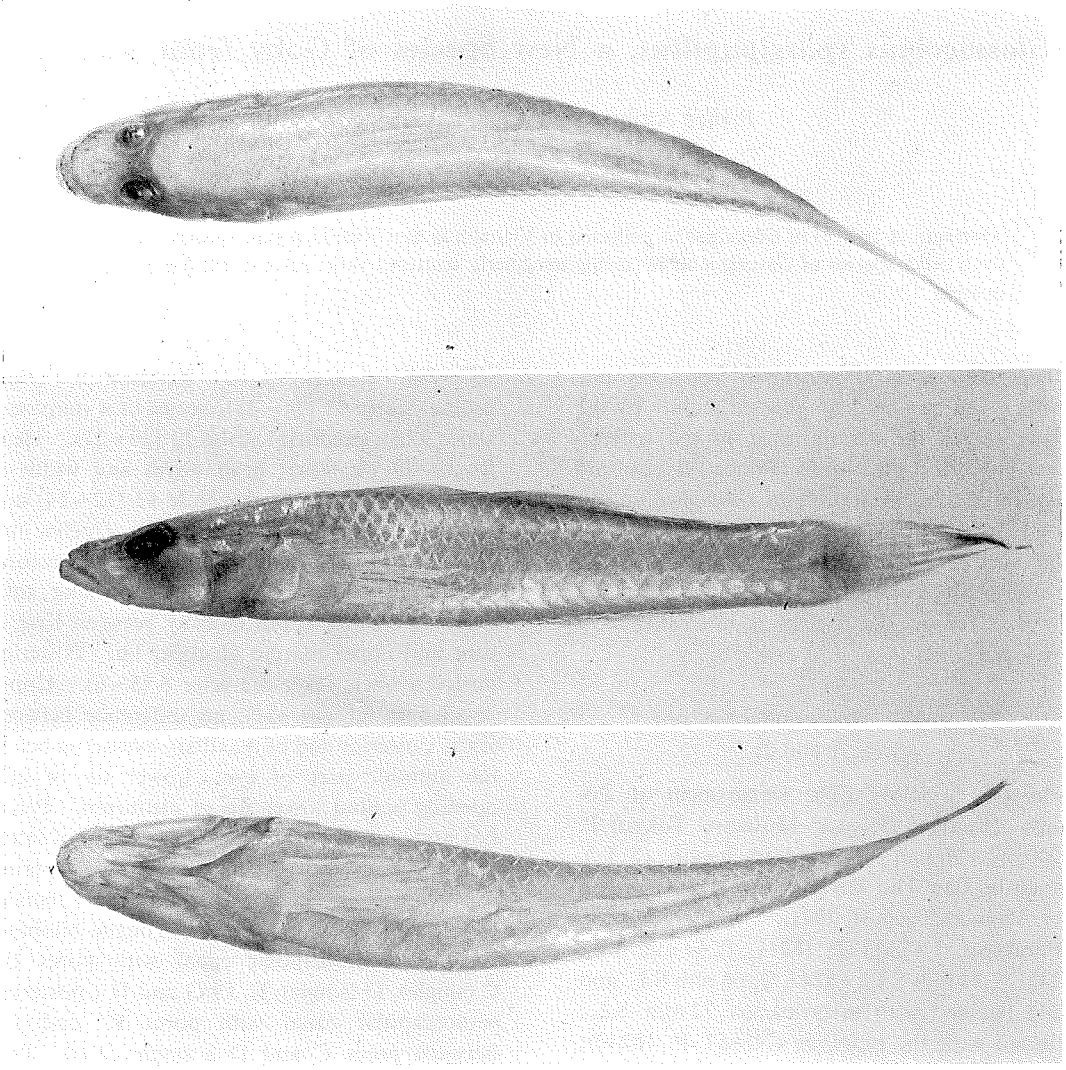

Fig. 1. *Glossogobius sparsipapillus*, sp. nov., holotype (NSMT–P. 18240, ♂, 76 mm in standard length) from branch of Can Tho River, vicinity of Can Tho City, Vietman.

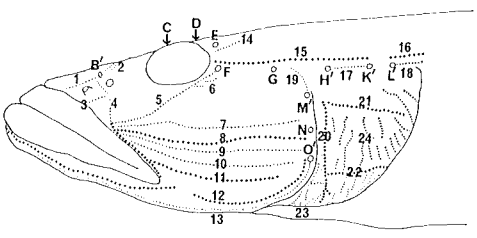

Fig. 2. The sensory canal pores and pit organs of the holotype (NSMT–P. 18240) of *Glossogobius sparsipapillus*, sp. nov. B′～O′, sensory canal pores; 1～24, rows of pit organs.

Colour of specimens faded except for the specimen (one of the paratypes, MZUH PT 137), which is described here. Head and body dark above, pale below. Five blackish blotches midlaterally along side of body, width of middle blotch narrower than half depth of body at this position. A blackish blotch on body behind base of upper part of pectoral fins. A blackish blotch on opercle and at base of pectoral fins. First dorsal, second dorsal and caudal fins mottled. Anal, pectoral, and pelvic fins unmottled.

Description of some characters observed in stained specimen (NSMT-P. 18244). Segmented caudal rays 9+8=17. Teeth in outer and inner rows of both jaws large, outer larger; rows of fine teeth between outer and inner rows. Body covered with ctenoid scales, but scales anterior to pelvic fins cycloid. Scales of head lost through damage. Calcified outer gill-rakers of the first gill-arch rod-like with pointed tip, 1 on upper limb, 10 on lower limb, the inner side with spines. Four gill-raker spines on the fifth from uppermost outer gill-raker of lower limb. Inner gill-rakers of the first gill-arch stubby with spines. One inner gill-raker in advance of outer foremost gill-rakers. Tip of glossohyal round.

Distribution Known only from the type locality of Can Tho City (ca. 10°03′N, 105°46′E), Vietnam.

Etymology The name *sparsipapillus* is derived from the character of the scattered pit organs on the opercle.

Comparison with other species of *Glossogobius* This species differs from other species of *Glossogobius* in having many short irregular rows (24) of pit organs scattered on the opercle.

G. sparsipapillus is similar to *G. aureus* Akihito and Meguro, *G. brunnoides* (Nichols), *G. celebius* (Valenciennes), *G. concavifrons* (Ramsay and Ogilby), *G. kokius* (Valenciennes) and *G. koragensis* Herre, which have five longitudinal lines (7, 8, 9, 10 and 11) below line 5 arranged mostly in single rows. It differs from these species in the arrangement of the other lines of pit organs. *G. sparsipapillus* differs from *G. aureus* and *G. koragensis* in the presence of line 6, in having line 13 in a single row, and in the absence of branches in lines 20 and 21; from *G. brunnoides* in the presence of line 6, in having line 13 in a single row, and in the presence of a group (23) of irregular short rows; from *G. celebius* in the presence of a group (23) of irregular short rows; from *G. concavifrons* in the longer line 6, which has more pit organs than the one or two of *G. concavifrons*, and in the presence of a group (23) of irregular short rows; from *G. kokius* in the presence of a group (23) of irregular short rows.

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Literature cited

Akihito, Prince and K. Meguro. 1975. Description of a new gobiid fish, *Glossogobius aureus*, with notes on related species of the genus. Japan. J. Ichthyol., 22 (3): 127～142, figs. 1～3.

(The Crown Prince's Palace, Motoakasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107, Japan)

ベトナムから採集されたウロハゼ属の1新種 *Glossogobius sparsipapillus*

明仁親王・目黒　勝介

ベトナムで採集されたウロハゼ属の1種は鰓蓋上に他のウロハゼ属には見られない不規則な短孔器列が散在しているので，新種として記載した．

(107　東京都港区元赤坂　東宮御所)