

A new genus and two new species of congrid eels (Teleostei: Anguilliformes: Congridae) from the Indo-West Pacific, with a redescription and osteology of *Chiloconger dentatus*

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Abstract

A new genus and two new species of congrid eels, subfamily Bathymyrinae, are described from the western Indian Ocean and the western Pacific. *Kenyaconger* gen. nov. differs from all other congrids in having a tubular posterior nostril, opening on the edge of the upper lip behind the labial flange. *Kenyaconger heemstrai* sp. nov., the only species in the genus, is described from a single specimen collected off the coast of Kenya in the western Indian Ocean. *Chiloconger philippinensis* sp. nov. is described from the Philippines, the first record of the genus outside the eastern Pacific. It differs from *Chiloconger dentatus* (Garman, 1899) in several meristic and morphometric characters. *Chiloconger dentatus* is redescribed from additional material and its osteology is described for the first time. *Chiloconger similis* Wade, 1946 is reassigned to *Paraconger* Kanazawa.

Key words: Congridae, *Chiloconger*, *Kenyaconger*, *Paraconger*, taxonomy, new genus, new species

Introduction

The subfamily Bathymyrinae of the Congridae consists of five currently recognized genera. *Ariosoma* Swainson, 1838 occurs in all oceans and is one of the most speciose of the congrid genera. *Bathymyrus* Alcock, 1889 contains three species from the Indo-West Pacific. *Parabathymyrus* Kamohara, 1938 contains four species from the Indo-West Pacific and the western Atlantic. *Paraconger* Kanazawa, 1961 contains six currently recognized species, inhabiting the eastern and western Atlantic and the eastern Pacific. *Chiloconger* Myers and Wade, 1941 has been known from two eastern Pacific species. In this