



A new species of *Psilorhynchus* (Teleostei: Psilorhynchidae) from the Chindwin basin of Manipur, India

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Abstract

Psilorhynchus chakpiensis, new species, is described from the Chakpi River, Chindwin basin in Manipur, India. It is distinguished from its congeners by a combination of characters: a dome-shaped rostral cap with horizontally arranged pointed tubercles, 1–2 rows of prominent globular papillae behind the upper lip, three unbranched and nine branched dorsal-fin rays, 30–31 lateral-line scales, head width 74–83% HL, and characteristic colour bands on the dorsal and caudal fins. It is distinguished from all congeners in having a caudal-fin pattern consisting of two black bars, one incomplete bar near the base of the upper lobe, and a complete bar across the centre of the fin, traversing from the upper to the lower margin of the fin.

Key words: Cypriniformes, new torrent minnow, Chindwin basin

Introduction

The psilorhynchid genus *Psilorhynchus* McClelland, commonly referred to as torrent minnows, includes small fishes with an arched back and a flattened ventral surface. The genus is distributed in the fast flowing rivers and streams of the Ganga–Brahmaputra drainage of northeastern India, Nepal, Bangladesh and southeastern Tibet, the streams of the Western Ghats in the southwestern part of Karnataka, Peninsular India, the Irrawaddy drainage of northern and central Myanmar, and the Ataran River basin of southern Myanmar (Rainboth, 1983; Conway & Kottelat, 2007; Arunachalam & Muralidharan, 2008).

Conway *et al.* (2013) recently described *Psilorhynchus hamiltoni* from the Tista River, India and resurrected *P. nudithoracicus* Tilak & Husain, 1980 from synonymy with *P. gracilis* and treated the later a junior synonym of the former. Shangningam *et al.* (2013) also redescribed *P. rowleyi* (Hora & Misra, 1941) and elevated to species status. Thus, twenty species of *Psilorhynchus* are currently recognised as valid viz., *P. arunachalensis* (Nebeshwar *et al.*, 2007), *P. amplicephalus* Arunachalam *et al.*, 2007, *P. balitora* (Hamilton, 1822), *P. nudithoracicus* Tilak & Husain, 1980, *P. hamiltoni* Conway *et al.*, 2013, *P. homaloptera* Hora & Mukerji, 1935, *P. nepalensis* Conway & Mayden, 2008a, *P. pseudecheneis* Menon & Datta, 1964, *P. rahmani* Conway & Mayden, 2008a, and *P. sucatio* (Hamilton, 1822) from the Ganga–Brahmaputra drainage; *P. brachyrhynchus* Conway & Britz, 2010, *P. breviminor* Conway & Mayden, 2008b, *P. gokkyi* Conway & Britz, 2010, *P. microphthalmus* Vishwanath & Manojkumar, 1995, *P. piperatus* Conway & Britz, 2010, and *P. rowleyi* (Hora & Misra, 1941) from the Chindwin–Irrawaddy drainage; *P. melissa* Conway & Kottelat, 2010 and *P. pavimentatus* Conway & Kottelat, 2010 from the Ann Chaung drainage; *P. robustus* Conway & Kottelat, 2007 from the Ataran basin, and *P. tenura* Arunachalam & Muralidharan, 2008 from the Western Ghats.

A recent collection of fishes from the Chakpi River, Chindwin basin, Manipur, included an unnamed species, which is described herein as *Psilorhynchus chakpiensis* new species.