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A new species of *Ituglanis* Costa & Bockmann, 1993 (Siluriformes: Trichomycteridae) endemic to the Tramandaí–Mampituba ecoregion, southern Brazil

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Abstract

Ituglanis boitata, new species, is described from the rio Tramandaí system and rio Mampituba and Araranguá basins, southern Brazil. This new species is distinguished from congeners with the exception of *I. bambui*, *I. boticario*, *I. paraguassuensis* and *I. proops* by the supraorbital canal of the cephalic laterosensory system interrupted between nasal and frontal sections and the presence of pore s2 (vs. supraorbital canal uninterrupted and pore s2 absent). *Ituglanis boitata* differs from these species in osteological characters, measurements and body coloration. *Ituglanis boitata* presents a noticeable endemism in the Tramandaí–Mampituba freshwater ecoregion, a recognized biogeographic unit for freshwater fishes including other 22 endemic species. A discussion about the intraspecific variation in the cephalic laterosensory system within Trichomycterinae is also provided.

Key words: Catfish; *Ituglanis proops*; Laterosensory system; Taxonomy; Trichomycterinae

Resumo

Ituglanis boitata, nova espécie, é descrita para o sistema do rio Tramandaí e bacias dos rios Mampituba e Araranguá, sul do Brasil. A nova espécie distingue-se de seus congêneres, exceto *I. bambui*, *I. boticario*, *I. paraguassuensis* and *I. proops*, pelo canal supraorbital do sistema látero-sensorial cefálico interrompido e a presença do poro s2 (vs. canal supraorbital contínuo e poro s2 ausente). A nova espécie diferencia-se destas através de caracteres osteológicos, medidas e coloração do corpo. *Ituglanis boitata* apresenta um endemismo notável na ecorregião Tramandaí–Mampituba, uma unidade biogeográfica reconhecida para peixes de água doce e que inclui outras 22 espécies endêmicas. Uma discussão sobre a variação intraespecífica no sistema látero-sensorial cefálico em Trichomycterinae é fornecida.

Introduction

Ituglanis Costa & Bockmann is a genus of trichomycterid catfishes distributed mostly in East Andean South America from Colombia to Uruguay. Costa & Bockmann (1993) proposed the genus to allocate a monophyletic group of species previously included in the paraphyletic genus *Trichomycterus* Valenciennes. Alpha taxonomy of the genus *Ituglanis* has been widely studied in this century, resulting in the recognition of 24 valid species (Eschmeyer 2015). Nonetheless, this number is underestimated according to several subsequent citations of undescribed species for the genus (*i.e.* Canto 2009; Becker *et al.* 2012; Lima *et al.* 2013; Malabarba *et al.* 2013; de Pinna 2013; Datovo & de Pinna 2014).

The analysis of trichomycterid specimens collected in the main watersheds of southern Brazil revealed a new undescribed species of *Ituglanis*, in addition to the eight taxa recently described of the family in the region (Ferrer & Malabarba 2011, 2013; Datovo *et al.* 2012; Villa-Verde *et al.* 2013; Datovo & de Pinna 2014). This new species is described herein with comments on its putative relationships within the genus *Ituglanis*. Its distribution reinforces the recognition of one of the biogeographic units for freshwater fishes proposed by Abell *et al.* (2008), the Tramandaí–Mampituba ecoregion.