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SHORT NOTE

FISH OF THE FAMILY SYMPHYSANODONTIDAE OF TAIWAN[1]

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Sin-Che Lee (1989) Fish of the family Symphysanodontidae of Taiwan. *Bull. Inst. Zool., Academia Sinica* **28**(1): 69-71. *Symphysanodon katayamai* Anderson has been considered as a serranid or as a lutjanid, is now better included with the newly erected family Symphysanodontidae. This species is new to Taiwan except the northernmost record from southern Japan. A diagnostic character, remark and color illustration of this species are provided in this paper

Key words: Symphysanodontid, new record, Taiwan.

Two specimens collected in September 1975 from Kaohsiung and one recent collection in June 1988 from Hengchun are identified as *Symphysanodon katayamai* Anderson and which is considered as a new record to Taiwan. The northernmost location for this species is southern Japan. The systematic position of *Symphysanodon* fish has been of uncertainty. Kamohara and Katayama (1959) assigned this genus into the Serranidae due to its superficial resemblance to anthiines. Gosline and Brock (1960), Munro (1967), and Anderson (1970) included this genus with Lutjanidae because of the presence of parietal crest in cranium and scaly process in the axial of pelvic fin. However, it differs from Lutjanidae in the shape of jaws, number of opercular spines and number of vertebrae. The genus is also treated as uncertainty group by Nelson (1984) and it is herein raised to a familial level, Symphysanodontidae, by Katayama in Masuda *et al.* (1984).

The distinctive character of this family is defined as: Body elongated and compressed; the notch between each rami of premaxillae is fit for the symphyseal knob from the lower jaw; both jaws without caninelike teeth; dorsal rays IX, 10; anal rays III, 7-8; scaly process in the axial of pelvic fin; caudal fin deeply forked; vertebrae 10+15=25; operculum with two flat spines.

Since this species is new to Taiwan, the author herein describes the specimens available up to date, and includes diagnostic character, remark and color illustration.

Symphysanodon katayamai Anderson, 1970

Fig. 1

Symphysanodon katayamai Anderson, 1970: 333 (type locality, Kochi, Japan); Masuda *et al.*, 1984: 138.

Symphysanodon typus: Weber and de Beaufort, 1936: 309 (in part); Katayama, 1960: 168.

Materials examined: ASIZP 056325,

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Table 1
Morphological characters of *Symphysanodon katayamai*, *S. typus* and *S. maunaloae*

Characters	Species		
	S. katayamai	*S. typus*	*S. maunaloae*
Body depth % standard length	27.80-30.80	22.10-29.00	21.30-25.8
First pelvic soft ray	Elongated but not to anal fin	Elongated but not to anal fin	Mostly not to anal fin but some beyond it
Depressed anal soft ray	Much long	Shorter	Shorter
Caudal fin tips	Produced into excessively long filaments	Not in filaments	Not in long filaments
Pored lateral scales	52-55	52-54	43-47
Yellowish lateral band on body side	Present	Absent	Absent

164.3 mm SL, June 11, 1988, Hengchun; ASIZP 055726, 118.0-137.7 mm SL, September 16, 1975, Kaohsiung.

Diagnosis: D. IX, 10; A. 111, 7; P. 16; GR. 9—11+22—24=31—35; Ll. 52-55; Ltra. 4-5; Vertebrae 10+15=25. Head 3.26-3.64, body depth 3.25-3.60, pectoral 3.50-3.60 in standard length. Snout 3.92-4.41, maxilla 1.88-2.16, eye 2.88-3.32 in head length. Body relatively deeper. Mouth large, minute teeth of almost equal size forming patches on jaws, vomer, palatines and ectopterygoids. A notch between each rami of premaxillae is fit for the symphyseal knob from the lower jaw.

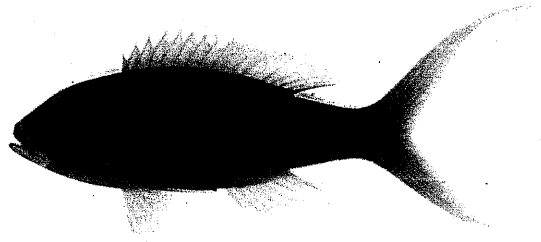

Fig. 1. Lateral aspect of *Symphysanodon katayamai*, ASIZP 056325, 164.3 mm SL. (Photographed by C. P. Chen).

Posterior margin of preoperculum finely serrated, enlarged at lower corner and lower margin. Operculum with two flat spines. Dorsal and anal fins with low scaly sheath. First pelvic soft ray prolonged but not extended to anal fin. Depressed anal soft ray longer. Caudal fin deeply forked with excessively filamentous tips. Color when fresh rosy-red with a broad yellowish lateral band from posterior margin of orbit toward the base of caudal fin.

Remarks: As summarized in Table 1, *Symphysanodon katayamai* can easily be separated from closely related *S. typus* and *S. maunaloae* in its excessively filamentous caudal fin tips, longest depressed anal soft ray, and the presence of broad yellowish lateral band on body side. The species previously misidentified as *Scolopsis eriomma* in Chang *et al.*, 1979 (p. 85, Pl. 31-D) is in fact *Symphysanodon katayamai* Anderson.

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臺灣產片山花鯛科魚類

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片山花鯛（擬稱）過去曾分別隸屬於花鱸科或笛鯛科。由於其分類地位之特殊性目前已將之改隸於新創之片山花鯛科 (Symphysanodontidal)，臺灣僅產一種。該種魚除南日本外，臺灣則爲第二次記錄。本文簡述該種魚之識別特徵，檢討要略並附一原色圖照以利查考。