

DESCRIPTION OF COREGONUS PUSILLUS, A NEW SPECIES OF WHITEFISH FROM ALASKA.

BY TARLETON H. BEAN.

Coregonus merki, var. BEAN.

Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. IV., 1881, p. 256; Cat. Fish. U. S. Nat. Mus. Fish Exhib., London, 1883, p. 36; Trans. Fish Cult. Assoc., 1884, pp. 34, 39.

Coregonus merki, JOR. & GILB.

Syn. Fish N. A., 1883, p. 300.

Not *Coregonus merkii*, GÜNTHER, Cat. Fish. Brit. Mus., VI, 1866, p. 195.

This small species occurs in northern Alaska from the Yukon River northward. The largest individual we have seen is $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and was collected in Putnam, or Kuwuk River, Alaska, by Mr. Charles H. Townsend. This example is made the type of the species.

I have long doubted the identity of this species with the *merkii* of Günther and am now convinced that the two are distinct.

The type of *Coregonus pusillus* has forty-nine long and slender gill-rakers; the eye is nearly one-fourth, maxilla three-tenths, and mandible three-sevenths length of head. The longest dorsal ray is two-thirds length of head; the head is one-fifth of the total to end of scales. The maxilla does not extend to below the middle of the eye, and the articulation of the mandible is not far behind a vertical through the middle of the eye. The interorbital space equals the length of the eye and is somewhat greater than the length of the snout. The longest gill-raker is about two-thirds as long as the eye. The greatest height of the body slightly exceeds the length of the head; the least height of the tail is about two-fifths the length of the head.

The adipose fin is moderately large, its length about equal to the diameter of the eye. The origin of the dorsal is over the twenty-ninth scale of the lateral line, and the ventral origin is under the thirtieth scale. The length of the pectoral equals the length of the head without the snout; the length of the ventral is about two-thirds that of the head. The distance from the extended ventral to the vent equals the length of the ventral. The anal origin is under the sixty-second scale of the lateral line; the length of the anal base equals two-thirds the length of the head and the longest anal ray is one-half as long as the head. The length of the middle caudal rays, from the end of the scales, is one-third of the length of the head and about two-fifths the length of the external rays.

The dorsal has nine or ten divided rays; anal eleven or twelve divided rays; ventral I, 11; pectoral I, 15; scales 10—91—9.