PARAPERCIS KAMOHARAI (FAMILY MUGILOIDIDAE), A NEW FISH FROM JAPAN WITH NOTES ON OTHER SPECIES OF THE GENUS

(With One Plate)

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(City of Washington
Published by the Smithsonian Institution
May 18, 1966)
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ABSTRACT

_parapercis kamoharai_, of the fish family Mugiloididae, was described as new from off Osaka Prefecture, Japan. Corrections are given for several species of _parapercis_ reported on by Cantwell (Pacific Sci., vol. 18, No. 3, pp. 239-280, 1964).

INTRODUCTION

A revision of the fish genus _parapercis_ Bleeker by Cantwell (Pacific Sci., vol. 18, No. 3, pp. 239-280, figs. 1-9, 1964) and a review of the fishes of the family Parapercidae found in the waters of Japan, by Kamohara (Repts. Usa Mar. Biol. Sta., vol. 7, No. 2, pp. 1-13, pls. 1-2, 1960) have enabled me to determine that two specimens sent to me by Chuichi Araga of Tokyo represent a new species. I appreciate very much Mr. Araga’s permission to publish here a photograph which he took of the species when alive in his aquarium, plate I.

PARAPERCIS KAMOHARAI, new species

Plate I

_Holotype._—USNM 196021, off Osaka Prefecture, Japan, collected by Chuichi Araga, standard length 145 mm., total length 175 mm.

_Paratype._—USNM 199239, same data, standard length 181 mm., total length 205 mm.

_Description._—The following data are expressed in thousandths of the standard length, first for the holotype, then for the paratype.
Length of head 280 and 263; length of snout 96 and 97; diameter of eye 57 and 50; least width of fleshy interorbital 34 and 34; distance from tip of snout to rear edge of maxillary 110 and 102; least depth of caudal peduncle 93 and 93; greatest depth of body 173 and 171; length of fourth dorsal spine 65 and 63; longest pectoral ray 190 and 171; longest pelvic ray 200 and 187; longest caudal ray 200 and 174; length of base of dorsal fin 638 and 635; anal fin base 480 and 450.

The following counts are recorded first for the holotype then the paratype: Outer enlarged teeth at front of lower jaw on both types, 3-3, totaling 6; dorsal fin rays V, 21 and V, 21; anal 16 and 18; pectoral (right-left) 17-17 and 17-18; oblique scale rows just above lateral line 66 and 72; scales from base of first soft dorsal ray to lateral line 7 and 7; scales from anal opening obliquely backwards to lateral line 16 and 15; zig-zag scales around caudal peduncle 30 and 32; gill rakers on first gill arch 6+11 and 6+10.

Vomerine teeth present, palatine teeth absent; enlarged caninlike teeth in outer row at front of lower jaw, 3 on each side; dorsal spines with third and fourth about same length and longest, and fifth spine is 5/9 length of fourth, with membrane attached opposite its tip to first soft dorsal ray; soft rays of dorsal and of anal fins all about the same length.

Color pattern in alcohol.—Back light brownish with 3 wavy darker streaks, the most ventral one along lateral line anteriorly, above lateral line posteriorly, and extending on caudal fin; side and belly very light tan, with 7 pale bars on side ending in 7 black ocellate spots on lower side, leaving the belly plain light tan; along midside a narrow dusky line crossing the bars and extending on the caudal fin rays as a black streak; side of head with 6 or 7 dark vertical bars ending on branchiostegal membranes; preorbital area with numerous very small brown specks; maxillary with 3 dark bars posteriorly and snout and premaxillary with large dark spots; head behind orbits with wavy dark streaks; breast with a pair of black spots in front of pelvic base; axil of pelvic black; a large black spot just below base of pectoral, and axil of pectoral black; black spot on basal half of first three dorsal spines; dorsal soft rays with a row of black spots basally on membranes, and another along middle of that fin; soft dorsal fin with a submarginal dusky band, with distal edge of fin white; a single row of black spots along middle of anal fin on membranes; submarginally anal fin has a dusky band, with distal edge of that fin white; caudal fin with a white band from midbase extending posteriorly on middle
rays but broken distally with a dark bar; upper and lower edges of pale midcaudal band black; dark spots on upper and lower lobes of caudal fin. Underside of head pale, unspotted; pectoral and pelvic fins plain whitish.

DISCUSSION

This new species keys to *P. xanthozona* (Bleeker) in Kamohara (loc. cit., p. 2) and Cantwell (loc. cit., p. 248) and has the following characters in common with that species: Palatine teeth absent; 6 enlarged teeth in outer row of lower jaw at tip; membrane of spinous dorsal fin connected to first soft dorsal ray opposite tip of last spine; dorsal spines V; scales around caudal peduncle 30 to 32; and no ocellate spot behind or above rear of head.

However, *kamoharai* differs from *xanthozona* in having, respectively, 16 to 18 instead of 19 anal rays; oblique scale rows, 66 to 72 instead of 55 to 64; gill rakers on first gill arch 16 and 17 instead of 17 to 20. The color pattern of *kamoharai* differs from *xanthozona* as follows: 7 instead of 9 bars on side; 2 rows of spots on soft dorsal fin instead of 3; 7 ocellate black spots along lower side, instead of 9 indistinct ones (lacking entirely in USNM 109818). A pair of dark spots on breast, and preorbital with tiny brown spots, all absent in *xanthozona*.

I am pleased to name this new species, *kamoharai* in honor of Toshiji Kamohara, Kochi University, Japan.

During this study I have found certain errors in regard to Cantwell’s recording of the data concerning specimens of *Parapercis* in the U.S. National Museum Collection. The following corrections are noted:

*P. sexfasciata*, p. 252, USNM 57516, Yokahama, 2 specimens; p. 254, USNM 26242, 7 specimens; USNM 152484, Kobe Market; USNM 76536, 3 specimens; USNM 50255, 5 specimens; USNM 50257, Onomichi Bingo, Japan. 142745 is UMMZ not USNM.

*P. schauinslandi*, p. 257, USNM 55301 to 55305, 8 specimens.

*P. nebulosa*, p. 261, USNM 147985, Tarut Bay, Zaal. I., 30 specimens; USNM 196492, Persian Gulf, Tarut Bay, 2 specimens.

*P. haackei*, p. 262, USNM 179832, Rottnest Island, 2 specimens.

*P. cylindrica*, p. 262, USNM 122477, 5 specimens; USNM 122544, 9 specimens; p. 264, USNM 177914, 2 specimens; USNM 179796 and 179802, Hayman I.; USNM 179795, Heron I., 2 specimens; USNM 177915, Green I.
P. ommatura, pp. 265-266, 59644 should be USNM 59642, Hama-
shima, 1 specimen; 3776 should be USNM 37776; left out is USNM
50258, Tsuruga, 3 specimens.

P. cephalopunctata, p. 267, USNM 140784, 140785, 140786, all
Rongelap Atoll; USNM 166740, Arno Atoll; USNM 154584,
140783, Kwajalein Atoll; USNM 140781, 140782, Eniwetok Atoll;
USNM 140778, 2 specimens, 140798, 4 specimens, 140800, 6 speci-
mens, 140773, 14 specimens, 140774, 7 specimens, 140776, 8 spec-
mens, 140779, 6 specimens, 140780, 1 specimen, 140799, 4 specimens,
all Bikini Atoll. USNM 140794, 12 specimens, 140794, 1 specimen,
142280, 2 specimens, all Rongerick Atoll. USNM 177913, Bora
Bora L., 6 specimens; USNM 52283, Apia; USNM 167387, Onotoa
Atoll; USNM 177905, Netherland Indies; USNM 75502, Naha,
Okinawa.

P. clathrata, p. 268, USNM 140787 to 140789, 8 specimens, all
Rongelap Atoll. USNM 140796 and 140797, 2 specimens, Bikini
Atoll; USNM 196492, 2 specimens from Persian Gulf are not
clathrata but are nebulosa.

P. polyophthalma, p. 270, USNM 75862 should be 199161, 1 speci-
men, Riu Kiu I.?; USNM 75501, Naha, Okinawa, 4 specimens;
USNM 122332 (not 12234), Luzon, 1 specimen; USNM 122333
(not 12233), Cebu Market, 1 specimen.