

A review of the gobiid genus *Akko* (Teleostei: Gobiidae) with description of a new species

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Abstract

Akko was originally described for a highly autapomorphic species of goby, *A. dionaea*, taken off Brazil. The genus is here recorded for the first time from the eastern Pacific Ocean. The poorly known eastern Pacific goby *Amblyopus brevis* Günther is redescribed as *Akko brevis* based on the study of numerous specimens recently collected off Panama and El Salvador, and *Akko rossi* is described as new from the coast of El Salvador. *Akko dionaea* has 11+16 vertebrae, 76 scales in the lateral series, non-overlapping scales on the caudal peduncle, and no melanophores on the pectoral fin or female genital papilla; *A. brevis* has 11+16 vertebrae, 53–60 scales in the lateral series, overlapping scales on the caudal peduncle, and no melanophores on the pectoral fin or female genital papilla; *A. rossi* has 11+17 vertebrae, 115 scales in the lateral series, overlapping scales on the caudal peduncle, and dense melanophores on the pectoral fin and female genital papilla.

Key words: Gobiidae, new species, *Akko*, *Amblyopus brevis*, eastern Pacific

Introduction

Amblyopus brevis was described by Günther (1864) from a single specimen collected along the Pacific coast of Panama. Two additional specimens were later obtained from stomach contents of a *Centropomus* and added to the collection at the British Museum. Günther (1869) placed *A. brevis* in the subgenus *Tyntlastes* based on its dentition (teeth in a single series). Jordan and Eigenmann (1886[1887]) elevated *Tyntlastes* to a genus and assigned to it the same species that comprised Günther's subgenus (*A. brevis* and *A. sagitta*). When Palmer (1952) reviewed the genus *Gobioides*, he created two subgenera: *Gobioides*, with 25–26 vertebrae and 14–16 anal-fin rays, and *Tyntlastes*, with 31 verte-