A revision of the genus *Pseudoscopelus* Lütken (Chiasmodontidae: Acanthomorphata) with descriptions of three new species

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Accepted by M. Craig: 21 Oct. 2010; published: 3 Dec. 2010
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(*Zootaxa* 2710)
78 pp.; 30 cm.
3 Dec 2010
Abstract

_Pseudoscopelus_ Lütken is a genus of meso- and bathypelagic fishes with a worldwide distribution. The genus is the most diversified within the family Chiasmodontidae, containing 16 valid species, three of which are described herein as new: _Pseudoscopelus scriptus_ Lütken, from the western Central and North Atlantic; _P. sagamianus_ Tanaka, from the eastern Pacific and Indian Ocean; _P. altipinnis_ Parr, widely distributed in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; _P. cephalus_ Fowler, only known from the type locality in the Indo-Pacific; _P. obtusifrons_ Fowler, from the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; _P. scutatus_ Krefft, widely distributed in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; _P. aphos_ Prokofiev & Kukuev, from the western North Atlantic; _P. parini_ Prokofiev and Kukuev, from the western Central Pacific to Hawaiian islands; _P. astronesthidens_ Prokofiev and Kukuev, from the North Atlantic; _P. australis_ Prokofiev and Kukuev, widely distributed in the southern parts of the Atlantic, Indian, Pacific Oceans, and in the Southern Ocean; _P. pierbartus_ Spitz, Quéro and Vayne, from the North Atlantic and western South Atlantic; _P. bothorrhinos_ Melo, Walker Jr. and Klepadlo, from the western Pacific and Indian Ocean; _P. lavenbergi_ Melo, Walker Jr. and Klepadlo, from the western North, western Central and western South Atlantic, _P. paxtoni_ new species, from the western South Pacific; _P. cordilluminatus_ new species, from the Indian Ocean and eastern South Atlantic; and _P. odontoglossum_ new species, from the Central Pacific. Herein, _Pseudoscopelus stellatus_ is placed in synonymy of _P. scriptus_; _P. albeolus_ in synonymy of _P. australis_; and _P. vitayzi_ in synonymy of _P. parini_. _Pseudoscopelus microps_ is confirmed as a junior synonym of _P. altipinnis_. A key to the species of _Pseudoscopelus_ is provided as well as updated diagnoses, redescriptions, areas and distribution maps, based on extensive examination of collection material and comparison with type specimens.

Key words: Taxonomy, systematics, mesopelagic, bathypelagic, deep-sea