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http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3637.2.7 http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:844B7B6C-9468-4A1D-9A53-32C646880252

Eviota nigramembrana, a new dwarfgoby from the Western Pacific (Teleostei: Gobiidae)

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Abstract

Eviota nigramembrana is described from the Ryukyu Islands, Japan and also recorded from the Philippine Islands. It belongs to the cephalic sensory-pore system pattern group I (complete), has a dorsal/anal fin-ray formula of 8/8, 5th pelvic-fin ray absent, some lower pectoral-fin rays branched, five dark internal bands between anal-fin origin and caudal fin, no distinct marking on pectoral-fin base, dark internal rectangular mark above midline of ural centrum, a light spinous dorsal fin, and black pigment on the opercular membrane.

Key words: Eviota nigramembvrana, Rukyu Islands, Pilippline Islands

Introduction

While collecting gobiid fishes in the Ryukyu Islands, Japan, the second author photographed and collected a number of species of *Eviota* that he believed to be new to science. One of these species was referred to earlier as *Eviota* sp. C by Hayashi *et al.* (1990). We describe that species here.

Material and methods

Counts and measurements, descriptions of fin morphology and the cephalic sensory-canal pore patterns follow Lachner and Karnella (1980. Measurements were made to the nearest 0.1 mm using an ocular micrometer and dial calipers, and are presented as percentage of Standard Length (SL). All specimen lengths are SL in mm. Cyanine Blue 5R (acid blue 113) stain was used to make pores more obvious (Akihito *et al.* 2002; Saruwatari *et al.* 1997) and an airjet used to observe them. For measurements, values for the holotype are given first, followed by the range for all types and the mean in parentheses. As discussed in Greenfield & Jewett (2011), we are using the name dwarfgoby for *Eviota* species and pygmygoby for *Trimma* species based on an agreement between systematists working on these genera. Specimens have been deposited in the following museums: CAS—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; OMNH—Osaka Museum of Natural History, Osaka, Japan, and USNM—United States National Museum (Smithsonian), Washington D.C.

Eviota nigramembrana n. sp. Blackbar dwarfgoby Japanese name—Kometubu-isohaze Figs. 1–6.