

***Kryptopterus platypogon*, a new silurid catfish (Teleostei: Siluridae) from Borneo**

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Abstract

Kryptopterus platypogon, a new species of silurid catfish is described from the Rajang River drainage in northern Borneo. *Kryptopterus platypogon*, together with *K. hexapterus* and *K. cheveyi*, can be distinguished from congeners by a combination of the absence of the dorsal fin, a strongly-arched dorsal profile with a pronounced nuchal concavity and palatal teeth in a single elliptical patch. *Kryptopterus platypogon* differs from *K. hexapterus* in having a more strongly-projecting lower jaw, larger eye (14.1% HL vs. 8.0–12.6), longer maxillary (135.6% HL vs. 40.0–120.4) and mandibular (119.3% HL vs. 32.3–80.0) barbels that are flattened and ribbon-like (vs. flattened, but ovoid in cross section), and more ventrally-placed eyes (about one quarter of the orbital margin visible when the head is viewed ventrally vs. orbital margin barely visible), and from *K. cheveyi* in having a strongly projecting lower jaw (vs. upper and lower jaws of equal length), more anal-fin rays (83 vs. 66–71), narrower head (8.6% SL vs. 9.7–12.3) and smaller eye (14.1% HL vs. 18.9–22.7).

Key words: *Kryptopterus*, Siluridae, Borneo, Rajang River, Southeast Asia

Introduction

Members of the silurid catfish genus *Kryptopterus* Bleeker, 1858 are small-to medium-sized fishes found in inland waters throughout Southeast Asia. In recent years, it has been generally acknowledged that *Kryptopterus* is a paraphyletic assemblage consisting of at least two distinct clades (Bornbusch, 1995). Recent changes in the taxonomy of the group reflect this paraphyly, in which the large species with elevated (14–17 vs. 8–13) branchiostegal-ray counts and reduced barbels are reassigned to the genus *Micronema* (e.g. Rainboth, 1996; Kottelat, 2001). One of the species tentatively retained in *Kryptopterus*, *K. hexapterus*, is relatively rare in collections and is a medium-sized silurid easily distinguished by the absence of a dorsal fin, strongly projecting lower jaw, and a highly-arched dorsal profile with a distinct nuchal concavity.