Pseudochromis lugubris and P. tonozukai, two new dottyback fish species from the Indo-Australian Archipelago (Perciformes: Pseudochromidae: Pseudochrominae)

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Abstract

Pseudochromis lugubris is described from seven specimens, 38.4–65.9 mm SL, from southeastern New Guinea. It is distinguished from congeners in having the following combination of characters: dorsal-fin rays III,26–27; anal-fin rays III,14; scales in lateral series 48–50; circumpeduncular scales 20; and caudal fin truncate to emarginate, sometimes weakly trifurcate. Pseudochromis tonozukai is described from two specimens, 62.6–65.9 mm SL, from Weh Island, northern Sumatra, Indonesia. It is distinguished from congeners in having the following combination of characters: dorsal-fin rays III,25; anal-fin rays III,14–15; scales in lateral series 34–36; caudal fin rhomboid to trifurcate; and upper part of pectoral fin without small dark spot.

Key words: Pseudochromidae, dottyback, Pseudochromis lugubris, Pseudochromis tonozukai, new species

Introduction

The Indo-Pacific family Pseudochromidae is divided among four subfamilies of small reef-associated fishes. Members of the largest subfamily, Pseudochrominae, are distinguished from other pseudochromids in having five (versus four or fewer) segmented rays in the pelvic fins. The subfamily was revised by the first author (Gill 2004), who recognised 80 species in 10 genera. However, he encountered difficulty in allocating several specimens to species. Among such specimens was a 38.4-mm SL specimen collected by J.L. Earle off Wahawe Point, Milne Bay, Papua New Guinea, which Gill tentatively identi-