Pseudomystus stenogrammus, a new species of bagrid catfish from Borneo (Teleostei, Bagridae)

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Abstract

Pseudomystus stenogrammus, a new species of bagrid catfish, is described from the Barito River drainage of southern Borneo. The new species is distinguished from all congeners by its colour pattern.

Key words: Bagridae, *Pseudomystus*, new species, colour pattern, Borneo

Introduction

Pseudomystus (Jayaram) is a genus of bagrid catfishes with about 14 recognised species (depending on synonymy), commonly found in swamps and rivers throughout Southeast Asia. Jayaram (1968) originally described it as a subgenus of *Leiocassis* Bleeker, for those *Leiocassis* species with a relatively short snout and subterminal mouth as opposed to those species with a snout produced beyond an inferior mouth. Mo (1991), in a study of the anatomy and systematics of bagrids, elevated *Pseudomystus* to generic rank based on four putative synapomorphies: 1) a posterior fontanelle absent or reduced to a small hole enclosed entirely in the supraoccipital; 2) the cranial roof elements largely observable through the skin; 3) the pterotic cephalic sensory canal by-passing the extrascapular on way to posttemporal (sensory canal not incorporated into extrascapular); and 4) a hypertrophied nuchal plate (unique among bagrids). Mo's results also indicate that, although *Pseudomystus* was proposed originally as a subgenus of *Leiocassis*, *Pseudomystus* probably is not closely related to *Leiocassis*. Instead *Pseudomystus* is the sister group to a large group of bagrinine genera, of which *Leiocassis* is a member.