

***Akrokolioplax*, a new genus of Southeast Asian labeonine fishes (Teleostei: Cyprinidae)**

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Abstract

Akrokolioplax, new genus, is erected for the reception of *Epalzeorhynchos bicornis* Wu, 1977. It shares with the remaining species of *Epalzeorhynchos* what have usually been called “rostral lateral lobes” on the snout, which are non-homologous structures used to distinguish the two genera from all other Labeoninae genera. *Akrokolioplax* and *Epalzeorhynchos* differ in the position and structure of these lobes, and also in the morphology of the oromandibular structures. A detailed redescription is also provided for the type species of this monotypic genus, *A. bicornis*. It is presently known from the upper Salween River (=Nu Jiang in Chinese) basin in Yunnan (South China), Myanmar and Thailand.

Key words: *Akrokolioplax*, *Epalzeorhynchos*, new genus

Introduction

The Labeoninae (sensu Chen et al., 1984), which is essentially equivalent to the Labeines of Reid (1982) or the tribe Labeone (= Labeonini) of Rainboth (1991, 1996), includes cyprinid fishes widely distributed in the fresh waters of tropical Africa and Asia. Most of these fishes are adapted to fast flowing waters. Members of this subfamily show a high degree of morphological modification in oromandibular structures, which is the basis for recognition of most of its included genera. To date, twenty-seven Labeonine genera have been recognized from eastern and southeastern Asia (Rainboth, 1991; Zhang & Chen, 2004). Among these, *Epalzeorhynchos* Bleeker, 1855 (type species: *Barbus kalopterus* Bleeker, 1851) is diagnosed by having a pair of moveable lateral lobes on the snout, which are also called “fleshy rostral papilla” (Roberts, 1989) or “posteriorly free lateral lobes”