



A review of the genus *Pareuchiloglanis* (Sisoridae) from the Lancangjiang (upper Mekong River) with descriptions of two new species from Yunnan, China

XU LI¹, WEI ZHOU^{1,3}, ALFRED W. THOMSON², QING ZHANG¹ & YING YANG¹

¹Faculty of Conservation Biology, Southwest Forestry College, Kunming 650224, P. R. China;

²Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, FL 32611, USA.

³Corresponding author. E-mail: weizhou@public.km.yn.cn; Tel: +86-871-3862458; fax: +86-871-3863217

Abstract

This study reports five species of *Pareuchiloglanis* in the Lancangjiang drainage of China, including descriptions of two new species: *P. abbreviatus* **sp. nov.**, *P. gracilicaudata*, *P. kamengensis*, *P. myzostoma* and *P. prolixidorsalis* **sp. nov.** The two new species are distinguished from *P. feae*, *P. poilanei*, *P. sichuanensis* and *P. tianquanensis* by a shorter adipose-fin base and the adipose-fin base being separated from the caudal fin, differ from *P. sinensis*, *P. macrotrema*, *P. longicauda* and *P. rhabdurus* by a more restricted gill opening (not reaching the base of the first pectoral-fin element ventrally), and differ from *P. songmaensis* by an anal-fin ray count of ii-3-4 (vs. ii-8). *Pareuchiloglanis abbreviatus* is distinguished from congeners by the tip of the dorsal fin reaching the origin of the adipose fin when depressed. *Pareuchiloglanis prolixidorsalis* is distinguished from *P. gongshanensis*, *P. macropterus* and *P. kamengensis* by lacking a sulcus between the lower lip and the base of the maxillary barbel, and differs from *P. anteanalis* by the shorter pectoral fin, the pectoral fin not reaching to the origin of pelvic fin. It differs from *P. gracilicaudata*, *P. myzostoma*, *P. nebulifer* and *P. robusta* by a caudal-fin ray count of 6+7 (vs. 7+8), and differs from *P. abbreviatus* by the tip of dorsal fin not reaching to the origin of the adipose fin when depressed (vs. reaching). It differs from *P. songdaensis* by the distance between the origin of the pelvic fin to the base of the anal fin being longer than that to the mouth (vs. equal).

Key words: *Pareuchiloglanis*; New species; Sisoridae; Lancangjiang (upper Mekong River)

Introduction

The Lancangjiang (upper Mekong River) originates at Zaaqu, the southern glacier of Lasaigongma Mountain, Zaqing County, Qinghai Province. Total length of the Mekong River is about 4879.6 km, and the drainage area is about 8.1×10^5 km². The length of the Lancangjiang in China is about 2162 km (He 1995a). The Mekong River passes through six countries, China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, and then flows into the South China Sea. Three species of *Pareuchiloglanis* have been recorded in the Mekong River: *P. kamengensis*, *P. myzostoma* and *P. gracilicaudata* (Chu 1979; Wu & Chen 1979; Chu *et al.* 1990; Chu & Mo 1999; Ng & Kottelat 2000; Thomson & Page 2006). Ding (2003) reported that *P. feae* was also distributed in the Lancangjiang drainage, but this was not based on specimens. This species has also been reported from the Irrawaddy drainage (Chu *et al.* 1990; Chu & Mo 1999), but Ng (2004) reported that the material identified by Chu *et al.* (1990) is characterized by distinctly separate (vs. confluent) adipose and caudal fins and therefore does not appear to be *P. feae*. Ng (2004) suggested that specimens of *P. kamengensis* recorded from the Mekong River drainage might be *P. macropterus*, a species known from the Nujiang (upper Salween River), but he noted that the identity needs to be verified.