



The *Australoheros* (Teleostei: Cichlidae) species of the Uruguay and Paraná River drainages

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Abstract

Australoheros Říčan and Kullander, 2006 includes four described species—*Australoheros facetus* (Jenyns, 1842), *Australoheros tembe* (Casciotta, Gómez & Toresani, 1995), *Australoheros scitulus* (Říčan & Kullander, 2003) and *Australoheros kaaygua* Casciotta, Almirón & Gómez, 2006. Four additional species are newly described in this paper based on results presented in Říčan and Kullander (2006): *Australoheros forquilha* sp. nov., from the tributaries of the Upper Río Uruguay in Brazil; *Australoheros charrua* sp. nov. and *Australoheros minuano* sp. nov., from the tributaries of the Middle Río Uruguay in Brazil and Uruguay, and *Australoheros guarani* sp. nov. from the Río Paraná tributaries in Paraguay. Sympatric species are not found closely related and all sister species have allopatric distributions. Four species groups are recognized based on phylogenetic hypotheses generated from morphological and cyt b characters; the *forquilha* group—*A. forquilha*, *A. tembe*; the *scitulus* group—*A. scitulus*, *A. charrua*; the *kaaygua* group—*A. kaaygua*, *A. minuano*; and the *facetus* group—*A. facetus*, *A. guarani*.

Key words: ‘*Cichlasoma*’ *facetum* group, *Australoheros*, new species, Cichlidae, South America, biogeography, Río Uruguay, Río Paraná