



***Pseudolaguvia virgulata*, a new sisorid catfish (Teleostei: Sisoridae) from Mizoram, northeastern India**

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Abstract

Pseudolaguvia virgulata, a new South Asian sisorid catfish species, is described from the Barak River drainage in Mizoram, India. The new species can be distinguished from congeners in having a brown body with two or three narrow, pale longitudinal stripes and a pale Y-shaped marking on the dorsal surface of the head. Additional distinguishing characters from its congeners are a serrated anterior edge of the dorsal spine, the thoracic adhesive apparatus reaching beyond the base of the last pectoral-fin ray, head width, pectoral-fin length, length of dorsal-fin base, dorsal-spine length, body depth at anus, length of adipose-fin base, caudal peduncle length, caudal peduncle depth, snout length, interorbital distance, and total number of vertebrae.

Key words: Siluriformes, Sisoroidea, Barak River, South Asia

Introduction

Members of the sisorid genus *Pseudolaguvia* are small catfishes found in rivers draining the sub-Himalayan region and Myanmar. They superficially resemble miniature species of *Glyptothorax* in overall morphology and in having a thoracic adhesive apparatus with a median depression, but can be distinguished in having prominent postcoracoid processes. Eleven species of *Pseudolaguvia* are considered valid (Ng 2009): *P. ribeiroi* (Hora 1921), *P. shawi* (Hora 1921), *P. tuberculata* (Prashad & Mukerji 1929), *P. kapuri* (Tilak & Husain 1975), *P. tenebricosa* Britz & Ferraris 2003, *P. foveolata* Ng 2005, *P. inornata* Ng 2005, *P. muricata* Ng 2005, *P. ferula* Ng 2006, *P. ferruginea* Ng 2009 and *P. flavida* Ng 2009.

During recent ichthyological surveys of the Barak River drainage in Mizoram, India, the second author collected specimens of an unnamed *Pseudolaguvia* species. The description of this material as *Pseudolaguvia virgulata* new species forms the basis of this study.

Material and methods

Measurements were made point to point with digital calipers and data recorded to tenths of a millimeter. Counts and measurements were made on the left side of specimens whenever possible, following Ng & Dodson (1999). Subunits of the head are presented as proportions of head length (HL). Head length and measurements of body parts are given as proportions of standard length (SL). Fin-ray and vertebral counts were made from radiographs, with the latter counted following the method of Roberts (1994). An asterisk after a meristic value indicates the condition for the holotype. Institutional codes follow Ferraris (2007), with the addition of PUCMF for the Pachhunga University College Museum of Fishes, Mizoram, India.