



Onigocia sibogae, a replacement name for a distinct species of flathead fish, *Platycephalus grandisquamis* Weber, 1913 (Teleostei: Platycephalidae)

HISASHI IMAMURA

Laboratory of Marine Biology and Biodiversity (Systematic Ichthyology), Faculty of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, 3-1-1 Minato-cho, Hakodate, Hokkaido 041-8611, Japan. E-mail: imamura@fish.hokudai.ac.jp

Abstract

A replacement name, *Onigocia sibogae*, is given for a platycephalid fish, *Platycephalus grandisquamis* Weber, 1913, being preoccupied by *Platycephalus grandisquamis* Regan, 1908. Although this species has been considered to be conspecific with *Onigocia oliglepis* (Regan, 1908), it was revealed that its five extant syntypes include three species and one of them is a distinct species from congeners of the genus, including *O. oliglepis*. To avoid taxonomic confusion, the lectotype (ZMA 112434, 51.2 mm SL) of *O. sibogae* is designated here. *Onigocia sibogae* differs from seven congeners in having usually I+VII-11 dorsal and 11 anal fin rays, eight caudal fin rays, 30–31 lateral line scales, anterior two or three scales with spine, three scales between second dorsal fin and lateral line, no ocular and interopercular flaps, upper iris lappet usually finely crenate, two or three antrorse lachrymal spines, usually no spines on the inner ridge of the lachrymal, 2–5 preocular spines, no notch on the suborbital ridge below the eye, suborbital ridge serrated by 16–26 small spines, and 2–4 distinct blackish spots on middle and posterior portions of the pelvic fin rays.

Key words: *Onigocia sibogae*, **nom. nov.**, *Onigocia grandisquama* (Weber), Platycephalidae, lectotype

Introduction

Platycephalus grandisquamis was originally described by Weber (1913) based on six specimens collected from the Ceram Sea, near New Guinea. However, this species is a primary homonym of *Platycephalus grandisquamis* Regan, 1908 and is permanently invalid. De Beaufort (1956) established *Platycephalus horai* based on two of the six specimens. Subsequently, de Beaufort & Briggs (1962) considered *P. grandisquamis* Weber as conspecific with *Onigocia oliglepis* (Regan, 1908). In this study, I examined five extant syntypes of *P. grandisquamis* Weber. Of them, two syntypes (ZMA 112435), redesignated as syntypes of *Platycephalus horai* de Beaufort, 1956, is identical with *Thysanophrys celebica* (Bleeker, 1854) (see also Knapp, 1986) and one [ZMA 124954 (formerly ZMA 112434)] with *Onigocia grandisquama* (Regan). It was also revealed that the remaining two syntypes [ZMA 112434 and ZMA 124953 (formerly ZMA 112434)] belong to the genus *Onigocia* in having 30 lateral line scales and serrated suborbital ridge (see Imamura, 1996 for definition of *Onigocia*) (Fig. 1). However, they differ from all other congeners of *Onigocia* and are concluded to be a distinct species of the genus, although Knapp *et al.* (1999) identified them as *O. pedimacula*. To avoid taxonomic confusion, a new replacement name is given to the species and the lectotype of the species is designated here, and this species is redescribed based on the two types and additional 20 specimens collected from around Australia (Fig. 2).

Material and methods

Counts and measurements were made according to Imamura (2008). Measurements were made with calipers to the nearest 0.1 mm accuracy. Terminology of head spines follows Knapp *et al.* (2000). Inner, middle and outer ridges of lachrymal are three ridges on the anterior portion of the lachrymal (Fig. 3). Institutional acronyms are from Eschmeyer (1998), except for Hokkaido University Museum, Hakodate (HUMZ), National Institute of Coastal