



## *Eviota atriventris*, a New Goby Previously Misidentified as *Eviota pellucida* Larson (Teleostei: Gobiidae)

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### Abstract

A species commonly identified as *Eviota pellucida* in the literature has been misidentified and is in fact an undescribed species, described here as *E. atriventris*. *Eviota pellucida* is known only from the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, Ponape, Mariana Islands, and the Ryukyu Islands, Japan. *Eviota atriventris* is known from the Ryukyu Islands, Philippine Islands, Palau Islands, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, and the Great Barrier Reef, Australia. *Eviota atriventris* differs from *E. pellucida* in both preserved and live coloration and in pectoral-fin ray counts.

**Key words:** Teleostei, Gobiidae, *Eviota*, new species, S.W. Pacific

### Introduction

*Eviota pellucida* was described by Helen Larson in 1976 from the Mariana and Gilbert Islands. The description was accompanied by a drawing, but no color photograph; however, a description of life color was included. In 1997 Randall published what he thought to be the first life color photograph of *E. pellucida*, a 20 mm TL fish from Flores, Indonesia (Fig. 1). This fish had a distinctive black abdomen with a curved white stripe running through the black area from the pectoral fin to the anal-fin base. Since that time others have published similar photographs identified as *E. pellucida* (Myers 1999; Laboute and Grandperrin, 2000; Ikeda et al., 2003; Senou, et al. 2004; Randall 2005).

The second author photographed and captured a species of *Eviota* in Japan (= *Eviota* sp. 4 sensu Senou et al., 2004) that he did not recognize and thought it might be undescribed (Figs. 2–4). In examining the specimen we found that it had the distinctive dark coloration on the snout and top of the head similar to specimens of *E. pellucida*. In reexamining the original description of *E. pellucida* (Larson, 1976), we realized that her drawing and description of the live color matched the specimen from Japan, but not the photographs in the literature purported to be *E. pellucida* (Fig. 5). This widespread species with the dark abdomen and a light colored stripe is described as new in this paper.

### Materials and Methods

Counts and measurements, descriptions of fin morphology and the cephalic sensory-canal pore patterns follow Lachner and Karnella (1980). Measurements were made to the nearest 0.1 mm using dial calipers and an ocular micrometer, and are presented as percentage of Standard Length (SL). All specimen lengths are SL. Cyanine Blue 5R (acid blue 113) stain was used to make pores more obvious (Akihito et al. 1993; Saruwatari et al. 1997; Nakabo 2002). Values for the holotype are given first, followed by the range for all types, and by the mean, where appropriate, in parentheses.