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The tropical species of the subgenus *Pterygotrigla* (Pisces: Triglidae: *Pterygotrigla*) with description of a new species

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Abstract

The tropical species of the triglid subgenus *Pterygotrigla* (*Pterygotrigla*) are reviewed. Diagnoses, descriptions, and distributions are given for *P. ryukyuensis*, *P. guezei*, for two recently described species, *P. saumarez* and *P. gomoni*, and one new species, *P. cajorarori*, described herein. The statuses of the species of the subgenus are discussed and the subgenus is diagnosed. The subgenus lacks a nasal spine and has a short opercular spine, two features that distinguish it from the other two subgenera. The new species, *P. cajorarori*, has extreme hyperostosis of the head bones and first dorsal fin spines. It has 12+3 pectoral fin rays and is a rare species with few specimens from Japan, Philippines, Australia, and Indonesia.

Key words: Scorpaeniformes, gurnards, hyperostosis

Introduction

As part of our continuing revision of the Indo-Pacific species of the triglid Subfamily Pterygotriglinae, this study focuses on the tropical species of the subgenus *Pterygotrigla* of the genus *Pterygotrigla*. Recently we treated the subgenus *Otohime* (Richards *et al.* 2003) and described two new species of the subgenus *Pterygotrigla* from Australian seas (Last and Richards 2012). The temperate species of the subgenus *Pterygotrigla* await biochemical studies and the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* is nearly complete. Richards and Jones (2002) provided a preliminary classification of the family and we follow their treatment.

Methods

Counts and measurements follow Richards *et al.* (2003) and museum abbreviations follow Leviton *et al.* (1985) except that RUSI is now SAIAB. In some specimens the first second dorsal fin and first anal fin elements appear spine-like, but are considered as rays as the determination is difficult to make and varies among specimens. Lateral-line scales and scale rows above and below the lateral line are difficult to count because the scales are small, the rows uneven, and the lateral-line pores difficult to discern.

Genus *Pterygotrigla* Waite 1899

Diagnosis. Pterygiophores of first dorsal fin expanded to form flat, plate-like elements along base of first dorsal fin; body scales small <65 along lateral line. Vertebrae 26–28. Type species: *Trigla polommata* Richardson 1839 by original designation. Comprises three subgenera: *Otohime* Jordan & Starks 1907, *Parapterygotrigla* Matsubara 1937 and *Pterygotrigla*.