Yaoshania and Erromyzon kalotaenia, a new genus and a new species of balitorid loaches from Guangxi, China (Teleostei: Cypriniformes)

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Abstract

Yaoshania, new genus, is described with Protomyzon pachychilus as type species. Yaoshania is distinguished from other genera of Balitoridae by its larger gill opening, a lip lamina at angle of mouth, and the rostral fold with four notches to accommodate rostral barbels. A lectotype is designated for Y. pachychilus. Erromyzon kalotaenia, new species, is described from Guangxi, China. It is distinguished from other species of Erromyzon by the very reduced median lobe of the rostral fold; the lower lip distinctly covered with melanophores; and the color pattern on the flank. A key to the species of Erromyzon is provided.

Key words: Yaoshania, new genus, Erromyzon, new species, China

Introduction

Hora (1932) described the genus Protomyzon from Borneo, with P. whiteheadi (Vaillant 1893) as type species. Later, three more species were described, also from Borneo: P. borneensis Hora & Jayaram 1952, P. griswoldi (Hora & Jayaram1952) and P. aphelocheilus Inger & Chin 1962. Two further species of Protomyzon were described from China: P. sinensis Chen 1980b and P. pachychilus Chen 1980b. Kottelat (2004) re-examined the genus Protomyzon while describing Katibasia, and commented that its distribution is restricted to Borneo and that the Chinese species belong to a distinct genus that he named Erromyzon. He included two species in Erromyzon: E. sinensis from China and E. compactus, a species that he described from northeastern Vietnam. Kottelat (2004) had no access to material of Protomyzon pachychilus, which is only found in streams of the Dayaoshan mountain in Guangxi (China). He commented that P. pachychilus is unlikely to be an Erromyzon. Neely et al. (2007) described another new species of Erromyzon, E. yangi, also from Guangxi. At present, three species are recognized in the genus Erromyzon, all from northeastern Vietnam and southern China. In this study, we show that P. pachychilus represents a distinct genus. We also describe a new species of Erromyzon from Guangxi.

Materials and methods

Methods for most counts and measurements follow Chu & Chen (1989). Measurements are projections on the horizontal axis, except for gill opening length, which is measured point-to-point between the dorsal and ventral extremities. Measurements were taken with digital calipers and recorded to the nearest 0.1 mm. The last two branched rays are counted as one when borne by the same pterygiophore. Specimens examined are deposited in the collection of Kunming Institute of Zoology (KIZ), Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Singapore (ZRC), and