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Thryssocypris wongrati, a new anchovy-like cyprinid (Cypriniformes) from the Chao Phraya basin, Thailand

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Abstract

Thryssocypris wongrati, a new species of cyprinid from the Chao Phraya basin, Thailand, is distinguished from all other species of *Thryssocypris* by having a combination of the origin of the dorsal fin behind the origin of the anal fin, 37–40 lateral-line scales, 16 circumpeduncular scales, and a dark spot at the base of the caudal fin. *Thryssocypris wongrati* occupies the lower part of the Chao Phraya basin where it has been recorded from irrigation canals in Sing-Buri up to the most northern part of the basin in the Nan River in Phitsanulok Province.

Key words: fish, teleost, new species

Introduction

Roberts and Kottelat (1984) described *Thryssocypris* as a new genus of anchovy-like cyprinid fishes with two new species, *T. smaragdinus* and *T. tonlesapensis*, from the Kapuas River, Kalimantan, Indonesia, and Tonle Sap Lake in the Mekong basin of Cambodia, respectively. Kottelat (1991) subsequently described *T. ornithostoma* from the Kapuas River, Kalimantan, Indonesia, and Rainboth (1996a) reported a larger distribution for *T. tonlesapensis*, noting that it is a Mekong endemic found from Tonle Sap to the Mekong delta.

Vidthayanon *et al.* (1997) reported *T. tonlesapensis* from the Chao Phraya basin in the central part of Thailand. Later, Kohanantakul *et al.* (2000) reported the species upstream of the Chao Phraya Dam in Chinat in the lower part of the Chao Phraya basin and noted differences between populations of *T. tonlesapensis* in the Chao Phraya from those in the Mekong. Most recently, Deein *et al.* (2006) reported *T. tonlesapensis* from the Nan River, a tributary of Chao Phraya, in Phitsanulok. Kohanantakul *et al.* (2000) noted differences between populations in the Chao Phraya and the Mekong. The Chao Phraya population can be distinguished from that in the Mekong by its larger scales and is described here as a new species.

Materials and methods

Our observations are based on preserved specimens of *Thryssocypris smaragdinus, T. tonlesapensis* and *T. wongrati* from the California Academy of Sciences (CAS), Kasetsart University Museum of Fisheries (KUMF), National Science Museum, Thailand (THNHM), Can Tho University (CTU), Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFREDI) and Ubon Ratchathani Natural History Museum of Fisheries (UNMF). Data on *T. ornithostoma* are from the original description by Kottelat (1991). All measurements were taken point to point with digital calipers, and data were recorded to the nearest 0.1 mm. Measurements and counts, made on the left side of individuals whenever possible, followed those of Roberts and Kottelat (1984). Measurements of parts of the head and fin lengths are presented as proportions of head length (HL). The head length and measurements of other parts of the body are given as percentages of standard length (SL). Fin rays were counted using a binocular dissecting microscope. Vertebrae were counted from radiographs. The Weberian complex and urostylar complex are included in the counts of total vertebrae.