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http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3681.5.4 http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:86F99E54-F2F9-4078-8639-8961F38AB75C

Glyptothorax igniculus, a new species of sisorid catfish (Teleostei: Siluriformes) from Myanmar

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Abstract

Glyptothorax igniculus, new species, is described from the Chindwin River system (part of the Irrawaddy River drainage) in northwestern Myanmar. It differs from other species of Glyptothorax in the Irrawaddy drainage except G. burmanicus in having a thoracic adhesive apparatus with a lanceolate central depression that is nearly enclosed posteriorly by skin ridges, vs. having an adhestive apparatus that is open caudally. In G. burmanicus the adhesive apparatus is oval in outline and completely closed. Glyptothorax chindwinicus Vishwanath & Linthoingambi, 2007 is shown to be a junior synonym of G. burmanicus Prashad & Mukerji, 1929. Glyptothorax rugimentum is reported for the first time from the Chindwin drainage.

Key words: Sisoroidea, Chindwin, Irrawaddy

Introduction

Glyptothorax is a speciose group accounting for nearly half of the diversity of the Sisoridae, one of the largest Asian catfish families (about 80 out of approximately 180 species). Members of the genus are found in hillstreams and swift-flowing rivers from the Euphrates River drainage of eastern Turkey eastwards to the Yangtze River drainage and southwards to the Indian subcontinent and the Greater Sunda Islands.

Nine species of Glyptothorax have been recorded from the Irrawaddy drainage in Myanmar, China, and India, viz., G. granulus, G. longicauda, G. longjiangensis, G. minimaculatus, G. minutus, G. ngapang, G. panda, G. rugimentum and G. ventrolineatus (with G. granulus, G. minutus, G. ngapang, and G. ventrolineatus all known from the Chindwin River sub-drainage). During ichthyological surveys conducted in part of the Chindwin River drainage (itself part of the Irrawaddy River drainage) in Myanmar, the second author obtained specimens of G. rugimentum, representing the first record of the species from the Chindwin drainage, G. ngapang, and one more species of Glyptothorax that could not be readily identified. Further research revealed this unidentified Glyptothorax to belong to an unnamed species, which is described here as G. igniculus.

Material and methods

Measurements were made point to point with digital calipers and data recorded to tenths of a millimeter. Counts and measurements were made on the left side of specimens whenever possible, following Ng & Kottelat (2013). Subunits of the head are presented as proportions of head length (HL). Head length and measurements of body parts are given as proportions of standard length (SL). Morphometric data were managed and analysed using IBM SPSS Statistics, ver. 21 (IBM 2012) except that the principal component analysis (PCA) of measurements was made using a separate procedure for component shearing, partialling out multivariate size residues from the second and further components as described by Humphries et al. (1981). Fin-ray and vertebral counts were made from