



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3717.2.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:F9BF9018-A439-49FF-9589-820600FAA387>

Two new species of *Cabillus* (Perciformes: Gobiidae) and the first record of *Cabillus macrophthalmus* from the Western Indian Ocean

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Abstract

Two new species of the gobiid genus *Cabillus*, *C. nigromarginatus* **sp. nov.** and *Cabillus nigrostigmus* **sp. nov.** are described. *Cabillus nigromarginatus* (from Rodrigues, Western Indian Ocean) is distinguished from congeners by having 18–20 pectoral-fin rays; predorsal area naked; two scales with enlarged ctenii ventrally and dorsally at the caudal-fin base; head with anterior and posterior oculoscapular, and preopercular canals, with pores σ , λ , κ , ω , α , β , ρ , ρ^1 , ρ^2 , and γ , δ , ε respectively; the body with four midline lateral blotches, with two or three of them expanding upwards in dorsal saddles; a dark triangular blotch at caudal-fin base; and predorsal with pigmentation at lateral edges forming a rectangle. *Cabillus nigrostigmus* (from the Red Sea) is distinguished from its congeners by having 19 pectoral-fin rays; transverse scale series 7; nape scaled, median predorsal scales 7; body depth 5.8–6.0 in SL; snout length 1.5–1.9 in eye diameter; caudal-peduncle depth in its length 2.4–2.5; a broad dark brown bar below first dorsal fin beginning anteriorly at the level of fourth spine of the first dorsal fin; elongate black blotch along posterior half of first dorsal fin extending into the sixth spine and adjacent membranes; and midlateral black spot at the end of caudal peduncle followed by S-shaped dark bar. *Cabillus macrophthalmus* is recorded for the first time in the Western Indian Ocean (Red Sea and Seychelles) and re-described.

Key words: *Cabillus*, *Cabillus nigromarginatus* **sp. nov.**, *Cabillus nigrostigmus* **sp. nov.**, Rodrigues, Gulf of Aqaba

Introduction

The Indo-Pacific gobiid genus *Cabillus*, reviewed by Randall *et al.* (2007), contained six valid species. The genus was described by Smith (1959) together with a single species of this genus, *C. lacertops*. Two additional species were later assigned to the genus, *Glossogobius tongarevae* Fowler, 1927 (Hayashi *et al.* 1981) and *Quisquilius macrophthalmus* Weber, 1909 (Winterbottom & Emery 1986), and three new species of *Cabillus* were described: *C. caudimacula* Greenfield & Randall, 2004, *C. atripelvicus* Randall *et al.*, 2007, and *C. pexus* Shibukawa & Aizawa, 2013. *Cabillus atripelvicus*, *C. caudimacula*, and *C. pexus* are western Pacific species with restricted distributions: *C. caudimacula* is known from Hawaii, and *C. atripelvicus* and *C. pexus* from Japan (Greenfield & Randall 2004; Randall *et al.* 2007; Shibukawa & Aizawa 2013). *Cabillus macrophthalmus* is known from Indonesia, whereas the later record of this species from Western Australia is considered as another undescribed species wrongly identified as *C. macrophthalmus* (Weber 1909; Randall *et al.* 2007). Senou *et al.* (2004) provided color photographs of three additional undescribed *Cabillus* species from Japanese waters. The two remaining described species, *C. lacertops* and *C. tongarevae*, have widespread Indo-western Pacific distributions. They are present in the Western Indian Ocean: *Cabillus lacertops* is known from Mozambique and *C. tongarevae* from Reunion, Aldabra, and from a questionable record from Mauritius (Smith 1959; Letourneur *et al.* 2004; Randall *et al.* 2007; Fricke *et al.* 2009). The species have also been reported from other localities of the Indian Ocean: both species from the Chagos Archipelago (Winterbottom & Emery 1986), and *C. tongarevae* from the Maldives (Randall & Goren 1993).

A single *Cabillus* specimen was photographed and collected by one of us (SB) from the Sharm el Moya Bay, Red Sea, during fieldwork in July 2011. Later, in November 2012, another specimen was photographed and