



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3765.2.2>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:3E5C83F5-508F-41F2-8B3F-1A0C3FD035FE>

## A new trans-Andean Stick Catfish of the genus *Farlowella* Eigenmann & Eigenmann, 1889 (Siluriformes: Loricariidae) with the first record of the genus for the río Magdalena Basin in Colombia

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### Abstract

A new species of *Farlowella* is described from El Carmen de Chucurí in the Departamento de Santander, western flank of the Cordillera Oriental, río Magdalena Basin, Colombia. *Farlowella yarigui* n. sp. differs from its congeners in lateral body plate morphology, abdominal cover, cephalic hypertrophied odontodes, and details of coloration. This is the first verifiable record of the genus in the Magdalena drainage. Aspects of natural history and implications of this finding are provided concerning the state of knowledge of the fishes of the río Magdalena Basin. Previous records of *Farlowella gracilis* in the río Cauca basin are examined and herein considered erroneous, rendering the new species the only representative of the genus in the Magdalena-Cauca system. A key to species of *Farlowella* from Colombia is provided.

**Keywords:** Loricariinae, *Farlowella gracilis*, trans-Andean, Serranía de los Yariguíes, taxonomy

### Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie de *Farlowella* de El Carmen de Chucurí, en el Departamento de Santander, flanco occidental de la Cordillera Oriental, cuenca del río Magdalena, Colombia. *Farlowella yarigui* sp. nov. difiere de sus congéneres en la morfología de las placas laterales, cobertura ventral, odontoides cefálicos hipertrofiados, y detalles de coloración. Este representa el primer registro verificable del género en el drenaje del Magdalena. Se proporcionan aspectos de historia natural e implicaciones de este hallazgo con respecto al estado del conocimiento sobre los peces de la cuenca del río Magdalena. Se examinan registros previos de *Farlowella gracilis* en la cuenca del río Cauca y son considerados erróneos, haciendo de la nueva especie el único representante del género en el sistema Magdalena-Cauca. Se proporciona una clave para las especies de *Farlowella* de Colombia.

### Introduction

The Loricariinae is a subfamily of armored catfishes comprising more than 31 genera and 209 species (Ferraris, 2003). Fishes assigned to this subfamily are generally recognized by being strongly depressed, elongate, and lacking an adipose fin. Genera of the Loricariinae are outstandingly rich in morphological variation, which has led to the recognition of several monotypic genera (Covain & Fisch-Muller, 2007). A few genera include moderate to large numbers of species, and some of them are found in cis-Andean areas (*Farlowella*, *Harttia*, *Loricariichthys*), while others occupy both cis- and trans-Andean drainages (*Rineloricaria*, *Spatuloricaria* and *Sturisoma*). One of these genera, *Farlowella*, is the second richest genus in the subfamily with 26 species (Retzer, 2006).

The genus *Farlowella* Eigenmann & Eigenmann was revised by Retzer & Page (1996) who proposed an intrageneric arrangement of species groups. These authors provided information on the taxonomy and geographic

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