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Revision of the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* (Pisces: Triglidae: *Pterygotrigla*)

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Abstract

The subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* of the triglid genus *Pterygotrigla* is revised with a description of a new species. The subgenus comprises *P. hoplites*, *P. jacad* **sp. nov.**, *P. megalops*, *P. macrorhynchus*, *P. multiocellata*, and *P. robertsi*. Two juvenile forms considered to be *incertae sedis* *Dixiphichthys ferculum* Whitley, and two larval triglids, are discussed together with *Trigla brandesii* (Bleeker). Members of the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* are distributed in tropical waters of the western Pacific and Indian oceans. All species possess a nasal spine, have long and strong nuchal and cleithral spines and short opercular spines. A new species, *P. jacad*, found in the western Indian Ocean, has an unusually large eye. All members of the subgenus are rare in collections as they live on the bottom in deep water (>200 m) over rough terrain and are rarely taken by trawlers.

Key words: Pisces, Triglidae, *Pterygotrigla*

Introduction

The genus *Pterygotrigla* (Triglidae: Pterygotriglinae) now comprises three subgenera that have at times been considered as separate genera. Richards & Jones (2002), in their preliminary classification, recognized *Pterygotrigla*, *Bovitrigla* and *Uradia* in the Indo-Pacific subfamily Pterygotriglinae. Subsequently Richards *et al.* (2003) revised the *Pterygotrigla* subgenus *Otohime*, Last & Richards (2012) and Richards & Yato (2012) revised the tropical species of the subgenus *Pterygotrigla*, and this paper revises the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla*.

All members of the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* are deep dwelling benthic fishes (>200 m) and are mostly very rare in collections. Several species are known only from very few specimens, and a new species is described here based on 3 specimens. We provide a synonymy, diagnosis, and species key for the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla* and for each species we provide synonymies, illustrations, diagnoses, descriptions, and distributions. The group includes: *P. hoplites* (Fowler 1938), *P. jacad* **sp. nov.**, *P. macrorhynchus* Kamohara 1936, *P. megalops* (Fowler 1938), *P. multiocellata* (Matsubara 1937), and *P. robertsi* del Cerro & Lloris 1997. *Trigla brandesii* Bleeker 1850 is herein tentatively assigned to the subgenus *Parapterygotrigla*, as it is known from a very brief description and the type is lost. An unassigned juvenile triglid taxa, *Dixiphichthys ferculum* Whitley 1952, and two undescribed larvae, are discussed. Color images of species are very rare so limited data on coloration are noted in the species accounts: a few color photographs have been published of *P. multiocellata* and one of *P. megalops*; a specimen of *P. multiocellata* in an unpublished color image from Saipan is described below. Future efforts should be made to obtain images of fresh material and make detailed notes on coloration, especially of the color of the inner surface of the pectoral fin which is diagnostic for many triglids.

Material and methods

Counts and measurements follow Richards *et al.* (2003) and museum abbreviations follow Leviton *et al.* (1985). In some specimens the first D₂ and A fin elements appear spine-like, but are considered as rays as the determination is

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