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***Foa yamba*, a new species of cardinalfish (Percomorpha: Apogonidae: Apogonichthyini) from the tidal region of the Clarence River, Australia and redescriptions of the West Pacific *Foa longimana* and *Foa hyalina***

THOMAS H. FRASER

Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 32611–7800 USA, and Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236–1096 USA. E-mail: [cardinalfish@comcast.net](mailto:cardinalfish@comcast.net)

**Abstract**

*Foa yamba*, a new species is described from an eastern Australian tidal estuary. This species differs from other West Pacific *Foa* by having many small spots on the body. *Foa longimana*, known only from the holotype, is presently an unidentifiable larval stage from Indonesia and is redescribed, but not allocated to a different genus. *Foa hyalina*, a West Pacific species is reviewed and its known distribution expanded. It is distinguished by five reddish or brownish-red bars on the body from nape to the level of middle portion of the second dorsal fin and lacks markings on caudal fin.

**Key words:** *Apogonichthys*, *Fowleria*, *Neamia*, *Ozichthys*, morphology

**Introduction**

Fraser & Randall (2011) redescribed *Foa fo* Jordan & Seale 1905 as a widespread Indo-Pacific species, *Foa brachygramma* (Jenkins 1903) from the Hawaiian Islands and described *Foa leisi* as a new Pacific Plate species. Other species were excluded by these authors including taxa misidentified as *Foa fo* or *F. brachygramma*, the latter formerly believed to be widespread in the Indo-Pacific. Mark McGrouther brought to my attention a new Australian species of *Foa* Jordan & Evermann in Jordan & Seale 1905 while visiting the Australian Museum. The new species led to the examination of additional *Foa* from the West Pacific. *Foa hyalina* (Smith & Radcliffe in Radcliffe 1912) is a very distinctive species in body shape and color pattern (Allen & Erdmann 2012). This rarely collected species has never been confused with other species of *Foa*. Fowler & Bean (1930) reported on the types and one other Albatross specimen from the Philippines. New material, a redescription of the type and some internal characters of *Foa hyalina* are discussed. *Foa longimana* is known only from a single larval specimen since its description by Max Weber in 1909. The specimen is re-described and its uncertain generic status discussed.

**Methods**

Methods for meristic data and measurements are given in Fraser (2005). Meristic data and proportions for the new species (>28 mm SL) are given for the holotype followed by the ranges of paratypes in parentheses for the new species. Proportions are given as a percent of the standard length (SL). Acronyms used to designate institutions and collections cited follow Fricke and Eschmeyer (2014). Internal characteristics are taken from cleared and stained specimens and radiographs. All figures have been processed through Photoshop CS6 Extended ver. 13.06x64. Film-based radiographs were scanned on Epson Perfection V700 Photo to convert to digital format. All radiographs, initially negatives, were converted to positives in Photoshop and modified for clarity. Partial head pore pattern and free neuromast patterns were based on single or combinations of specimens using camera lucida attached to Wild M5D or Leica MZ95 stereo microscopes. Initial drawings were scanned and finalized in Photoshop. Species are treated in alphabetical order.

specimens (34–37) exhibited expanded (buccal) mouths but eggs were not present. *Ozichthys albimaculosus* (Kailola 1976), recently removed from *Foa*, has pale spot-like marks with outer, incomplete darkish edges on body, all scales in lateral line with pores and fused hypurals 1+2, all characters different than all known species of *Foa* (Fraser 2014).

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