



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4040.5.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:B4785BE8-3B87-4D25-9C24-733379AAEBBC>

A new species of deepwater wrasse (Labridae: *Terelabrus*) from the western Pacific Ocean

YOSHINO FUKUI¹ & HIROYUKI MOTOMURA^{2,3}

¹The Graduate School of Fisheries, Kagoshima University, 4-50-20 Shimoarata, Kagoshima 890-0056, Japan

²The Kagoshima University Museum, 1-21-30 Korimoto, Kagoshima 890-0065, Japan. E-mail: motomura@kaum.kagoshima-u.ac.jp

³Corresponding author

Abstract

A new labrid fish *Terelabrus dewapyle* **sp. nov.** is described as the second species of the genus, on the basis of five specimens collected from southern Japan, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji in depths of 72–92 m. The sole paratype of *T. rubrovittatus* Randall & Fourmanoir 1998 is herein identified as *T. dewapyle* and designated as a paratype of the latter. The new species can be distinguished from *T. rubrovittatus* by the following characters: lower number of scale rows in the longitudinal series (41 or 42 vs. 45–48 in the latter), fewer pored lateral-line scales (39 or 40 vs. 43–45), and fewer gill rakers (12 or 13 vs. 14 or 15); a broader space between the anteroventral margin of the orbit and the maxilla [least distance 1.2–3.7% (mean 2.5%) SL vs. 0.5–2.3% (1.6%)]; no red blotches on the midlateral red stripe in adults and young (vs. 8–10 red blotches superimposed on midlateral red stripe in adults); no yellow band on the dorsal fin (vs. broad vivid yellow band submarginally on the dorsal fin in adults, pale yellow band in young); a vivid yellow (vs. white) space between the upper and midlateral red stripes; and a black blotch superimposed on the midlateral red stripe on the opercle in young, the black blotch fading with growth (vs. black blotch absent or indistinct).

Key words: Teleostei, Perciformes, *Terelabrus rubrovittatus*, *Terelabrus dewapyle*, taxonomy, distribution

Introduction

The family Labridae contains about 70 genera (30 of which are monotypic) with 504 species (Parenti & Randall 2010). *Terelabrus rubrovittatus* was originally described by Randall & Fourmanoir (1998) as a new monotypic genus and species on the basis of two specimens from New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea at depths of 92–100 m. The genus *Terelabrus* is characterized by several distinctive external characters, including the elongated, cylindrical anterior body and large eyes (Randall & Fourmanoir 1998).

During ichthyofaunal surveys in the Osumi Group in the northern Ryukyu Islands (*e.g.*, Motomura *et al.* 2010, 2013), a single specimen of a second species of the genus *Terelabrus* was collected at a depth of 72 m off Iou-jima in the group. Subsequently, additional specimens in the fish collection of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu (collected in Fiji) were determined to be conspecific with the Iou-jima specimen. In addition, examination of the type specimens of *T. rubrovittatus* revealed the unique paratype from Papua New Guinea to be the same species as the Iou-jima and Fiji specimens.

In this paper, these specimens from Japan, Papua New Guinea and Fiji are described as a new species of *Terelabrus*, and detailed comparisons with *T. rubrovittatus* are given based on the holotype and additional specimens of *T. rubrovittatus* from Japan, Palau, Vanuatu, Fiji, and Australia.

Material and methods

Counts and measurements follow Randall & Fourmanoir (1998). Standard and total lengths are abbreviated as SL and TL respectively. The pectoral-fin rays, scale rows in the longitudinal series, the pored lateral-line scales, and