

ON A COLLECTION OF GOBIOID FISHES FROM THE ANDAMANS.

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Early in 1939 I received through the courtesy of Drs. B. Prashad and S. L. Hora a small collection of Gobioid Fishes from the Andaman Islands for identification.¹ The collection had been made by Dr. H. S. Rao and Mr. K. S. Misra in the course of their work on the shell fisheries in the Andaman Islands and consists of 165 specimens belonging to 16 recognisable species. It consists for the greater part of young specimens, which, owing to the absence of important diagnostic characters, such as the non-development of scales, etc., are not possible of specific identification. A number of such young forms could only be named provisionally, while in two cases specific identification was not at all possible. Though the collection does not contain any new species, it is of great interest from a zoogeographical point of view as the Andamans are located between India and the Indo-Australian Archipelago.

***Acentrogobius bontii* var. *triangularis* (M. Weber).**

Muddy creek near South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair,
27-iii-1935 2 specimens.

***Acentrogobius ornatus* (Rüpp.).**

South of Sound Island, North Andaman, 29-xii-1933 2 specimens.
South coast of Long Island, Middle Andaman,
20-i-1935 1 specimen.
Between corals in sandy parts, Curlew Island, Stewart
Sound, North Andaman, 6-iii-1935 1 specimen.
Muddy creek near South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair,
27-iii-1935 3 specimens.

***Acentrogobius reichei* (Bleeker).**

Muddy creek near South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair,
27-iii-1935 22 specimens.

¹ Attention may also be invited to the following species of Gobioid fishes found by Dr. Albert W. C. T. Herre in the material of Andaman fishes reported upon by him recently (*Rec. Ind. Mus.* XLI, pp. 327-372, 1939; *ibid* XLII, pp. 1-8, 1940):—

Bathygobius fuscus (Rüppell).

Chonophorus ocellaris (Broussonet).

Glossogobius biocellatus (Cuv. & Val.).

Glossogobius celebius (Cuv. & Val.)

Glossogobius giuris (Ham.).

Gobiodon quinquestrigatus (Cuv. & Val.).

Oxyrichthys ophthalmonema (Bleeker).

Periophthalmodon schlosseri Pallas.

Periophthalmus barbarus (Linn.).

Sicyopterus garra Hora.

Taenioides caeculus (Bl. & Schn.).

Vaimosa koumansii Mukerji.

Vaimosa hoeveni Bleeker.—*Editor.*

Ctenogobius criniger (C. & V.).

On sandy bottom near shore, W. of cocoanut plantation, Long Island, Middle Andaman, 22-i-1935 ..	3 specimens.
Sticking to sandy bottom near shore, W. of cocoanut plantation, Long Island, Middle Andaman, 22-i-1935 ..	6 specimens.
Muddy creek near South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, 27-iii-1935 ..	7 specimens.

Bathygobius fuscus (Rüpp.).

Freshwater stream, South of creek near South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, 15-xii-1934 ..	2 specimens.
Near Murdakhari Bay, Port Blair, 29-xii-1934 ..	2 specimens.

Glossogobius giuris (Ham.).

Freshwater stream north of Wireless Station, Port Blair, 27-xi-1934 ..	1 specimen.
Freshwater stream near bridge at Beadonabad, Port Blair, 25-xii-1934 ..	1 specimen.

Glossogobius biocellatus (C. & V.).

In sandy parts, W. coast of Long Island near cocoanut plantation, Middle Andaman, 22-i-1935 ..	1 specimen.
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Zonogobius semidoliatus (C. & V.).

South of Sound Island, North Andaman, 29-xii-1933	1 specimen.
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Stigmatogobius neglectus (Bleeker MS.) Kuomans.

In stream W. of Sipi ghat Bhagelsinghpura, South Andaman, 5-xii-1934	1 specimen.
From a freshwater stream near Rangat Camp, Middle Andaman, 19-i-1935 ..	2 specimens.
Dhanikara stream near junction of Maymyo-Manglutan roads, South Andaman, 21-ii-1935 ..	29 specimens.
Stream near Weli village, Base Camp, Middle Andaman, 2-iii-1935 ..	7 specimens.
Stream below Machchaligaon, Port Blair, 6-ii-1936 ..	3 specimens.

It is possible that *Stigmatogobius neglectus* is the female of the species of which the male has been described as *Pseudogobiopsis römeri* (M. Weber). The species as described are pretty different in their physiognomy. *P. römeri* has a large mouth, the maxillary extends to far behind the eye, nearly to the posterior border of preopercle. In *S. neglectus* the maxillary is short and extends to the middle of the eye. It was not till recently that all the specimens on which *S. neglectus* was based were found to be males, while those of *P. römeri* are all females. In certain other species of Gobioid Fishes sexual dimorphism of this kind is known to occur, and it is possible that the same is the case in this species as well. If this surmise proves correct, the species should bear the name *Stigmatogobius römeri* (M. Weber).

Stigmatogobius sp.

Amidst stones at the junction of the freshwater stream
and the creek near cocoanut plantation, Long
Island, Middle Andaman, 22-i-1935 3 specimens.

It is not possible to identify these specimens with certainty, but they may belong to *S. neglectus*.

Pseudogobiopsis römeri (M. Weber).

In stream W. of Sipi ghat, Bhagelsinghpura, South
Andaman, 5-xii-1934 2 specimens.
Dhanikara stream near junction of Maymyo-Man-
lutan roads, South Andaman, 21-ii-1935 .. 1 specimen.

Sicyopterus microcephalus (Bleeker).

From a muddy stream S. W. of Golf course, Aberdeen,
Port Blair, 12-ii-1934 2 specimens.
Stream near Weli village, Base Camp, Middle Andaman,
2-iii-1935 1 specimen.
Stream below Machchaligaon, Port Blair, 6-ii-1936 .. 8 specimens.

On examining the type-specimens of *Sicyopterus garra* Hora (*Rec. Ind. Mus.* XXVIII, p. 35, pl. ii, figs. 2-5, 1925) from Birchgunge, South Andaman, I found the species to be a synonym of *S. microcephalus*. This species therefore occurs in the Andamans, Java, Celebes and Timor.

Periophthalmus koelreuteri kalolo Lesson.

Murdakhari, Port Blair, 17-ii-1936 1 specimen.

Taenioides cirratus (Blyth).

On mud bank, exposed at low tide, of a creek near
South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, 27-iii-1935 .. 1 specimen.

Eleotris fusca (Bl. & Schn.).

Roadside pool or tank P. W. D. Godown, Port Blair,
14-iii-1934 2 specimens.
Machchi line, Port Blair, 20-v-1934 1 specimen.
Freshwater stream south of creek near South Corbyn's
Cove, Port Blair, 15-xii-1934 9 specimens.
Freshwater stream N. of Wireless Station, Port Blair,
26-27-xi-1934 1 specimen.
From a freshwater stream near Rangat Camp, Middle
Andaman, 19-i-1935 1 specimen.
In creek amidst rocks, near cocoanut plantation, Long
Island, Middle Andaman, 22-i-1935 1 specimen.
In creek N. of South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair,
15-ii-1935 2 specimens.
Freshwater stream with muddy and sandy bottom near
Weli village, Base Camp, Middle Andaman,
2-iii-1935 1 specimen.
Stream below Machchaligaon, Port Blair, 6-ii-1936 .. 1 specimen.

Ophiocara aporos var. **hoedtii** (Bleeker).

From a stream close to Rangat Camp, Middle Andaman, 19-i-1935	..	..	..	4 specimens.
In creek N. of South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, 15-ii-1935	..	..	..	2 specimens.
Stream below Machchaligaon, Port Blair, 6-ii-1936	..	..	..	19 specimens.

Ophiocara porocephala (C. & V.).

In creek N. of South Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, 15-ii-1935	4 specimens.
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Butis sp.

From a freshwater stream near Rangat Camp, Middle Andaman, 19-i-1935	1 specimen.
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This specimen is too young for specific identification.