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Hab. Ecuador (Rosenberg, Brit. Mus.); Santa Inéz (Haensch, Brit. Mus.); Quito (Brussels Mus.).

Some two years ago the British Museum purchased from Herr Haensch what were specified as cotypes of some of the species described by Herr Breddin. Amongst them was this species, labelled *Prunasis analis*, Bredd.; but, as I can find no record of such a description, a mistake must have been made.

V.—On some West-African Species of Barbus.

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

THE four species of which descriptions are here given have sometimes been confounded. The large material at my disposal enables me to give revised definitions of them by which their distinction will be made easy. All four belong to the section with two pairs of barbels and with the last simple ray of the dorsal fin neither strongly ossified and spine-like nor serrated.

Their principal characters may be thus contrasted:—

- A. Posterior barbel not longer than the eye and twice as long as the anterior.

Depth of body $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 times in total length;

sq. 22–25 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}}{3\frac{1}{2}}$, $2-2\frac{1}{2}$ between lat. l. and

ventral *B. ablakes*, Blkr.

- B. Posterior barbel once to twice as long as the eye, not twice as long as the anterior.

Depth of body 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length;

sq. 25–28 $\frac{4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{2}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}-3$ between lat. l. and

ventral; anterior barbel $1\frac{1}{2}$, posterior 2 diameters of eye..... *B. trispilus*, Blkr.

Depth of body 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length;

sq. 21–25 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{2}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}-3$ between lat. l. and

ventral; posterior barbel not longer than the anterior, 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters of eye; last simple ray of dorsal not enlarged *B. camptacanthus*, Blkr.

Depth of body $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length;

sq. 24–27 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{2}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}-3$ between lat. l. and

ventral; posterior barbel longer than the anterior, $1\frac{2}{3}$ to 2 diameters of eye; last simple ray of dorsal much thicker than first branched ray *B. tenuis*, Blgr.

Barbus ablakes.

Puntius (Barbodes) ablakes, Bleeker, Nat. Verh. Vet. Haarlem, xviii. 1863, no. 2, p. 114, pl. xxiii. fig. 1.

Enteromius potamogalis, Cope, Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. (2) xiii. 1867, p. 407.

Barbus ablakes, Steindachn. Notes Leyd. Mus. xvi. 1894, p. 79.

Depth of body $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 times in total length, length of head $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 times. Snout rounded, as long as eye, 3 or $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of head, interorbital width $2\frac{3}{4}$ or 3 times; mouth inferior, its width $\frac{1}{4}$ length of head; lips moderately developed, interrupted on the chin; barbels two on each side, posterior as long as eye and twice as long as the anterior, the distance between them $\frac{2}{3}$ diameter of eye. Dorsal III 8, last simple ray flexible, not enlarged, as long as head; free edge of the fin slightly emarginate; its distance from the occiput a little less than its distance from the caudal fin. Anal III 5, longest ray $\frac{3}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Pectoral $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ length of head, reaching or nearly reaching ventral; latter below anterior rays of dorsal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as deep. Scales 22–25 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}}{3\frac{1}{2}}$, 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ between lateral line and ventral, 12 round caudal peduncle. Brownish above, whitish beneath, the dorsal scales darker at the base; a black straight lateral band, from the end of the snout, through the eye, to the base of the caudal; fins white, dorsal greyish in front.

Total length 85 mm.

Originally described from Dabo-Crom, Gold Coast; re-discovered in the Gaboon by M. du Chaillu, in Liberia by Dr. Büttikofer. I have examined numerous specimens from the Gold Coast, obtained by the late Mr. R. B. N. Walker, together with examples of the other *Barbus*, *B. trispilus*, described by Bleeker as found in the same bottle with the type of *B. ablakes*.

Barbus trispilus.

Puntius (Barbodes) trispilos, Bleeker, Nat. Verh. Vet. Haarlem, xviii. 1863, no. 2, p. 113, pl. xxiii. fig. 3.

Barbus trispilus, Günther, Cat. Fish. vii. p. 108 (1868), and Proc. Zool. Soc. 1899, p. 730.

Barbus camptacanthus, var. *liberiensis*, Steindachn. Notes Leyd. Mus. xvi. 1894, p. 80.

Depth of body 3 to $3\frac{3}{4}$ times in total length, length of head $3\frac{3}{8}$ to 4 times. Snout rounded, not longer than the eye; diameter of eye $3\frac{1}{3}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of head, interorbital width $2\frac{1}{3}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times; mouth terminal, its width about $\frac{1}{3}$ length of head; lips moderately developed, interrupted on

Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 7. Vol. xviii.

3

the chin; barbels two on each side, anterior $1\frac{1}{2}$, posterior 2 diameters of eye, the distance between them about $\frac{1}{2}$ diameter of eye. Dorsal III 8, last simple ray flexible, not enlarged, as long as or slightly shorter than the head; free edge of the fin straight or very slightly concave; its distance from the occiput less than its distance from the caudal fin. Anal III 5, longest ray $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Pectoral $\frac{4}{5}$ or $\frac{5}{8}$ length of head, not reaching ventral; latter below anterior rays of dorsal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{3}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as deep. Scales 25-28 $\frac{4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{3}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 between lateral line and ventral, 10 or 12 round caudal peduncle. Back brownish, sides and belly silvery, the scales of the lateral line and sometimes the series above it with a dark bar at the base; three round or oval black spots on each side, the first anterior to the vertical of the base of dorsal fin and above the lateral line, the second just behind the vertical of the dorsal fin and bordered below by the lateral line, the third at the base of the caudal fin and traversed by the lateral line; fins white, without spots.

Total length 70 mm.

Gold Coast; Liberia.

I have examined numerous specimens, collected by the late Mr. R. B. N. Walker and identified by Dr. Günther.

Barbus camptacanthus.

Puntius (Barbodes) camptacanthus, Bleeker, Nat. Verh. Vet. Haarlem, xviii. 1863, no. 2, p. 111, pl. xxiii. fig. 2; Sauvage, N. Arch. Mus. (2) iii. 1880, p. 48, pl. iii. fig. 2.

Barbus camptacanthus, Günth. Cat. Fish. vii. p. 134 (1868).

Depth of body 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length, length of head $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 times. Snout rounded, longer than the eye in the adult, as long as the eye in the young; diameter of eye $3\frac{1}{2}$ (young) to 5 times in length of head, interorbital width $2\frac{1}{3}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times; mouth inferior, its width about $\frac{1}{3}$ length of head; lips moderately developed, interrupted on the chin; barbels two on each side, equal in length, 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times diameter of eye, which equals the distance between them. Dorsal III 8, last simple ray flexible, not enlarged, $\frac{4}{5}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ length of head; free edge of the fin slightly emarginate; its distance from the occiput a little less than its distance from the caudal fin. Anal III 5, longest ray $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Pectoral $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ length of head, not reaching ventral; latter below anterior rays of dorsal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{3}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as deep. Scales 21-25 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{3}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 between lateral line and ventral, 12 round caudal peduncle.

Recently preserved specimens, of which a number were

brought home from Fernando Po by Mr. Seimund, are of a dark olive-green above, shading to golden on the sides, and white beneath; scales of the sides dark at the base, most of those of the lateral line with a black spot at the base; a more or less distinct dark lateral stripe, usually expanding and more intensely black in front and on the caudal peduncle; all the fins, vertical and paired, bright vermilion.

Small nuptial pearl-like tubercles on the side of the head.
Total length 155 mm.

The types of this species are from Fernando Po. I have examined numerous specimens from that island, and others from the Benito River, Gaboon district, and the Kribi and Ja Rivers, S. Cameroon.

Barbus tæniurus.

Barbus tæniurus, Boulenger, P. Z. S. 1903, i. p. 24, pl. ii. fig. 2.

Depth of body $3\frac{1}{3}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length, length of head $3\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 times. Snout rounded, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 times in length of head; diameter of eye 4 to $4\frac{1}{3}$ times in length of head, interorbital width $2\frac{1}{3}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times; mouth inferior, its width 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of head; lips moderately developed, interrupted on the chin; barbels two on each side, anterior $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$, posterior longer, $1\frac{2}{3}$ to 2 diameters of eye, the distance between them equal to diameter of eye. Dorsal III 8, last simple ray ossified and moderately strong, but much thicker than the first branched ray, as long as or a little shorter than head; free edge of the fin emarginate; its distance from the occiput much less than its distance from the caudal. Anal III 5, longest ray $\frac{3}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Pectoral $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ length of head, not reaching ventral; latter a little posterior to origin of dorsal. Caudal peduncle $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 times as long as deep. Scales 24–27 $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}}{4\frac{1}{2}}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 between lateral line and ventral, 12 round caudal peduncle. Olive-brown above (in spirit), yellow on the sides and below; a series of black dots on the lateral line, and a black band on each side of the caudal peduncle; fins white.

Small nuptial pearl-like tubercles on the side of the head.
Total length 120 mm.

South Cameroon (Efulen, Kribi River).

Very closely allied to *B. camptacanthus*, some specimens of which it resembles exactly in coloration. Differs in the usually more slender form, the longer posterior barbel, and the thicker last simple ray of the dorsal fin.