



## A new species of *Microglanis* (Siluriformes, Pseudopimelodidae) from lower Rio Tocantins basin, Pará, Brazil, with description of superficial neuromasts and pores of lateral line system

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### Abstract

*Microglanis robustus*, new species, is the first *Microglanis* to be described from the Rio Tocantins basin, Pará, Brazil, and differs from the congeners by the presence of a cordiform blotch in the nape, instead of a transverse light stripe; neuromasts of the superficial lines surrounded by melanophores; robust body with short snout, head and predorsal distance; and deep caudal peduncle. The mapping of superficial neuromasts and cephalic sensory canals evidenced intra and interespecific polymorphisms and, therefore, of little value for phylogenetic analysis within the genus.

**Key words:** bumble-bee catfish, multivariate morphometry, neuromasts, Neotropical region, taxonomy

### Resumo

*Microglanis robustus*, espécie nova, é o primeiro *Microglanis* a ser descrito da bacia do Rio Tocantins, Pará, Brasil, e difere de suas congêneres pela presença de uma mancha cordiforme na nuca, ao invés de uma faixa transversal clara; neuromastos das linhas superficiais circundados por melanóforos; corpo robusto, com focinho, cabeça e distância pré-dorsal curtos e pedúnculo caudal alto. O mapeamento das linhas de neuromastos superficiais e dos canais sensoriais cefálicos evidenciou polimorfismos intra e interespecíficos e, portanto, de pouco valor para análises filogenéticas dentro do gênero.

### Introduction

*Microglanis* is composed by the smallest species of Pseudopimelodidae, and it was proposed by Eigenmann (1912) to include *Microglanis poecilus* from Morona River, Guyana. The genus can be identified by the following characteristics: small size, rarely reaching 80 mm of SL; head wide and robust; lateral margin of frontal bone concave and wide at eyes level; anterior fontanel large, oval, not extending much beyond eye posterior border; posterior fontanel circular and small; posterior cleithral process long and pointed; occipital process short; filamentous mesocoracoid arch; snout rounded in dorsal view; premaxillary tooth patch with round lateral margin, without latero-posterior projection; latero-superior eyes covered by skin and without free orbital margin; mouth large and terminal, occupying almost the width of the head; pectoral fin with five to six branched rays; pelvic fin beginning on the vertical line through the last dorsal-fin ray; absence of axillary pore; main canal of lateral line incomplete; and dorsal and pectoral-fin spines well developed (Schultz, 1944; Gomes, 1946; Mees, 1974, 1978; Shibatta, 1998, 2003a).

The species are popularly known as bumble-bee catfish due to their color pattern consisting of dark brown bands or spots alternating with yellow-ocher regions. *Microglanis* is the richest genus of the family, composed by seventeen described species. It also has the widest geographic distribution in the family (Shibatta, 2003b),