



Zootaxa 3988 (1): 001–095
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Copyright © 2015 Magnolia Press

Monograph

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)

ZOOTAXA

ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3988.1.1>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:23ED7D54-A463-4156-B618-AF8A884C53D5>

ZOOTAXA

3988

A revision of the fish genus *Oxyurichthys* (Gobioidei: Gobiidae) with descriptions of four new species

FRANK L. PEZOLD¹ & HELEN K. LARSON²

¹College of Science & Engineering, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX; 78412-5806, USA;
frank.pezold@tamucc.edu

²Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, GPO Box 4646, Darwin, NT 0801, Australia; Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville, Queensland 4810, Australia; School of Marine and Tropical Biology, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland 4811, Australia; helen.larson@nt.gov.au



Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

Accepted by E. Hilton: 5 Jun. 2015; published: 22 Jul. 2015

Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution License <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>

FRANK L. PEZOLD & HELEN K. LARSON

A revision of the fish genus *Oxyurichthys* (Gobioidei: Gobiidae) with descriptions of four new species
(*Zootaxa* 3988)

95 pp.; 30 cm.

22 Jul. 2015

ISBN 978-1-77557-747-8 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-77557-748-5 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2015 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: zootaxa@mapress.com

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

© 2015 Magnolia Press

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted or disseminated, in any form, or by any means, without prior written permission from the publisher, to whom all requests to reproduce copyright material should be directed in writing.

This authorization does not extend to any other kind of copying, by any means, in any form, and for any purpose other than private research use.

ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

Table of contents

Abstract	3
Introduction	3
Methods	6
Systematics	7
KEY TO SPECIES OF OXYURICHTHYS	10
<i>Ctenoxylepis</i> new subgenus	11
<i>Oxyurichthys keiensis</i> (Smith, 1938)	14
Subgenus <i>Oxyurichthys</i>	17
<i>Oxyurichthys auchenolepis</i> Bleeker, 1876	18
<i>Oxyurichthys chinensis</i> new species	22
<i>Oxyurichthys cornutus</i> McCulloch & Waite, 1918	24
<i>Oxyurichthys heisei</i> Pezold, 1998	28
<i>Oxyurichthys limophilus</i> , new species	31
<i>Oxyurichthys lonchotus</i> (Jenkins, 1903)	34
<i>Oxyurichthys microlepis</i> (Bleeker, 1849)	39
<i>Oxyurichthys notonema</i> (Weber, 1909)	44
<i>Oxyurichthys nuchalis</i> (Barnard, 1927)	48
<i>Oxyurichthys ophthalmonema</i> (Bleeker, 1856)	51
<i>Oxyurichthys papuensis</i> (Valenciennes, 1837)	57
<i>Oxyurichthys paulae</i> Pezold, 1998	62
<i>Oxyurichthys petersii</i> (Klunzinger, 1871)	65
<i>Oxyurichthys rapa</i> new species	68
<i>Oxyurichthys stigmalo-phius</i> (Mead & Böhlke, 1958)	71
<i>Oxyurichthys takagi</i> Pezold, 1998	74
<i>Oxyurichthys tentacularis</i> (Valenciennes, 1837)	77
<i>Oxyurichthys uronema</i> (Weber, 1909)	81
<i>Oxyurichthys zeta</i> new species	84
Invalid and Dubious Names	87
Discussion	88
Acknowledgements	89
References	90

Abstract

The widespread tropical gobiionelline fish genus *Oxyurichthys* is monophyletic due to its species sharing two characters considered derived within the *Stenogobius* Group of the Gobiionellinae (Gobioidei: Gobiidae), a transversely broadened (spatulate) third neural spine that is usually bifid, and no preopercular cephalic lateralis canal. It is most closely related to *Oligolepis*, also of the Indo-west Pacific, and *Ctenogobius*, an Atlantic-eastern Pacific genus. Sixteen valid species of *Oxyurichthys* are redescribed and illustrated and four new species are described, *O. limophilus* from the western Indian Ocean, *O. rapa* from French Polynesia, and *O. chinensis* and *O. zeta* from the western Pacific. Nineteen species share two additional synapomorphies, a rounded fleshy tongue and a palatine lacking an elongate posterior strut, and form the sister group to the plesiomorphous *Oxyurichthys keiensis*, known from South Africa and Madagascar. One species, *O. stigmalo-phius*, occurs in the western Atlantic. There are no records of this genus from the continental eastern Pacific or the eastern Atlantic. Previous accounts from the Gulf of Guinea region of West Africa are references to *Gobionellus occidentalis*. Many *Oxyurichthys* species are limited to shallow estuarine and coastal waters with bottom substrates of silt or other fine sediments, but several are known from depths exceeding 10 m and are often collected by trawling.

Key words: Gobiionellinae, *Stenogobius* Group, *Oligolepis*, *Oxyurichthys*, *Ctenogobius*, *Gobius keiensis*

Introduction

Oxyurichthys species are large and distinctive gobies, widespread in the tropical Indo-west Pacific in a range of estuarine and coastal marine habitats. They are often collected by trawling and are usually present in artisanal fishmarkets throughout Southeast Asia. Forty-four nominal species have been described from 1837 to 1998, but the genus has never been reviewed or revised.