SOME NEW OR RARE FISHES OF THE INDO-AUSTRALIAN ARCHIPELAGO. III 1)

By

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Fam. CARANGIDAE.

CARANX LACÉPEDE.

Caranx (Carangoides) auroguttatus C.V.

D.1 VIII, D.2 25, A. II - I 23, P. II 19, V. 5.

Body elongated and compressed. Dorsal profile convex, ventral profile much less so. Height 3.0 - 3.2 in length 2). Head somewhat pointed, profiles of forehead and lower jaw meeting in an angle of about 75°. Head 3.8 - 4.2 in length. Eye 4.7 in head. Maxillary reaches to just before or just below eye. Teeth equal, very small, in villiform bands, which are not confluent at the isthmus of lower and upper jaw; small teeth on vomer, palatines and tongue. Breast almost totally scaly, only anteriorly in the middle line a small but conspicuous spot. Anterior part of lateral line shallowly arched. Straight posterior part commencing below 12th ray of soft dorsal. The 20 - 22 hindermost scutes pointed. Those on the caudal peduncle strong and elevated, forming a keel. ± 110-125 scales in lateral line. Third dorsal spine the longest, 3-3.5 in height of body. First part of soft dorsal and of anal elevated, somewhat falcate. Longest, soft, dorsal ray 2.5 - 2.7 in greatest height of body. Pectorals slender, falcate, reaching by ond elevated part of anal. Ventrals 2.7 in head, surpassing anus, lying in a flattened part of the abdomen. This aplated part is naked. The innermost ventral ray is connected with the abdominal skin by a soft membrane. Colour grayish green above, yellowish silvery below. Upper and lower jaw yellowish. Ventrals, caudal, dorsal and anal yellow. Pectorals yellowish hyaline. Body with numerous small golden spots, a few on head.

This species, which according to literature, should be very rare in the Indo-Australian Archipelago, is regularly to be seen in the fishmarket of Batavia in small numbers since some time ago. It is caught by Japanese fishermen,

Cfr.: Treubia, XIII, p. 411; XIV, p. 215.
 By length is always meant the length of head and body without caudal fin, unless stated otherwise.

who take the shoals of Caesio on the submerged coralreefs in the Java-sea. The description given above is made after a few specimens of about 40 cm.

Literature:

- 1. Caranx fulvoguttatus Rüppel. Atl. Fishe Nördl. Afrika 1828, p. 100.
- Carangoides auroguttatus Bleeker, Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Ind. IV, 1853, p. 470. o.c. VI, 1854, p. 175 Versl. Akad. Amsterdam XII, 1861, p. 53.
- 3. Caranx fulvoguttatus Günther, Cat. Brit. Mus. II, 1860, p. 439.
- Caranx (Carangoides) auroguttatus Klunzinger, Fishe Roth. Meer. 1884, p. 98.
- Caranx (Carangoides) auroguttatus Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago Vol. VI, 1931, p. 225.

Caranx (Carangoides) fulvoguttatus (Forsk.).

D.1-VIII, D.2 I 28, A. II - I 25, P. I 19, V. I 5.

Body elongate. Dorsal profile rounded, ventral profile almost straight from chin to anal. Height 2.3 - 2.5 in length. Head 3 - 3.3 in length, obtuse, rostrofrontal profile convex. Eye 4.3 in head, situated in its middle, 1.6 in snout. Maxillary reaches to just below eye. Chin sometimes somewhat prominent. Height of praeorbital about equal to eye. Teeth in jaws in villiform bands, not united in the symphyses. Small teeth present on vomer, palatines and tongue. A conspicuous naked area in front of ventrals, reaching upwards to about middle of distance between ventral line and base of pectorals. Anterior part of lateral line shallowly arched, straight part beginning below 14th or 15th soft dorsal ray, 14-17 keeled scutes, the first one below or behind last dorsal ray. Only the hindermost scutes feebly armed. Third dorsal spine longest, 3.3 in height of body. Anterior soft rays of dorsal elevated, falcate, twice in greatest height of body. Anterior rays of anal elevated, falcate, about as high as longest dorsal rays. Anal and dorsal with a high scaly sheath especially in the anterior half. Pectorals long slender, falcate, reaching to second half of anal. Ventrals about 2.5 in head, innermost ray connected with abdominal skin by a membrane. Greyish-green above, silvery below. A blackish spot on operculum. Brownish spots on body.

Of late found regularly in small numbers in the fishmarket of Batavia. They are caught under the same circumstances as Caranx auroguttatus.

- Scomber fulvoguttatus Forskal. Descr. Animal. 1775, p. 56.
- Carangoides fulvoguttatus Bleeker, Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Indië, II, 1851, p. 178 — Makreel. Visch. Verh. Batav. Gen. XXIV, 1852, p. 89.
- Caranx (Carangoides) fulvoguttatus Klunzinger. Fische Roth. Meer. 1884, p. 98.
- 4. Caranx bleekeri Bamber, Journ. Linn. Soc. Zoöl. XXXI, 1915, p. 480.
- Caranx (Carangoides) fulvoguttatus Weber and de Beaufort. Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago Vol. VI, 1931, p. 228.

Caranx (Caranx) stellatus Eydoux and Souleyet.

D.1 VIII, D.2 I 22, A. II - I 19, P. I 20, V. I 5.

Body rather elongate. Dorsal profile straight from soft dorsal fin to nape, from there strongly declivous to snout, from soft dorsal strongly descending to caudal peduncle. Ventral profile approximately straight from anal to chin, strongly ascending from anal to caudal peduncle. Height 2.6 in length. Head 3.1, about as high as long. Eye 5.4 in head, 2.0 in snout. Posterior adipose eyelid well developed. Mouth oblique, chin somewhat prominent. Maxillary reaches to below middle of eye. Teeth in upper jaw in a villiform band, with an outer row of canines. In lower jaw only one single row of canines present. Small teeth present on vomer, palatines and tongue. 14-15 short aplated gillrakers on lower branch of first gillarch. Lateral line arched to below 4th or 5th soft dorsal ray. Posterior part straight, with 35-36 armed scutes. Body totally covered with rather large scales, only those in front of ventrals smaller, on the head present behind eye and on cheeks. Operculum, forehead and nape naked. Third dorsal spine longest, 3.2 in head.

First rays of soft dorsal and of anal forming a strongly elevated lobe. Longest ray of dorsal about 1.7 in height. Longest anal ray about 2 in height. Both fins with a small scaly sheath. Pectorals slender, falcate, reaching to 8th soft ray of anal. Ventrals surpassing anus, about 5.5 in height. Caudal widely forked with equal lobes. Body greenish above, becoming silvery in the lower parts. Soft dorsal, anal and caudal blackish. Spinous dorsal, ventrals and upper rays of pectorals dusky. Pectorals with a median yellow stripe. On head and body scattered small black spots.

Sometimes a few specimens at the fishmarket of Batavia in the same catches as Caranx auroguttatus and fulvoguttatus. The description is made after a specimen with a total length of 42 cm.

- Caranx caeruleopinnatus Cuvier and Valenciennes. Hist. Nat. Poiss. IX, 1933, p. 119.
- 2. Caranx punctatus Bleeker, Verh. Batav. Gen. XXV, 1853, p. 44.
- 3. Caranx melampygus Günther, Fische Südsee II. Journ. Mus. Goddeffroy, 1876, p. 133 (p.p.).
- 4. Carangus Quoyi BLEEKER, Arch. néerl. Sc. nat. XIII, 1878, p. 50.
- 5. Caranx melampygus DAY, Fish. India 4°, 1876 1888, p. 214 (p.p.).
- Caranx caeruleopinnatus Sauvage, Hist. Nat. Poissons Madagascar, Paris 1891, p. 331 (nec. Rüppell).
- 7. Carangus melampygus Jordan and Evermann, Bull. U.S. Fish. Comm. XXIII, (1903) 1905, p. 192 (nec. C.V.).
- 8. Caranx melampygus Jordan and Seale, Bull. Bur. Fish. XXV, (1905) 1906, p. 230.
- 9. Caranx stellatus Mc. Culloch, Rec. Austral. Mus. XV, 1926, p. 33.

- 10. Xurel stellatus Jordan, Evermann and Clark, List Fish. North and Middle America, Washington 1930, p. 273.
- 11. Caranx (Caranx) stellatus Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago VI, 1931, p. 253.

Caranx (Selar) djeddaba (Forsk.).

D.1 VII, D.2 I 24, A. II - I 21, P. I 23, V. I 5.

Rather oblong, dorsal and ventral profiles evenly and equally convex. Height 2.9, head 3.8 in length. Eye 4.0 in head, about equal to snout. Posterior adipose eyelid well developed, covering hindpart of pupil. Jaws subequal. Maxillary reaching to below frontborder of eye. Uniserial fine teeth on jaws. Small patches present on vomer, palatines and tongue. Body entirely covered with rather small scales, only a small spot on median line of breast just behind gillopening naked. The head is naked with the exception of small patches behind eyes and on cheeks. Lateral line strongly curved in anterior part, which goes about twice in straight posterior part, which bears 57 scutes. Dorsal spines moderate, the third slightly the largest, 2.7 in height of body. Anterior rays of soft dorsal and of anal only slightly elevated. Pectorals falciform, reaching to first rays of anal. Ventrals surpassing anus, about 3 in height of body. Caudal deeply forked, the lobes subequal and pointed. 27 gillrakers on lower part of first gillarch. Colour bluish-greenish above, silvery below. Spinous dorsal blackish. Soft dorsal black-edged. Anal grayish with a white border. Caudal blackish, especially the tips of the lobes. Ventrals and pectorals hyaline. Faint blackish spot on operculum.

Sometimes present in small numbers mingled with Caranx auroguttatus, fulvoguttatus and stellatus in the catches of the Japanese fishermen. The specimen, described above, was caught in the Java-Sea and had a total length of 35 cm.

- Scomber djedaba Forskal, Descr. animal. 1775, p. 56.
- 2. Selar vari Bleeker, Verh. Bat. Gen. XXV, 1853, p. 44 (name only).
- 3. Caranx djeddaba Günther, Cat. Brit. Mus. II, 1860, p. 432.
- 4. Selar djeddaba Bleeker, Versl. Akad. Amsterdam XII, 1861, p. 75 (name only).
- 5. Caranx Djeddaba Day, Fish. India 4°, 1878 1888, p. 218.
- 6. Caranx (Selar) djeddaba Klunzinger, Fishe Roth. Meer. 1884, p. 97.
- Caranx djeddaba Evermann and Seale, Bull. Bur. Fisheries XXVI, (1906) 1907, p. 65.
- 8. Caranx djeddaba Jordan and Richardson, Bull. Bur. Fish. XXVII, (1907) 1908, p. 250.
- 9. Caranx djeddaba Hora, Mem. Asiat. Soc. Bengal VI. 1924, p. 485.
- 10. Caranx djeddaba Barnard, Ann. S. Afric. Mus. XXI, 1925 27, p. 456.
- Caranx (Selar) djeddaba Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago VI, 1931, p. 214.

ULUA JORDAN and SNYDER.

Ulua mandibularis (MACLEAY).

D.1 VIII, D.2 I 21, A. II - I 17, P. I 19, V. I 5.

Body high and compressed. Dorsal profile more rounded than abdominal one, strongly convex from snout to soft dorsal. Height 2.2 in length, head 3.1. Adipose eyelid forming a narrow rim round the eye. Maxillary extends to below pupil. Chin prominent. Gape of mouth commences below lower border of eye. Teeth minute in a single series on jaws, in small patches on vomer and palatines, none on tongue. Gillrakers long, feathershaped, about 55 on lower branch of first gillarch, top of operculum and a part of temporal region scaly. Scales on body small, wanting before a line drawn from base of pectorals to a spot somewhat behind base of ventrals. Anterior part of lateral line shallowly arched, the curved part somewhat shorter than straight part, which bears about 30 feeble scutes. Dorsal spines weak the third one the highest and the first bent forwards. Anterior rays of dorsal and anal much prolonged and forming a falcate lobe. First soft dorsal ray much longer than head, about as long as pectorals. A high scaly sheath present on base of dorsal and anal. Caudal deeply forked, the lobes equal. Pectorals slender, falcate, 2.4 in length. Ventrals short, surpassing anus, 3.8 in height of body. Colour greenish above, silvery below. Margin of caudal and dorsal blackish. Anal almost hyaline. Chin and axis of pectoral black.

This description is made after a specimen with a total length of 21 cm. Fishmarket of Batavia 11-5-'33.

Literature:

- Caranx mandibularis Macleay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales VIII, 1883, p. 356.
- 2. Caranx mandibularis, JORDAN and SEALE, Bur. Fish. XXV, 1905, p. 234.
- Carangoides mandibularis, Fowler, Fishes of Oceania, Bishop Museum X, 1928, p. 151.
- Ulua mandibularis, Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago VI, 1931, p. 266.

CHORINEMUS C.V.

Chorinemus sancti petri C.V.

D.1 VII, D.2 I 21, A. II-I 18, P. I 16, V. I 5.

Body slender, lanceolate and compressed. Head about equal to height of body. Height 4.4 in length. Head rather pointed, a slight depression above eyes. Eyes about 4 in head, about as long as snout. Chin somewhat prominent. Maxillary rather narrow, reaching to hindborder of pupil. Teeth in upper jaw anteriorly in a villiform band, posteriorly in one row. Teeth in lower jaw

anteriorly in a villiform band, posteriorly in two rows. Teeth in both jaws of equal length, no canines. Teeth in villiform bands on vomer, palatines pterygoids and tongue. Scales small, entirely covered by skin, not present on head. Only on the caudal peduncle the scales are more or less free. Lateral line angular to below third dorsal spine, thence about straight. Dorsal spines flattened, shorter than eye, the anterior ones just overlapping each other, the posterior ones not covering each other. Anterior rays of soft dorsal and anal somewhat elevated, the longest rays 2.6 in head. 13 finlets in dorsal and anal. Pectorals small triangular, with rounded angles. Ventrals not reaching anus, lying in an abdominal groove. Ventrals shorter than pectorals. Colour blueish above, silvery below. A row of four obvious, elongated, black blotches on sides. The two first blotches are cut by the lateral line, the third reaches with its lower border on to lateral line, the fourth quite above it. Before and behind this row of four are traces of other blotches. A black spot above base of pectoral. It is continued on upper part of operculum. Chin blackish. Anterior part of soft dorsal with a black blotch. Anal hyaline. Caudal dusky.

Now and then mingled with the above-named Caranx-species in the catches of the Japanese fishermen.

The description is made after a specimen with a total length of 32.5 cm.

Literature:

- Chorinemus sancti petri, Cuvier and Valenciennes, Hist. Nat. poss. VIII, 1831, p. 379.
- 2. Chorinemus sanctri petri, Günther, Cat. Brit. Mus. II, 1860, p. 473 (nec. synon.).
- 3. Chorinemus Sancti Petri Klunzinger? Fishe Roth. Meer. 1884, p. 106.
- 4. Chorinemus sancti petri, Sauvage, Poiss. Madagascar. 1891, p. 331.
- Chorinemus sancti petri Steindachner, Denkschr. Akad. Wien LXX, 1900, p. 496.
- Scomberoides sancti petri Jordan and Evermann, Bull. U.S. Fish Comm. XXIII, (1903) 1905, p. 181.
- 7. Scomberoides sancti petri Wakiya, Ann. Carnegie Mus. XV, 1924, p. 213.
- 8. Chorinemus sancti petri Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo Australian Archipelago VI, 1931, p. 280.

Fam. SCOMBRIDAE.

ACANTHOCYBIUM JENKINS.

Acanthocybium solandri (C.V.).

D. XXVII - I 6 + X, A. II - 11 + VIII.

Body elongated, fusiform. Head very long, slender, 6.6 in total length. Mandible somewhat longer than upper jaw. About 50 triangular, slightly serrated teeth in each jaw. Jaws forming a kind of beak. Cleft of mouth extending to below eye. Posterior part of the maxillary covered by the praeorbital bone. Maxillary somewhat longer than snout. Villiform teeth on vomer and palatines.

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Gill-laminae forming a network. Gillrakers totally absent. Snout about 1.3 in head. Eye about 6 in snout. Height about 7 in total length. Linea lateralis arched in anterior part becoming straight below 17th dorsal spine. Scales very small. Pectorals reaching to below 10th dorsal spine. Dark-grey with faint traces of vertical bands.

One specimen of 150 cm in the fishmarket of Batavia 18-8-'33.

Called by the natives Tengiri salassi or Tengiri bahar (Tengiri is the common name for Scomberomorus-species).

Literature:

- Cybium solandri Cuvier and Valenciennes, Hist. Nat. Poiss. VIII, 1831, p. 192.
- 2. Cybium solandri Günther, Fische der Südsee. 1876, p. 153.
- Acanthocybium solandri Jenkins, U.S. Fish. Comm. Bull. Vol. 22, 1902, p. 441.
- 4. Acanthocybium solandri SNYDER, U.S. Fish. Comm. Bull. Vol. 22, 1902, p. 523.
- 5. Acanthocybium solandri Jordan and Evermann, U.S. Fish. Comm. 1903, p. 176.
- 6. Acanthocybium solandri Fowler, Fishes of Oceania, 1928, p. 135.

Fam. POLYNEMIDAE.

POLYNEMUS L.

Polynemus pfeifferi BLKR.

D. VIII, D. I 12, A. III 11, P. I 14 + 6, V. I 5, L.l. 50, L.tr. 6.1.10.

Height 3.1, head 3.1 in length. Eye 3.3 in head, about twice in postorbital part of head. Snout short, about 3/4 of eye. Mouth large, reaching behind eye. Maxillary twice in head. Teeth in jaws in a narrow villiform band. A rounded patch of teeth on vomer and two oblong patches on palatines. Head covered with scales to end of snout. Anterior and posterior nostrils close together, close to frontborder of eye. Hindborder of praeoperculum serrated. The lowest denticulation much stronger than the rest. Angle of praeoperculum produced and rounded. Upper lip absent, lower lip well developed but not continuous at symphysis. First dorsal spine minute, third one the longest, somewhat longer than postorbital part of head. Third spine of anal somewhat longer than eye. Origin of anal below second ray of dorsal. Free border of dorsals and anal almost straight. Anal and dorsals covered by a sheath of scales. Caudal deeply forked, upper lobe a little longer than lower. Pectorals as long as head without snout. Longest pectoral filaments well reaching anal. Ventrals somewhat longer than postorbital part of head. Distance from origin of ventrals to origin of anal about as long as soft dorsal. Scales with a spinulated hindborder, Colour brownish-silverish. Pectorals and ventrals blackish. Dorsals and caudal more or less dusky.

The description is made after a specimen of 13 cm acquired by Prof. H. C. Delsman, Wijnkoopsbay (South-coast of Java), Juni 1933.

Literature:

- Polynemus pfeifferi Bleeker, Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Indië IV, 1853 p. 249.
- 2. Polydactylus pfeifferi Fowler, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. 1900, p. 501.
- Polynemus pfeifferi Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago IV. 1922, p. 208.

Fam. SOLEIDAE.

DEXILLUS CHABANAUD.

Dexillus macrolepis (BLKR.).

D. 61, C. 16, A. 46, P. dextr. vestigial, P. sin. 5, V. 3, L.l. 67, L. v. 17-1-19. Height about 2.5, head 4.0 in length. Eyes small contiguous, the upper a little in advance of the lower, about 10 in head. Mouth curved, extending to below anterior border of eyes. Head and body covered with hairlike papillae on coloured side becoming scarcer towards the tail. On the blind side these papillae are only present on head and forepart of body. Both nostrils on coloured side close together before eyes, tubular. Dorsal begins on snout. Rays of vertical fins divided, covered with scales. Dorsal, caudal and anal, completely united. Scales strongly ctenoid on both sides. One straight lateral line on blind and on coloured side. Uniform brown.

A few individuals from the mouth of the Kumai-river, South-West Borneo, 10-5-'31. The description is made after a specimen with a total length of 15 cm. Mr. J. R. Norman, Assistent-Curator of the British Museum was so kind as to identify this species for me.

Literature:

- Synaptura macrolepis Bleeker, Act. Soc. Scient. Indo Neerl. V, 1858-1859.
 Twaalfde bijdrage vischfauna van Borneo p. 7.
- 2. Brachirus macrolepis Bleeker, Atl. Ichth. VI, 1866 1872, p. 20.
- Brachirus macrolepis J. R. Norman, Records of the Indian Museum. Vol. XXX, 1928, p. 181.
- 4. Synaptura macrolepis, Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago Vol. V, 1929, p. 171.

Fam. CLUPEIDAE.

COILIA GRAY.

Coilia coomansi nov.spec.

B. 8, D. 1. 3-15, A. ± 90, P. 18, V. 6-7, L.l. ± 60, L.tr. 10.

Elongate and compressed. Abdominal profile rounded. Dorsal profile straight from snout to dorsal and straight from dorsal to caudal, the two lines forming a very blunt angle below dorsal. Head 5, height about 5 in length. Snout prominent, somewhat shorter than eye. Maxillary pointed, reaching to end of praeoperculum. Distance from tip of snout to origin of dorsal about twice in length of anal. Ventrals inserted just before origin of dorsal, somewhat

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shorter than postocular part of head. Pectorals with 10 free rays, reaching beyond origin of anal. Length of the remaining, not free rays about as long as eye and snout. 22-24 keeled abdonimal scutes, 9-10 of which are postventral. ± 33 gillrakers, more than twice as long as branchial filaments. Yellowish with a golden hue. Back pigmented. Dorsal somewhat blackish, other fins hyaline.

This Coilia-species seems to have been overlooked thus far. It was collected in several localities in the lower course of the Kapuas-river (W. Borneo) by Mr. L. Coomans de Ruiter, to whom I dedicated this species. Coilia coomansi seems to be fairly common. I received 13 specimens in total. Maximum length 13 cm. Native name: Ikangondjeng.

Fam. MULLIDAE.

PARUPENEUS BLEEKER.

Parupeneus pleurospilos (BLKR.).

D. VIII, D. I 8, A. I 7, P. II 14, V. I 5, L.l. 30, L.tr. 2½ - 1 - 6½.

Oblong and compressed. Dorsal profile strongly arched from tip of snout to origin of first dorsal, thence slowly tapering to caudal. Ventral profile nearly straight from chin to anal. Height 3.4 in length, head 3.3. Eye 4.3 in head, twice in snout. Maxillary terminating far before eye. Teeth in both jaws in a single series, rather strong, irregular. Palate edentulous. Lower jaw somewhat shorter than upper. Two barbels extending to hindborder of operculum. Gillrakers on lower branch of first gillarch 18 + 5-6 rudimentary ones. Scales large, ciliated behind, present on head. First dorsal higher than second, 1.6 in height of body. Second dorsal spine flexible. Interspace between first and second dorsal about 3 scales. Second dorsal and anal subequal in height, 2.1 in height of body. Colour pink with a yellow hue, light below. A black spot below lateral line, below fifth and sixth dorsal spine. Three pearl coloured bands from snout to operculum, the middle one crossing the eye. These bands are also visible on forepart of body. Second dorsal and anal with faint longitudinal bands. Caudal lobes with crossbars.

One specimen with a total length of 103 mm from Pelabuan Ratu (South-coast of Java), August 1933.

- 1. Upeneus pleurospilos Bleeker, Nat. Tijdschr. Ned. Indië V, 1853, p. 110.
- 2. Upeneus pleurospilos Günther, Cat. Brit. Mus. I, 1859, p. 407.
- Parupeneus pleurospilos Bleeker, Révis. Mulloides, p. 31, Verh. Akad. Amsterdam XV. (1873) 1875. — Atl. ichth. IX, 1878, Pl. 391. fig. 5.
- 4. Parupeneus luteus Klunzinger, Fische Roth. Meer. 1884, p. 52 (p. parte).
- Pseudupeneus pleurospilos Jordan and Seale, Bull. Bur. Fish. XXV. 1906, p. 276.

- Upeneus pleurospilos Herre and Montalban, Philippine Journ. Sci. XXXVI. 1928, p. 128.
- 7. Parupeneus pleurospilos Weber and de Beaufort. Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago Vol. VI, 1931, p. 399.

Fam. TRACHYPTERIDAE.

TRACHYPTERUS GOUAN.

Trachypterus semiophorus BLKR.

D. 6-127, P. 11, V. 7, C. 1-9.

Oblong, elongate, belly prominent with irregular undulating incisions. Tail strongly tapering. Height about 4 in length without tail. Head very obtuse, 5.7 in length, angle of snout very truncate. Rostronuchal profile rectilinear, strongly declivous. Eye 2.4 in head, pupil small. Small canines in lower jaw, minute conical teeth in upper. Maxillary reaching to below pupil, almost vertical, large, almost covering the whole cheek. Thin radiating lines visible in it. Opercula with strong radiating lines. Skin granular, last part of tail with deciduous cycloid scales. Lateral line with stiff spines, especially on tail. The spines on the tail are directed alternately upwards and downwards, so that the impression is given of two separate lines of spines. First dorsal situated on scarcely elevated nape, its base smaller than diameter of eye. Its rays free, about as long as total length, provided with distant membranaceous flaps, which are blackish, while the loose rays itself are white. Second dorsal connected with first, the longest rays about as long as height of body above lateral line. Longest rays about in the middle. Second dorsal ends shortly before caudal. Pectorals pointed, somewhat longer than eye. Ventrals reaching to midst of tail, rays united by finmembrane. The first ray spinulous. Caudal alternately with strong and feeble rays, the feeble ones spineless the strong ones spinulous. A very faint indication of a second ventral lobe. Caudal much longer than head. Gillmembranes connected with isthmus. Gillrakers very curious. On every gillarch two rows, an outer one and an inner one. There are eight club-shaped gillrakers in the outer row, on the lower branch of the first gillarch. Each of them bears on the top two or three bigger or smaller spines. These gillrakers are connected by a thin membrane and by a tendon. When the mouth of the fish is closed these gillrakers are bent downwards in a forward direction. When the mouth is opened they are erected by means of the tendon. The inner row counts nine gillrakers on the lower branch of the first gillarch. They are very short and strong and bear on the top one or two strong spines with occasionally some smaller ones. Nape dark. Sides silvery with irregular dark vertical bands. They become darker on the tail. On the belly only one band complete, the others on abdomen or back do not reach the lateral line. Bands on tail complete. Caudal with a large black blotch. Ventrals with a few black blotches. Dorsal and pectorals hyaline.

One specimen, caught in the Bay of Batavia in a bamboo fishtrap above a depth of perhaps 5 meter! Length 24 cm with 4 cm of the caudal included.

My specimen resembles very much the specimen of BLEEKER from Amboina, which had a length of 15 cm though it differs in some points. He did for instance not mention the scales, but these may have been overlooked. Furthermore the second dorsal is connected with the first which is not the case in BLEEKER's drawing. The ventral rays are united instead of free and he does not mention the alternating feeble and strong rays in the caudal. My specimen does not possess the ventral lobe of the caudal, only a faint indication of it was found and the dorsal lobe is only very slightly directed upwards, but has a normal position. Yet this may be due to conservation as I did not see the specimen alive. The lateral line on each side ends in the caudal and does not unite in a spine ventral of this fin as mentioned in literature. Yet this spine exists really but belongs to the caudal fin itself. The intestine is very short, the appendices pyloricae are numerous. Stomach-contents consisted of pieces of a small fish. Date: 7 January 1933.

- 1. Trachypterus semiophorus Bleeker, Arch. Néerl. Sc. Nat. III, 1868, p. 279.
- 2. Trachypterus semiophorus Weber and de Beaufort, Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago, Vol. V, 1929, pag. 89.