

ON TWO NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS OF FISHES FROM THE INDIAN COAST

ABSTRACT

Two species of fishes *Chromis xanthochir* Bleeker and *Parapercis alboguttata* (Gunther) collected at Vizhinjam, southwest coast of India are recorded for the first time from the Indian Coast and described here.

FAMILY: POMACENTRIDAE

Chromis xanthochir Bleeker (Fig. 1 a)

Haliases xanthochirus Bleeker, 1751. *Nat. Tijds. Ned. - Ind.*, 2 : 248.

Chromis xanthochir Bleeker, 1877. *Verh. Holland Maatsch. Westerschapper*, 3 (2) : 158.

De Beaufort, 1940. *The Fishes of the Indo - Australian Archipelago*, 8 : 455.

D. XIII + 11; A. II + 10; P. II + 18; V. 1+5; L. 1. scales 18+9-10;
L. tr. scales 3 + 1 + 8. G.R. 8 + 1 + 21.

In per cent of standard length, head 29.58-32.86; eye 11.26-11.43; snout 8.54-8.57; post-orbital 14.08-14.29; interorbital 9.86-10.00; sub-orbital 2.82-2.86; maxillary 10.00-11.43; dorsal base 51.43-53.57; height of longest dorsal spine (3rd

to 6th) 14.08-14.29; longest dorsal ray (middle rays) 19.72-20.00; longest anal ray (middle rays) 18.30-18.57; pectoral 27.14-30.00; pelvic 26.43-26.60; caudal upper lobe 40.00-42.87; caudal lower lobe 36.62-38.57; height of head 31.43-32.39; height at first dorsal origin 40.00-42.25; height at anal origin 34.29-37.14; least depth of caudal peduncle 14.08-14.29; pre-dorsal distance 40.00-40.85; pre-pectoral 32.39-32.85; pre-pelvic 39.44-42.86 and pre-anal 72.86-73.24. Body oval, compressed; preorbital tapering posteriorly; interorbital space convex; maxillary reaches well below eye; teeth conical, pointed in more than one rows, outer row enlarged; scales present on upper part of head reaching beyond nostril; opercular bones and suborbital scaled; hind border of preopercle rugose; soft dorsal and anal somewhat pointed; ventral with first ray filamentous; caudal deeply forked with unequal lobes, produced; three spines on the upper and lower region of the caudal base.

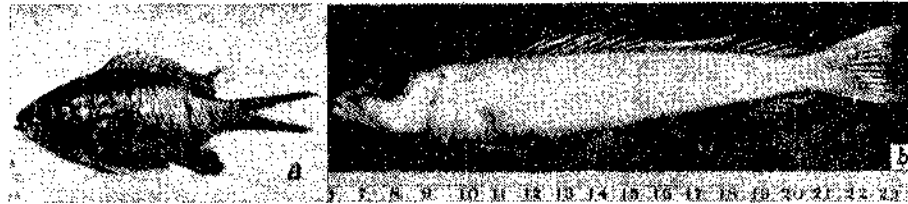


Fig. 1. a. *Chromis xanthochir* Bleeker and b. *Parapercis alboguttata* (Günther).

Colour: In fresh condition body grayish dark above, paler below. Dorsal and anal blackish, but posterior dorsal and anal rays white. Median caudal rays light, caudal lobes black. Pectoral dusky with bright yellow band near base. Ventral brownish. A black stripe along anterior border of opercle.

Material: 3 specimens 70 mm standard length (98 mm total length) from shore seine, from Vizhinjam.

Distribution: Bonda Islands, East Indies, Ternate, Philippines, Java and now from Vizhinjam, south west coast of India.

FAMILY: PARAPERCIDAE

Parapercis alboguttata (Günther)

Percis alboguttata Günther, 1872. *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, **10** (4): 4-24.

Parapercis alboguttata De Beaufort, 1951. *The Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago*, **9**: 27 (after Günther).

D. V + 22; P. I + 17-18; V. I + 5; A. I + 18; L. I. scales 60-62;
L. tr. scales 5 + I + 13-15; G. R. 7-9 + 12-14.

In per cent of standard length, head 30.25-33.11; eye 8.40-9.89; snout 9.28-12.16; maxillary 12.61-13.82; post-orbital 12.96-14.29; inter-orbital 3.30-4.73; sub-orbital 4.63-6.76; pectoral 16.28-19.30; pelvic 18.42-21.90; height of first dorsal spine 2.52-3.38; second spine 4.76-6.42; third spine 7.09-8.55; fourth spine 7.02-8.88; fifth dorsal spine 4.05-5.04; maximum height of soft dorsal 13.08-14.29; maximum height of anal 11.63-12.72; dorsal base 62.16-66.67; anal base 45.27-50.00; caudal 20.93-23.68; depth at occiput 13.89-15.54; depth at dorsal 14.29-17.11; depth at anal 13.37-16.89; least depth of caudal peduncle

5.81-8.11; pre-dorsal 28.83-30.41; pre-pectoral 28.83-31.76; pre-pelvic 25.23-29.61; and pre-anal 45.61-49.34. Body elongate, cylindrical; lower jaw longer than upper; lips thick; pre-opercular serrated in the posterior vertical and lower limbs; opercle, with two spines, lower at the point of the operculum and upper near the commencement of lateral line, serrated in the lower region; below eye minute inundations; strongly curved teeth in more than one row in each jaw and some of the teeth in one row enlarged; laterally, strongly developed canine, one in lower jaw and two in upper jaw; position of canines show much variations individually; vomerine with strong pluriserial teeth; palatine edentulous; scales ctenoid; scales of head commences behind eye and on cheek below middle of eye; vertical fins with scaly sheath, dorsal spines strong, usually fourth the longest and continuous with the soft portion; membrane between anal rays deeply incised; caudal cut square with its upper ray slightly prolonged; pectoral originates behind ventral and usually smaller than the latter.

Colour: In fresh condition, head and body orange red, abdomen white. Surrounding eye, five bands on head. Two bright red spots, one near hind border of eye and a larger one just behind posterior end of maxilla. One more spot on opercle. Lips and rim of eye bright red. Upper region of eye greenish black. Above and below lateral line 8 dark spots giving an appearance of two longitudinal bands. Scales of body bordered with yellow. Below dorsal 10 white spots, first one in front of first dorsal and last one below last dorsal ray. Caudal base with reddish black spot in both the halves giving an appearance of a band. Dorsal and ventral border of caudal fin red. A white spot in the lower region of the caudal. Ventral yellow. Pectoral orange. A reddish black band at the base of pectoral rays. Anal with oblique yellow and blue bands alternated as in the case of caudal. Soft dorsal yellow with a horizontal blue band at the tip and an oblique spot just below it. Lower half of dorsal without any spots.

In preserved condition, the entire colour fades leaving the faded black spots above and below lateral line and dark spots at the base of caudal.

Material: 14 specimens ranging from 86 mm to 152 mm in standard length (105 mm to 188 mm total length) from boat seine and hooks and lines, from Vizhinjam.

Distribution: Muscat-Misol and presently from Vizhinjam, south west coast of India.

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