

On a new Species of Anchovy of the genus *Coilia* Gray, 1831

BY

S. DUTT AND B. V. SESHAGIRI RAO¹

Department of Zoology, A.U. Post-graduate Centre, Guntur-5

(With a text-figure)

INTRODUCTION

The recent work of Whitehead (1966, 1967) and Whitehead *et al.* (1966) has helped to remove the confusion in regard to the identification of most species of *Coilia* Gray, 1831. The key of Whitehead (1967b) is particularly useful. During investigations on the clupeoids of Andhra Coast, we have come across a new species of *Coilia*, which does not fit in the above key and is described below.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Fishes belonging to the genus *Coilia* were collected from shore seine catches near Gollapalem, (Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh) during 1966-70. In taking linear measurements, total length was measured from tip of snout to longest caudal ray; standard length from tip of snout to mid-base of caudal fin; head length from tip of snout to hindmost point on operculum; depth is maximum depth.

***Coilia korua* sp. nov.**

(Text-figure)

Holotype and paratypes chosen from batch (c) are described below. All of them are deposited in the Museum, Department of Zoology, A.U. Post-graduate Centre, Guntur-5.

Material Examined :

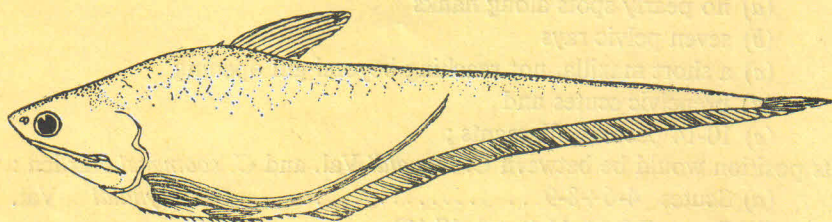
- (a) 1 fish, 110 mm S.L. (11-xii-1966).
- (b) 2 fishes, 106-116 mm S.L. (26-xi-1967).
- (c) 15 fishes, 105-121 mm S.L. (17-xii-1967).
 - 1 fish 120 mm S.L., Holotype of species.
 - 5 fishes 105-121 mm S.L., Paratypes of species.

Description :

Holotype : In the Museum, Dept. of Zoology, A.U. Post-graduate Centre, Guntur ; 120 mm S.L. (132 mm tot. l)., Gollapalem, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh ; 17-xii-1967.

Paratypes, 5 fishes, 105-121 mm. S.L. (116-133 mm. tot. l), taken along with the holotype and bearing the same data.

Br. St. 10 (10-11), D I 12 (I 12), P xii+7 (xii-xiii+5-7), V i 6 (i 5-6), A 101 (101-106), G.R. 24+30 (23-26+30-33), Scutes 8+10 (7-9+9-11, total 17-19).



Coilia korua sp. nov., holotype, 132.0 mm. tot. l., Gollapalem.

In percentages of standard length : total length 111.6 (109.1-111.6) ; body depth 20.8 (20.0-20.9) ; head length 18.3 (17.0-18.3) ; snout length 4.1 (3.6-4.5) ; eye diameter 4.1 (4.1-4.7) ; maxilla length 13.3 (12.5-14.2) ; pectoral fin length (longest filament) 45.8 (40.0-46.6) ; pelvic fin length 9.1 (8.1-9.1) ; pre-dorsal distance 29.1 (26.6-29.1) ; pre-pelvic distance 24.1 (22.7-24.7) ; pre-anal distance 36.6 (36.6-38.1).

Body compressed, depth slightly greater than head length, deepest below dorsal origin, tapering gradually to tail. Belly slightly convex, compressed and keeled from below pectoral origin to vent. Snout produced, equal to eye diameter. Lower jaw slender, with a series of small conical teeth and with prominent knob at dentary symphysis. Maxilla does not reach gill opening ; a series of fine teeth on premaxillae and along lower edge of maxillae. Two supra-maxillae, the anterior (first) delicate, nearly triangular and the posterior (second) slender anteriorly and expanding posteriorly, the anterior portion being hidden behind maxilla, when viewed from outer side.

Gill rakers slender, equal to eye diameter and twice length of corresponding gill filaments. Muscular portion of isthmus reaching forward to hind margin of branchiostegal membrane.

Scutes sharply keeled, beginning below pectoral origin.

Dorsal fin preceded by small scute-like spine. Distance from snout tip to dorsal origin less than four times in total length. Pectoral with 12-13 free filaments, the longest reaching to pelvic base. Pelvic less than postorbital length of head, its origin before dorsal origin, nearer to pectoral base than to anal origin, equal to dorsal-anal inter-

space (linear). Anal origin behind vertical from last dorsal ray by one eye diameter.

Colour :

Dorsal side greenish, flanks golden yellow, abdomen and ventral side pale yellow. Fins hyaline, unbranched dorsal rays usually dark.

The specific name is given after the common Telugu name for the fish.

In the key given by Whitehead (1967b), it is to be included among species having

- (a) no pearly spots along flanks
- (b) seven pelvic rays
- (c) a short maxilla, not reaching beyond gill opening
- (d) prepelvic scutes and
- (e) 10-14 pectoral filaments ;

its position would be between *C. reynaldi* Val. and *C. coomansi* Harden :

- (a) Scutes 4-6+8-9.....*C. reynaldi* Val.
- (b) Scutes 7-9+9-11 (total, 17-19).....*C. korua* sp. nov.
- (c) Scutes 13-14+9-10.....*C. coomansi* Harden.

It is being recorded from Gollapalem in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh. It occurs in coastal waters along with *C. dussumieri* and *C. ramcarati*.

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