

Rasbora simonbirchi, a new species of cyprinid fish from Central Kalimantan, Borneo

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Rasbora simonbirchi, new species, is described from the middle Barito River basin of Central Kalimantan, Borneo. It is a member of the *Eithovenii* species group and is most similar to *R. eithovenii* and *R. patrickyapi*, from which it can be most easily distinguished by a different body colour pattern including an interrupted mid-lateral black stripe continuous from posterior margin of eye to base of caudal fin with an overlying series of crescentic black marks along posterior margins of midlateral scales (waxing crescent type), and the presence of a faint supra-anal black blotch.

Introduction

The cyprinid genus *Rasbora* is one of the most species-rich genera of freshwater fishes in Southeast Asia. Since the most recent monograph by Brittan (1954) more than half a century ago, *Rasbora* has undergone various cycles of splitting and a number of new genera has been described during the last 25 years (Kottelat & Vidthayanon, 1993; Kottelat & Witte, 1999; Liao et al., 2010). Even though Brittan's (1954) *Rasbora* was recently divided into nine different genera by Liao et al. (2010), their *Rasbora sensu stricto* (*Rasbora s. s.*) with currently 77 recognized species (see Kottelat, 2013; Lumbantobing, 2014) still includes the majority of taxa. *Rasbora s. s.* is distributed in the west from the Ganges drainage across the Indian subcontinent, to water bodies in Indochina and Sundaland in the southeast, to southern China and even reaching

the Philippine islands of Palawan and Mindanao (Brittan & Brattstrom, 1952; Brittan, 1954). *Rasbora sensu lato* (*Rasbora s. l.*) was subdivided by Brittan (1954) into a group of species with unclear systematic affinities and eight species complexes, the species composition of which was modified by subsequent authors (see Kottelat & Vidthayanon, 1993) and new genera were proposed for some of the species with unclear affinities. Brittan's (1954) *Pauciperforata* complex was also recently described as a new genus *Trigonopoma* (Liao et al., 2010), still leaving seven of Brittan's (1954) original species complexes in *Rasbora s. s.* as defined by Liao et al. (2010).

The greatest diversity within *Rasbora s. s.* is found on the island of Borneo with more than 30 recognized species from six of the seven species groups. The waterways of the Indonesian part of Borneo or Kalimantan even today can

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