

A new psammophilous catfish of the genus *Microcambeva* (Teleostei: Trichomycteridae) from the Rio Doce basin, southeastern Brazil

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Microcambeva watu, new species, is described from the Rio Doce basin in the Atlantic Forest of southeastern Brazil. It is distinguished from all congeners by the presence of a heart-shaped blotch on top of head. It differs from *M. ribeirae*, *M. filamentosa*, and *M. bendego* by presenting an ossification in the anterior cartilage of autopalatine. It is distinguished from *M. barbata* by the anterior rudimentary ossification of autopalatine and from *M. mucuriensis* and *M. draco* by a bifid ventral tip of opercle. Finally, it also differs from *M. jucuiensis* by having an ellipsoid metapterygoid lacking a ventral process. This is the eighth described species of *Microcambeva*, most of them in the last ten years. Comments on the systematics, biogeography, and conservation of the new species are provided.

Introduction

Microcambeva are small, translucent, and psammophilous catfishes exclusively found in sandy-bottom habitats of coastal streams of the Atlantic Forest of Brazil (Costa & Bockmann, 1994; Sarmiento-Soares et al., 2019). Most of the seven described species are restricted to a single basin (Costa et al., 2019, 2020a; Medeiros et al., 2020), and distributed from the Rio Jucuruçu basin in Bahia State southward to the Rio Guaraqueçaba basin in Paraná State (Sarmiento-Soares et al., 2019).

A decade ago only three species of *Microcambeva* were known: *M. barbata* from the Rio São João basin, in the Fluminense ecoregion (sensu Abell et al., 2008). *Microcambeva ribeirae* from Rio Ribeira de Iguape and Rio Guaraqueçaba basins in the Ribeira de Iguape ecoregion (sensu Abell et al., 2008), and *M. draco* from the Rio Jucuruçu and Peruípe basins in the Northeastern Mata Atlântica ecoregion (NMAE) (sensu Abell et al., 2008; Sarmiento-Soares et al., 2019). Costa et al. (2019, 2020b) described three additional species: *M. mucuriensis* from the Rio Mucuri basin, *M. jucuiensis*

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