

Glyptothorax punyabratai, a new species of catfish (Teleostei: Sisoridae) from Arunachal Pradesh, India

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Glyptothorax punyabratai, a new species, is described from the Brahmaputra River drainage in Arunachal Pradesh, Northeast India. It is distinguished from its congeners by having the following combination of characters: a rhomboidal-shaped thoracic adhesive apparatus with bowling pin-shaped median depression which opens posteriorly; the presence of plicae on the ventral surface of the pectoral spine and first pelvic-fin ray; plump body; depth of caudal peduncle 7.7–8.6% SL; nasal barbel not reaching the anterior margin of the eye; nuchal plate saddle with arrow-shaped extensions; and three longitudinal stripes on the body.

Introduction

Members of the rheophilic catfish genus *Glyptothorax* are characterised by the presence of a thoracic adhesive apparatus comprising of an elliptical field of folded longitudinal pleats of skin, a detached distal portion of the premaxilla, and long and thin lateral arms of the vomer extending beneath the entire length of the articular process of the lateral ethmoid (de Pinna, 1996). The genus represents almost half of the known diversity of the family Sisoridae, with its members distributed in hill streams and swift-flowing rivers from the Euphrates eastwards to the Yangtze, southwards to the Indian subcontinent, and the Greater Sunda Islands (Ng & Lalramliana, 2012a).

Twenty-six valid species of *Glyptothorax* have been described from the Ganga-Brahmaputra and Barak-Surma-Meghna basins (Fricke et al., 2023).

Of these, the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin has 20, viz. *Glyptothorax alaknandi* Tilak, *G. brevipinnis* Hora, *G. botius* (Hamilton), *G. cavia* (Hamilton), *G. conirostris* (Steindachner), *G. dikrongensis* Tamang & Chaudhry, *G. garhwali* Tilak, *G. gracilis* (Günther), *G. heokhee* Singh et al., *G. indicus* Talwar, *G. mibangi* Darshan et al., *G. pantherinus* Anganthoibi & Vishwanath, *G. pasighatensis* Arunkumar, *G. pectinopterus* (McClelland), *G. radiolus* Ng & Lalramliana, *G. rupiri* Kosygin et al., *G. siangensis* Singh et al., *G. stolickeae* (Steindachner), *G. striatus* (McClelland), and *G. telchitta* (Hamilton) (Gurung et al., 2013; Darshan et al., 2015; Arunkumar, 2016). During a recent ichthyological exploration of the Tung stream, a small fast-flowing tributary of the Tissa River in Arunachal Pradesh, India, three specimens were collected. Further careful examination revealed that these specimens belong to an unnamed

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G. siangensis: ZSI FF 8542, holotype, 88.8 mm SL, India: Arunachal Pradesh: Upper Siang District: Siking stream, a tributary of Siang River near Yingkiiong (Brahmaputra River basin). Additional data from Singh et al. (2023).

G. saisii: ZSI F 2583/1, 1, syntype, 59.0 mm SL; India: Jharkhand: Seta Nullah, Parasnath Hills. Additional data from Rameshori & Vishwanath (2012b).

G. scrobiculatus: ZSI FF 5408, paratype, 93.5 mm SL; India: Mizoram: Aizawl District: Sur stream, a tributary of Tuivai River. Additional data from Ng & Lalramliana (2012b).

G. striatus: ZSI F 10379/1, 1, 88.0 mm SL; India: Maghalaya: Cherrapunji. – ZSI F10264/1, 1, 63.5 mm SL, India: Assam: Someswary River, Bagmara. – ZSI FF 5619, 2, 66.4–68.3 mm SL; India: Meghalaya: Ri-Bhoi District: Umtrew River, Nongkhyllam Wildlife Sanctuary. Additional data from Ng & Lalramliana (2013).

G. telchitta: ZSI F 239/2, 2, 27.0–38.0 mm SL; India: Bihar: Right bank of Kamala River about a mile north-east of Jainagar Railway Station, Darbhanga. Additional data from Ng (2005).

G. viridis: ZSI FF 9463, 87.0 mm SL; India: Manipur, Chandel District, Dujang River at Dutuwl below Khubung Khullen, a tributary of the Chakpi River. Additional data from Shangningam & Kosygin (2023b).

Additional data for comparisons were taken from Darshan et al. (2015) for *G. mibangi*; Arunkumar (2016) for *G. pasighatensis*; Ganguly et al. (1972) for *G. nelsoni*; Lalramliana & Vanlalhrriata (2010) for *G. indicus*; Ng (2005) for *G. botius*; Ng & Lalramliana (2012a) for *G. maceriatius*; Ng & Lalramliana (2013) for *G. radiolus*; Jayaram (2006) and Darshan et al. (2015) for *G. stolickae*, Tamang & Chaudhry (2011) for *G. dikrongensis*, Devi et al. (2023) for *G. lairamkhullensis* and Singh et al. (2023) for *G. siangensis*

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