

The ETYFish Project

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COMMENTS: 

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Order CICHLIFORMES (part 9 of 10)

Family PSEUDOCHROMIDAE Dottybacks

25 genera/subgenera · 157 species

Subfamily Pseudochrominae

Cypho Myers 1940

a hunchback, a misnomer since Myers based his name on a misidentified specimen of *Pseudochromis fuscus*, which has a relatively highly arched dorsal profile, whereas *C. purpurascens* (type species) has a weakly arched dorsal profile

***Cypho purpurascens* (De Vis 1884)**

purplish or purple-tinged, presumably referring “purplish brown” color in alcohol

***Cypho zaps* Gill 2004**

Greek for storm; almost all of the type specimens were collected in the Batanes Islands of the Philippines (1987), where the Smithsonian Institution team responsible for these collections were stranded on Y’ami (also known as Mavulis) Island for several days during a storm

***Labracinus* Schlegel 1858**

etymology not explained, probably *labrus*, wrasse; *-icus*, pertaining to, i.e., wrasse-like, presumably referring to similarity to certain fishes of the family Labridae

***Labracinus atrofasciatus* (Herre 1933)**

atro-, black; *fasciatus*, banded, presumably referring to dark bands and lines on body and dorsal fin

***Labracinus cyclophthalmus* (Müller & Troschel 1849)**

cyclos, circle; *ophthalmus*, eye, presumably referring to dark curved marking around midposterior rim of orbit

***Labracinus lineatus* (Castelnau 1875)**

lined, referring to dark longitudinal stripes on body

***Labracinus ocelliferus* (Fowler 1946)**

ocellus, eyespot; *fero*, to bear, referring to 4-6 longitudinal series of small, dark-gray ocelli (evidently blue in life) on dorsal fin

***Manonichthys* Gill 2004**

manon, a kind of sponge, referring to sponge-dwelling behavior of included species; *ichthys*, fish

***Manonichthys alleni* Gill 2004**

in honor of ichthyologist Gerald R. Allen (b. 1942), Western Australia Museum (Perth), who collected type and provided photographs, for his contributions to Indo-Pacific ichthyology, and for the encouragement he gave Gill during his revision of this subfamily and other studies

***Manonichthys jamali* Allen & Erdmann 2007**

in honor of Jamal, an “enthusiastic and hard-working young crew member of the diving vessel M.V. *Citra Pelangi*, who died as the result of a tragic shipboard accident” during the authors’ 2006 exploratory survey of the Fak Fak-Kaimana region of Irian Jaya Barat Province (western New Guinea), Indonesia, where this species occurs

***Manonichthys paranox* (Lubbock & Goldman 1976)**

para-, near, referring to its mimetic relationship with *Centropyge nox* (Acanthuriformes: Pomacanthidae)

***Manonichthys polynemus* (Fowler 1931)**

poly, many; *nema*, thread, referring to elongate tips of caudal, pelvic, anal and dorsal fins

***Manonichthys scintilla* Gill & Williams 2011**

spark, glimmer or trace, referring to small amount of red coloration in the pelvic fins (compared to congeners with red pelvic-fin markings)

***Manonichthys splendens* (Fowler 1931)**

bright, shining or splendid, referring to its coloration (blue body covered with white to light-yellow spotting, yellow tail, and yellow mark between eyes)

***Manonichthys winterbottomi* Gill 2004**

in honor of Richard Winterbottom (b. 1944), Royal Ontario Museum, who helped collect type, for his “considerable” contribution to the systematics of Indo-Pacific fishes (particularly congrogadine pseudochromids), and for the encouragement he gave Gill during his revision of this subfamily and other studies

Ogilbyina Fowler 1931

-ina, belonging to: the late James Douglas Ogilby (1853-1925), the “distinguished zoologist” of the Queensland Museum

Ogilbyina novaehollandiae (Steindachner 1879)

of New Holland, historic name for Australia, where it is endemic

Ogilbyina queenslandiae (Saville-Kent 1893)

of Queensland, Australia, type locality

Ogilbyina salvati (Plessis & Fourmanoir 1966)

in honor of the authors’ friend, coral-reef biologist Bernard Salvat, who was about to take over the authors’ work in New Caledonia (type locality) when this dotyback was collected

Oxycercichthys Gill 2004

oxys, sharp and *kerkos*, tail, referring to elongate middle rays of caudal fin in non-juveniles; *ichthys*, fish

Oxycercichthys veliferus (Lubbock 1980)

velum, sail; *fero*, to bear, referring to relatively large dorsal and caudal fins

Pholidochromis Gill 2004

pholis, scale or spot, referring to distinctive dark spots surrounding head pores; *chromis*, common suffix in the family, from *Pseudochromis*, type genus

Pholidochromis cerasina Gill & Tanaka 2004

of a cherry, referring to “cherry-like bright orange to red” spots on body and median fins

Pholidochromis marginata (Lubbock 1980)

marginated or bordered, referring to dark submarginal stripes on caudal, dorsal and anal fins

Pictichromis Gill 2004

pictus, painted or colored, referring to bright coloration in life; *chromis*, common suffix in the family, from *Pseudochromis*, type genus

Pictichromis aurifrons (Lubbock 1980)

aureus, golden; *frons*, brow, referring to bright yellow coloration on lips, snout and dorsal contour of head

Pictichromis caitlinae Allen, Gill & Erdmann 2008

in honor of Caitlin Elizabeth (b. 1993), a “young Canadian leader” on the occasion of her 16th birthday; named at the request of her mother, Kim Samuel Johnson, who successfully bid to conserve this species at the Blue Auction, a black-tie charity auction in Monaco (20 Sept. 2007) in support of Conservation International’s Bird’s Head Seascape marine conservation initiative

Pictichromis coralensis Gill 2004

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Coral Sea, Great Barrier Reef, Australia, only known area of occurrence

Pictichromis diadema (Lubbock & Randall 1978)

a cloth headband, referring to magenta area on dorsal contour of head and body

Pictichromis dinar Randall & Schultz 2009

named after CV. Dinar, an exporting company of live fishes, corals, and other marine life from Indonesia, for the specimens they provided; name requested by Kenn Hyltoft of that company, who discovered this species

Pictichromis ehippiata (Gill, Pyle & Earle 1996)

saddled, referring to distinctive bright yellow, saddle-like marking on posterior part of body

Pictichromis paccagnellae (Axelrod 1973)

in honor of the Paccagnella family, Bologna, Italy, aquarium fish wholesalers who provided holotype [preferred spelling is *paccagnellorum* since name honors more than one person, but ICZN 32.5.1 forbids such a correction]

Pictichromis porphyrea (Lubbock & Goldman 1974)

purple, referring to its coloration in life

Pseudochromis Rüppell 1835

pseudo-, false, reflecting Rüppell’s belief that this genus is closely related to *Chromis* (Pomacentridae)

Pseudochromis aldabraensis Bauchot-Boutin 1958

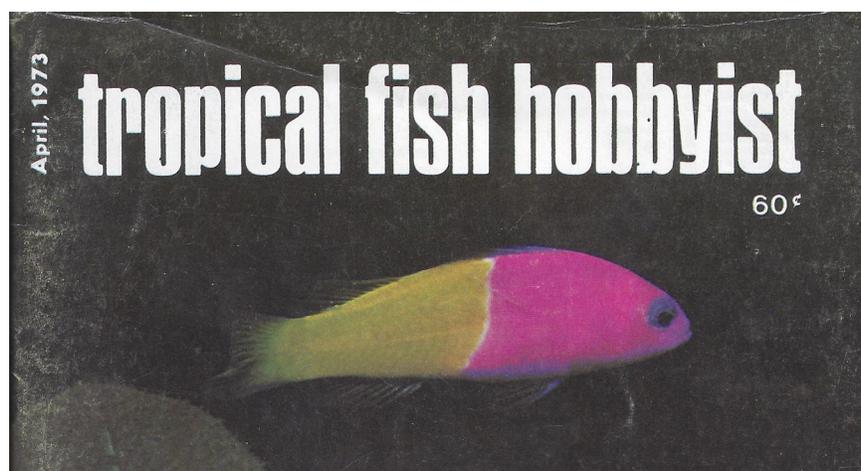
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Aldabra Island, western Indian Ocean, type locality

Pseudochromis alticaudex Gill 2004

altus, high; *caudex*, stem or trunk, referring to relatively high circumpeduncular scale count compared to similar species

Pseudochromis ammeri Gill, Allen & Erdmann 2012

in honor of Max Ammer (b. 1961), Papua Diving Resorts, “the pioneer of diving” in the Raja Ampat Islands, who



Pictichromis paccagnellae. From cover of issue containing original description. Axelrod, H. R. 1973. A colorful beauty from the coral reefs of Indonesia. *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* v. 21 (no. 8): 5-6, 9-10.

invited the second author to lead the marine rapid assessment of the area that provided the first detailed observations of this species; “For the past decade Max has continued to support the second and third authors’ biodiversity research in the region and has been a close friend and eager compatriot in exploring Raja Ampat and the Bird’s Head region”

***Pseudochromis andamanensis* Lubbock 1980**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: eastern Andaman Sea, eastern Indian Ocean, type locality

***Pseudochromis aureolineatus* Gill 2004**

aurum, gold; lineatus, lined, referring to distinctive yellow stripe on head and body

***Pseudochromis aurulentus* Gill & Randall 1998**

ornamented with gold, referring to bright golden-orange coloration of head and anterior part of body

***Pseudochromis bitaeniatus* (Fowler 1931)**

bi-, two; taeniatus, banded, referring to dark streak on upper and lower surfaces of body, both extending to caudal fin

***Pseudochromis caudalis* Boulenger 1898**

of the tail, presumably referring to two broad black horizontal streaks on the caudal fin, one on the upper edge and one on the lower

***Pseudochromis chrysospilus* Gill & Zajonz 2011**

chrysos, gold; pilos, spot, referring to distinctive gold spots on body

***Pseudochromis coccinicauda* (Tickell 1888)**

coccineus, berry red; cauda, tail, referring to yellowish-brown to bright-red caudal fin of females

***Pseudochromis colei* Herre 1933**

in honor of Howard I. Cole (1892-1966), Chief Chemist for the Philippine Health Service at the leper colony on Culion Island, Philippines (type locality), whose “enthusiastic cooperation and generous aid alone made possible [Herre’s] large and interesting collection” of fishes from that island

***Pseudochromis cometes* Gill & Randall 1998**

comet, referring to its live coloration, the bright orange-red head representing the comet, and the black stripe its tail

***Pseudochromis cyanotaenia* Bleeker 1857**

cyano-, blue; taenia, ribbon or band, referring to oblique blue bars on posterior sides of males

***Pseudochromis dilectus* Lubbock 1976**

esteemed, referring to beautiful coloration of yellow-headed form

***Pseudochromis dixurus* Lubbock 1975**

dixos, double or forked; oura, tail, referring to its deeply forked, lunate caudal fin

***Pseudochromis dutoiti* Smith 1955**

in honor of veterinary scientist Petrus Johann du Toit (1888-1967), former president of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, which provided financial assistance to Smith

***Pseudochromis eichleri* Gill, Allen & Erdmann 2012**

in honor of underwater photographer Dieter Eichler, the first to photograph this species

***Pseudochromis elongatus* Lubbock 1980**

elongate, referring to its relatively slender body

***Pseudochromis erdmanni* Gill & Allen 2011**

in honor of marine biologist Mark V. Erdmann (b. 1968), Conservation International (Indonesia), who collected holotype and has worked closely with the second author for the past six years, responsible for numerous new discoveries (including several new pseudochromids) resulting from his deep scuba collections from the East Indian region

***Pseudochromis flammicauda* Lubbock & Goldman 1976**

flammeus, fiery red; *cauda*, tail, referring to bright-red caudal fin of males

***Pseudochromis flavivertex* Rüppell 1835**

flavus, yellow; *vertex*, top, referring to bright-yellow coloration of dorsal surface

***Pseudochromis flavopunctatus* Gill & Randall 1998**

flavus, yellow; *punctatus*, spotted, referring to large pale- to bright-yellow spot on scales of body in life

***Pseudochromis fowleri* Herre 1934**

in honor of Henry Weed Fowler (1878-1965), Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, “indefatigable student and author of very important works on Philippine fishes”

***Pseudochromis fridmani* Klausewitz 1968**

in honor of reef biologist David Fridman, Maritime Museum (Eilat, Israel), who collected type

***Pseudochromis fuligifinis* Gill & Williams 2011**

fuligo, soot; *finis*, end, referring to sooty appearance of distal ends of caudal-fin rays

***Pseudochromis fuscus* Müller & Troschel 1849**

dark or dusky, referring to its uniform brown coloration

***Pseudochromis howsoni* Allen 1995**

in honor of Craig Howson, captain of the charter vessel *True North*, from which type was collected, and owner of North Star Charters (Broome, Western Australia)

***Pseudochromis jace* Allen, Gill & Erdmann 2008**

composed of the first letter of Jonathan, Alex, Charlie, and Emily, the children of Lisa and Michael Anderson, who successfully bid to conserve this species at the Blue Auction, a black-tie charity auction in Monaco (20 Sept. 2007) in support of Conservation International’s Bird’s Head Seascape marine conservation initiative

***Pseudochromis jamesi* Schultz 1943**

in honor of Schultz’ 12-year-old son, James, “who is interested in natural history”

***Pseudochromis kolythrus* Gill & Winterbottom 1993**

a ripe fig, referring to its live coloration, olive-gray head and anterior $\frac{2}{3}$ of body, rest of body bright purple, with the purple representing the split skin of a rip fig exposing its interior

***Pseudochromis kristinae* Gill 2004**

in honor of Gill’s wife Kristin, for her love, encouragement and support

***Pseudochromis leucorhynchus* Lubbock 1977**

leucos, white; *rhynchus*, snout, referring to pale-gray to white stripe on snout in living specimens

***Pseudochromis linda* Randall & Stanaland 1989**

in honor of Linda J. McCarthy (b. 1952), who first determined that this species is distinct from *P. olivaceus* of the Red Sea, and who collected many of the type specimens [a noun in apposition, without the matronymic “*ae*”]

***Pseudochromis litus* Gill & Randall 1998**

plain or simple, referring to its relatively unadorned color pattern

***Pseudochromis lugubris* Gill & Allen 2004**

mournful, referring to relatively somber coloration and tear-like marking beneath eye

***Pseudochromis luteus* Aoyagi 1943**

yellow, referring to bright-yellow to bright-orange tail and ventral contour of head of living males

***Pseudochromis madagascariensis* Gill 2004**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Antsiranana (previously Diego Suarez), Madagascar, only known area of occurrence

***Pseudochromis magnificus* Lubbock 1977**

splendid or eminent, referring to beautiful live coloration of males

***Pseudochromis marshallensis* Schultz 1953**

-*ensis*, Marshall Islands, where type locality (Rongelap Island, Rongelap Atoll) is situated (but occurs widely in Indo-West Pacific from Viêt Nam east to Marshall Islands, north to southern Japan, south to Indonesia, Australia and New Caledonia)

***Pseudochromis matahari* Gill, Erdmann & Allen 2009**

Indonesian for sun, referring to its “sunburst-like” coloration in life

***Pseudochromis melanurus* Gill 2004**

melas, black; *oura*, tail, referring to dark-gray to black caudal fin in males

***Pseudochromis melas* Lubbock 1977**

black, referring to overall dark-gray to black color of head and body in life, with black dorsal, anal and caudal fins

***Pseudochromis mooii* Gill 2004**

in honor of “good friend and colleague” Randall D. Mooi, Curator of Zoology, Manitoba Museum (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada), “who has been a constant source of encouragement throughout this study, and who has contributed significantly to our understanding of the systematics and biogeography of perciform fishes”

***Pseudochromis moorei* Fowler 1931**

in honor of John Percy Moore (1869-1965), University of Pennsylvania, assistant curator at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (where Fowler worked) and a specialist in leeches and their biological control

***Pseudochromis natalensis* Regan 1916**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Natal (now called KwaZulu-Natal), South Africa, type locality

***Pseudochromis nigrovittatus* Boulenger 1897**

nigro-, black; *vittatus*, striped, referring to dark body stripe extending from snout tip through eye and upper edge of operculum to midbase of caudal fin (also occurs in a non-striped form)

***Pseudochromis oligochrysus* Gill, Allen & Erdmann 2012**

oligos, few; *chrysos*, gold, i.e., having little gold, referring to “scant though distinctive yellow markings” when viewed underwater (yellow markings around eye are particularly obvious and distinctive, as are its bright yellow pelvic fins)

***Pseudochromis olivaceus* Rüppell 1835**

olive-colored, referring to dark-olive to dark-gray head and body

***Pseudochromis omanensis* Gill & Mee 1993**

-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: the Sultanate of Oman, type locality

***Pseudochromis persicus* Murray 1887**

Persian, referring to Persian Gulf, type locality

***Pseudochromis perspicillatus* Günther 1862**

lens or spectacles, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to small lens-shaped spot on nape and/or dark stripe on head (representing the arm of the spectacles)

***Pseudochromis pesi* Lubbock 1975**

in honor of Peter F. D’o. Etherington-Smith (P.E.S.), who helped Lubbock collect type and other pseudochromids

***Pseudochromis pictus* Gill & Randall 1998**

painted, referring to its striking coloration in life

***Pseudochromis punctatus* Kotthaus 1970**

spotted, referring to small black dots on dorsal and anal fins

***Pseudochromis pylei* Randall & McCosker 1989**

in honor of Robert M. Pyle, for helping Randall collect and photograph fishes, including an underwater photograph of this species (Pyle is a travel agent, no relation to ichthyologist Richard L. Pyle, also mentioned in description; John E. Randall, pers. comm.)

***Pseudochromis quinquedentatus* McCulloch 1926**

quinque, five; *dentatus*, toothed, referring to five large serrations on opercle

***Pseudochromis ransonneti* Steindachner 1870**

in honor of Eugen von Ransonnet-Villez (1838-1926), Austrian diplomat, painter, lithographer, biologist and explorer, who sent a collection of fishes from Singapore, including type of this one

***Pseudochromis reticulatus* Gill & Woodland 1992**

netted or net-like, referring to pattern of dark markings on dorsum

***Pseudochromis rutilus* Gill, Allen & Erdmann 2012**

reddish gold, referring to purplish red and yellow-to-gold coloration in life

***Pseudochromis sankeyi* Lubbock 1975**

in honor of Richard D. Sankey, marine-fish collector and wholesaler (Tropical Marine Center, UK), who provided specimens for Lubbock's study and "much useful advice" on aquarium maintenance

***Pseudochromis socotraensis* Gill & Zajonz 2011**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Socotra Archipelago, Indian Ocean, only known area of occurrence

***Pseudochromis springeri* Lubbock 1975**

in honor of Victor G. Springer (b. 1928), U.S. National Museum, who "kindly" provided many specimens for Lubbock's study and helped in the preparation of the manuscript

***Pseudochromis steenei* Gill & Randall 1992**

in honor of Australian naturalist and underwater photographer Roger C. Steene (b. 1942), who helped collect type

***Pseudochromis stellatus* Gill, Allen & Erdmann 2017**

starry or starred, referring to yellow spots on upper part of body (name was selected by high school students as part of a science activity at the Macleay Museum, Sydney, Australia)

***Pseudochromis striatus* Gill, Shao & Chen 1995**

furrowed or grooved, referring to five or six (posteriorly) to nine (anteriorly) dark gray stripes on sides

***Pseudochromis tapeinosoma* Bleeker 1853**

tapeinos, lowly; *soma*, body, presumably referring to slimmer body compared to its presumed closest relative, *P. fuscus*

***Pseudochromis tauberæ* Lubbock 1977**

in honor of Ruth Tauber (no other information available), who was helpful during Lubbock's visits to Kenya (type locality)

***Pseudochromis tigrinus* Allen & Erdmann 2012**

like a tiger, referring to barred color pattern of males

***Pseudochromis tonozukai* Gill & Allen 2004**

in honor of underwater photographer Takamasa Tonozuka, who discovered this species and brought it to the attention of the second author

***Pseudochromis viridis* Gill & Allen 1996**

green, referring to olive coloration of males

***Pseudochromis wilsoni* (Whitley 1929)**

in honor of Leonard Wilson (Darwin, Australia), who collected animals for the Australian Museum (Sydney), including fishes

***Pseudochromis yamasakii* Gill & Senou 2016**

in honor of Kimihiro Yamasaki, professional diver and "excellent" underwater photographer, who collected type and provided photographs

Subfamily Pseudoplesiopinae

***Amsichthys* Gill & Edwards 1999**

AMS, institutional code in ichthyology for the Australian Museum (Sydney), for the "generous help, encouragement and friendship given by staff of the Australian Museum's Ichthyology Section to the first author during this study and throughout his career and training"; *ichthys*, fish

***Amsichthys knighti* (Allen 1987)**

in honor of Ronald Knight, Sr. (Manus, Papua New Guinea), for his "generous" hospitality during a collecting visit to the island in 1982

***Chlidichthys* Smith 1953**

etymology not explained, possibly *chlidanos*, delicate, referring to how Smith (1954) found dottybacks "most troublesome to preserve, in that they rapidly undergo decomposition. In the stress of field work it is a problem to make accurate records of their colour-patterns, and the fins are so fragile that few perfect specimens of the smaller species can be preserved"; *ichthys*, fish

***Chlidichthys abruptus* Lubbock 1977**

named for its abruptly demarcated orange snout

***Chlidichthys auratus* Lubbock 1975**

golden, referring to golden-yellow to orange coloration of head and body

***Chlidichthys bibulus* (Smith 1954)**

fond of drink, referring to its "bibulous appearance" (Smith, 1968), i.e., red snout and eyes

***Chlidichthys cacatuoides* Gill & Randall 1994**

-oides, having the form of: *Cacatua*, Australian genus of crested parrots (cockatoos), referring to its crest-like or elongate anterior dorsal-fin rays

***Chlidichthys chagosensis* Gill & Edwards 2004**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Chagos Archipelago, only known area of occurrence

***Chlidichthys clibanarius* Gill & Edwards 2004**

Latin for a soldier clad in mail, referring to dark scale edging, which gives body an armor-like appearance

***Chlidichthys foudioides* Gill & Edwards 2004**

-oides, having the form of: *Foudias*, the predominantly red- or yellow-headed Mascarene weaver bird genus, found throughout the western Indian Ocean islands (including Rodrigues, type locality), referring to red markings on head

***Chlidichthys inornatus* Lubbock 1976**

undecorated, referring to its “relative drab” coloration

***Chlidichthys johnvoelckeri* Smith 1953**

per Smith (1954), in honor of John Voelcker (1898-1968), Johannesburg, South Africa, who “greatly assisted” Smith’s work (Voelcker was a prominent amateur ornithologist)

***Chlidichthys pembae* Smith 1954**

of Pemba Island, Tanzania, type locality

***Chlidichthys randalli* Lubbock 1977**

in honor of John E. Randall (1924-2020), Bishop Museum (Honolulu), who provided specimens for this and other studies conducted by Lubbock

***Chlidichthys rubiceps* Lubbock 1975**

ruber, red; *ceps*, head, referring to reddish-brown head (and anterior body) of living specimens

***Chlidichthys smithae* Lubbock 1977**

in honor of Margaret Mary Smith (1916-1987), first director of the J.L.B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology (now the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity), who helped collect type and aided Lubbock with his studies of western Indian Ocean pseudochromids

***Lubbockichthys* Gill & Edwards 1999**

named for the late Hugh Roger Lubbock (1951-1981), for his contributions to the systematics of pseudochromid fishes (Lubbock died in a car crash in Rio de Janeiro just shy of his 30th birthday); *ichthys*, fish

***Lubbockichthys multisquamatus* (Allen 1987)**

multi-, many; *squamatus*, scaled, referring to its high (usually more than 60) number of scales in a horizontal series compared to congeners

***Lubbockichthys myersi* Gill & Edwards 2006**

in honor of Robert F. Myers (b. 1953), coral-reef biologist and underwater photographer, who collected type and made it available for study, for “important” contributions to our understanding of Micronesian fishes

***Lubbockichthys tanakai* Gill & Senou 2002**

in honor of colleague and friend Hiroyuki Tanaka, physician and aquarist, who first drew the authors’ attention to this species and kindly provided color slides and a paratype



Lubbockichthys myersi. From: Gill, A. C. and A. J. Edwards. 2006. *Lubbockichthys myersi*, a new species of dottyback fish from Guam (Pseudochromidae: Pseudoplesiopinae). *Zootaxa* No. 1320: 43-48.

***Pectinochromis* Gill & Edwards 1999**

pecten, comb or rake, referring to relatively high number of gill rakers; *chromis*, common suffix in the family, derived from *Pseudochromis*, type genus

***Pectinochromis lubbocki* (Edwards & Randall 1983)**

in honor of Hugh Roger Lubbock (1951-1981), for his major contribution to pseudoplesiopine taxonomy (Lubbock died in a car crash in Rio de Janeiro just shy of his 30th birthday)

***Pseudoplesiops* Bleeker 1858**

pseudo-, false, i.e., although type species, *P. typus*, may resemble *Plesiops* (Plesiopidae), such an appearance is false

***Pseudoplesiops annae* (Weber 1913)**

matronym not identified, probably in honor of Weber's wife Anne ("Anna") Antoinette van Bosse (1852-1942), a botanist specializing in marine algae, who accompanied him during his travels, including *Siboga* expedition during which holotype was collected

***Pseudoplesiops collare* Gill, Randall & Edwards 1991**

collar, referring to oblique bars on head and anterior portion of body

***Pseudoplesiops howensis* Allen 1987**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Lord Howe Island, Australia, type locality

***Pseudoplesiops immaculatus* Gill & Edwards 2002**

im-, not; *maculatus*, spotted, referring to its immaculate operculum, without a large dark spot (the sole character distinguishing it from congeners except *P. wassi*)

***Pseudoplesiops occasus* Fujiwara & Motomura 2025**

Latin for sunset, referring to its red or reddish-orange body and fins, its most obvious diagnostic character

***Pseudoplesiops occidentalis* Gill & Edwards 2002**

western, the western-most species in the genus

***Pseudoplesiops revelei* Schultz 1953**

in honor of Commander Roger Revelle (1909-1991), U.S. Naval Reserve, who was in charge of oceanographic studies during Operation Crossroads (postwar atomic test) and the Bikini Scientific Resurvey (Revelle later became one of the first scientists [in 1956] to study and raise concerns about global warming)

***Pseudoplesiops rosae* Schultz 1943**

of Rose Island, American Samoa, type locality (but widely distributed along coral reefs of the eastern Indian and western Pacific oceans)

***Pseudoplesiops umbrosus* Fujiwara, Gill, Endo, Shibukawa & Motomura 2025**

Latin for shady, referring to its relatively dusky coloration, and its previous confusion with *P. rosae*, i.e., "shaded from view"

***Pseudoplesiops typus* Bleeker 1858**

serving as type of genus

***Pseudoplesiops wassi* Gill & Edwards 2003**

in honor of Richard C. Wass (b. 1942), Fishery Biologist, American Samoa Government, who first reported on this species, for his "important" contribution to our knowledge of South-West Pacific fishes

Subfamily Anisochrominae Annies

***Anisochromis* Smith 1954**

anisos, unequal, presumably referring to color differences between males and females of *A. kenyae*, so "strikingly different that it was only after close study of a number of specimens that it could be established that they were the same species"; *chromis*, common suffix in the family, from *Pseudochromis*, type genus

***Anisochromis kenyae* Smith 1954**

of Malindi, Kenya, western Indian Ocean, type locality

***Anisochromis mascarenensis* Gill & Fricke 2001**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: western Mascarenes, southwestern Indian Ocean, where it is endemic

***Anisochromis straussi* Springer, Smith & Fraser 1977**

in honor of Lewis H. Strauss (Washington, D.C.), who conceived, organized, produced, funded, and participated in the 1976 expedition to St. Brandon's Shoals (Indian Ocean), which "netted a scientifically, highly valuable collection of fishes and other marine organisms," including type of this species

Subfamily Congrogadinae Eel-blennies or Snakelets

***Blennodesmus* Günther 1872**

blennos, mucous; *desmus*, bond or ligament, referring to "rudimentary scales being imbedded in the mucous intuge-

ments of the body” (although this genus was once placed in the Blennidae, *blenno-* does not mean blenny)

***Blennodesmus scapularis* Günther 1872**

scapular, referring to black yellow-edged ocellus in the scapular region

***Congrogadus* Günther 1862**

conger, Latin for a marine eel, referring to eel-like shape; *gadus*, a cod or gadiform fish, presumably referring to presumed relationship with gadiform fishes

Subgenus ***Congrogadus***

***Congrogadus amplimaculatus* (Winterbottom 1980)**

amplus, large; *maculatus*, spotted, referring to high number of large, pale spots on body

***Congrogadus hierichthys* Jordan & Richardson 1908**

name based on *Hierichthys* Jordan & Fowler 1902 (a junior synonym of *Congrogadus*): *hiero*, temple, Greek cognate of Miyako, Japan, the “Temple Island,” type locality of *Hierichthys encryptes* (= *C. subducens*); *ichthys*, fish

***Congrogadus malayanus* (Weber 1909)**

-anus, belonging to: Malaya, presumably referring to its type locality (Arafura Sea, Indonesia) in the Malay Archipelago (also occurs in Torres Strait, Australia)

***Congrogadus spinifer* (Borodin 1933)**

spina, thorn; *fero*, to bear, referring to single separated spine in front of dorsal fin

***Congrogadus subducens* (Richardson 1843)**

withdrawn, i.e., lurking or hidden, perhaps referring to the common name Richardson assigned it, “Lurking Machete” (the latter part of that name referring to its shape, similar to a butcher’s knife)

Subgenus ***Pilbaraichthys* Gill, Mooi & Hutchins 2000**

Pilbara, referring to distribution along south-western portion of Pilbara district, Western Australia; *ichthys*, fish

***Congrogadus winterbottomi* Gill, Mooi & Hutchins 2000**

in honor of colleague and friend Richard Winterbottom (b. 1944), Royal Ontario Museum, for his “important” contributions to the systematics and biogeography of congrogadines and other fishes, and for the support and encouragement he has given the authors

***Halidesmus* Günther 1872**

etymology not explained, presumably *halos*, salt, but in this case possibly referring to resemblance with *Haliophis*; *desmus*, bond or ligament, perhaps referring to resemblance with *Blennodesmus* (described in same publication but placed in a different family)

***Halidesmus coccus* Winterbottom & Randall 1994**

rooster or cockscomb, referring to median fleshy crest on head between tip of snout and posterior interorbital region

***Halidesmus polytretus* Winterbottom 1982**

poly, many; *tretos*, perforated, i.e., full of holes, referring to larger number of sensory canal pores on head and body compared to *H. thomaseni* (“Irreverent interpretations of the meaning of the name are explicitly excluded.”)

***Halidesmus scapularis* Günther 1872**

scapular, referring to ovate deep-black spot in the scapular region

***Halidesmus socotraensis* Gill & Zajonz 2003**

-ensis, suffix denoting place: Socotra Archipelago, western Indian Ocean, only known area of occurrence

***Halidesmus thomaseni* (Nielsen 1961)**

in honor of H. B. Thomasen, who collected type in Karachi, Pakistan, while collecting live fishes for the Danmarks Akvarium (Charlottenlund); fishes that did not survive were donated to the Zoological Museum (Copenhagen)

***Halimuraena* Smith 1952**

etymology not explained, presumably *halos*, salt, but in this case possibly referring to resemblance and/or relationship with *Haliophis*; *muraena*, Latin for moray eel, but probably used here as term for eels in general, referring to eel-like shape of *H. hexagonata*

***Halimuraena hexagonata* Smith 1952**

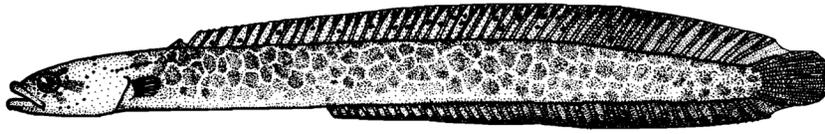
hexagonal, referring to large, dark “subhexagonal” blotches, almost forming a honeycomb pattern on body

***Halimuraena lepopareia* Winterbottom 1980**

lepos, scale; *pareia*, cheek, only member of genus with scales on cheeks

***Halimuraena shakai* Winterbottom 1978**

in honor of the Zulu king Shaka (ca-1787-1828, reflecting its South African type locality), who “raised his people from a small tribe to a powerful nation”; the hastate body of this species is a “perhaps fanciful reminder of the



Halimuraena shakai. From: Winterbottom, R. 1978. Range extensions and additions to the South African marine ichthyofauna, with the description of a new species of congrogadid from Kwazulu. *Zoologica Africana* v. 13 (no. 1): 41-56.

short stabbing spear or 'iKlwa' which Shaka developed and used with such devastating effect”

***Halimuraenoides* Maugé & Bardach 1985**

-*oides*, having the form of: referring to its similar coloration as *Halimuraena*

***Halimuraenoides isostigma* Maugé & Bardach 1985**

iso-, equal; *stigma*, mark, allusion not explained; species has spots of varying sizes across body, but distinctive scapular eyespot is same size as eye

***Haliophis* Rüppell 1829**

halos, sea, referring to marine habitat; *ophis*, snake, presumably referring to its compressed, elongate shape, i.e., like a sea snake

***Haliophis aethiopus* Winterbottom 1985**

aethiops, sunburnt, referring to its plain brown or tan body color

***Haliophis diademus* Winterbottom & Randall 1994**

diadem, a cloth headband, referring to dark stripe through eye and passing posteriorly on head; and *Diadema*, generic name of sea urchin among whose spines this species was first observed and photographed

***Haliophis guttatus* (Forsskål 1775)**

spotted, referring to several irregular series of black spots on body (and possibly also irregular black bars and spots on head)

***Natalichthys* Winterbottom 1980**

Natal, South Africa, province off which all specimens were collected; *ichthys*, fish

***Natalichthys leptus* Winterbottom 1980**

leptos, scale, only member of genus with scaled cheeks

***Natalichthys ori* Winterbottom 1980**

ORI, acronym for the Oceanographic Research Institute (Durban, South Africa), whose directors (D. H. Davies and A. E. F. Heydorn) and staff have contributed “greatly” to the knowledge of South Africa’s coastal marine fauna

***Natalichthys sam* Winterbottom 1980**

SAM, acronym for the South African Museum (Cape Town), whose ichthyologists (P. A. Hulley and E. Louw) have always been “most co-operative and good company”

***Rusichthys* Winterbottom 1979**

RUSI, acronym for Rhodes University, Smith Institute, for the “tremendous” contributions to ichthyology made by the late J.L.B. Smith, his wife Margaret Mary Smith, and staff and students; *ichthys*, fish

***Rusichthys explicitus* Winterbottom 1996**

apparent, referring to how osteological data for this species fills in missing osteological data for the genus (in a previous study, the specimen of *R. plesiomorphus* used for osteological examination partially disintegrated during preparation)

***Rusichthys plesiomorphus* Winterbottom 1979**

a plesiomorph (*plesio*, primitive; *morphus*, shape), i.e., a primitive or relatively primitive organism, referring to its presumed generalized meristic and morphometric values for a congrogadine

Subfamily Assiculinae

***Assiculus* Richardson 1846**

diminutive of *assis*, plank or board, “as thin in the body as a lath [thin flat strip of wood], whence the generic name”

***Assiculus punctatus* Richardson 1846**

spotted, referring to pattern of small blue spots on vertical fins, head and anterior part of body

Subfamily Assiculoidinae

***Assiculoides* Gill & Hutchins 1997**

-oides, having the form of: referring to similarity to *Assiculus*

***Assiculoides desmonotus* Gill & Hutchins 1997**

desmos, bond; *notos*, back, referring to membranous connection between posterior part of dorsal fin and dorsal part of caudal fin