

Taxonomical revision of two colombian species of *Apistogramma* (Teleostei: Perciformes) with redescription of *Apistogramma viejita* KULLANDER, 1979 as *Apistogramma unipectomaculata* sp. nov.

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Abstract

Because of the unacceptable taxonomic situation that has developed over the last twenty years in regard to some species of the *Apistogramma macmasteri* complex, a revision of the colombian species *Apistogramma macmasteri* KULLANDER, 1979 from the Rio Meta system and a redescription of the likewise colombian species *Apistogramma viejita* KULLANDER, 1979 from the Rio Yucao system are provided. Due to the ongoing misidentifications in nearly all relevant publications (e.g. Staeck 2003; Roemer 1998, 2004; Kullander 1980, 1980a; Koslowski 1985; Mayland & Bork 1989a; Haseman & Meinken 1956 and Hoedeman 1947a) in which *A. viejita* sensu strictu has erroneously been used as a synonym of *A. macmasteri*, the use of the taxon *A. viejita* for the species *A. macmasteri* has been established itself as a popular and scientific fact. Therefore the taxon *A. viejita* becomes a nomen nudum and is no longer available as a valid species name. Nomenclaturically the taxon is transduced to a junior synonym of *A. macmasteri* according to the rules of ICZN. Thus the taxon *A. viejita* is given the status of a valid (permitted for use) synonym of *A. macmasteri*. The species, so far defined as *Apistogramma viejita* sensu KULLANDER, 1979, is redescribed as the 88th taxon of the genus, *Apistogramma unipectomaculata* sp. nov., based on 27 specimen, which include the two inadequately preserved specimen from the type series of *A. viejita*. The former holotype of *A. viejita* (NRM 11231, ♂30.1 mm SL) now achieves the status of a neoparatype and a new holotype is defined (MZUB 42124, gend. unk., 18.2 mm SL).

Kurzfassung

Aufgrund der inakzeptablen taxonomischen Situation, die sich in den letzten zwanzig Jahren innerhalb der Arten des *Apistogramma macmasteri* Komplexes entwickelt hat, erfolgt hier eine Revision der kolumbianischen Art *Apistogramma macmasteri* KULLANDER, 1979 aus dem Rio Meta-Einzug sowie eine Neubeschreibung der ebenfalls kolumbianischen Art *Apistogramma viejita* KULLANDER, 1979 aus dem Einzug des Rio Yucao. Aufgrund zahlreicher Fehlbestimmungen enthaltender Veröffentlichungen (u.a. Staeck 2003; Römer 1998, 2004, Kullander 1980, 1980a; Koslowski 1985; Mayland & Bork, 1989a; Haseman & Meinken 1956, sowie Hoedeman 1947a) in denen das Taxon *A. viejita* sensu strictu irrtümlich als Synonym für *A. macmasteri* verwendet wurde, hat sich der Gebrauch des Taxons *A. viejita* für die Art *A. macmasteri* sowohl populär-aquaristisch als auch wissenschaftlich durchgesetzt. Daher wird das Taxon *A. viejita* zum nomen nudum und steht als valider Artnamen nicht mehr zur Verfügung. Nomenklatorisch wird es gemäß den Regeln des ICZN zu einem Synonym zu *A. macmasteri* transduziert und das Taxon *A. viejita* erhält den Status eines validen (gebrauchzulässigen) Synonyms zu *A. macmasteri*. Die bisher als *Apistogramma viejita* sensu Kullander, 1979 definierte Spezies wird auf Basis von 27 Exemplaren, welche die zwei unzureichend erhaltenen Exemplare der Typenserie von *A. viejita* enthalten, als 88. Taxon der Gattung, *Apistogramma unipectomaculata* sp. nov., neu beschrieben. Der bisherige Holotypus von *A. viejita* (NRM 11231, ♂30.1 mm SL) erlangt nunmehr den Status eines Neoparatypus und ein neuer Holotypus wird festgelegt (MZUB 42124, G. unb., 18.2 mm SL).

Etymology

The conglomerate name consists of the latin elements for unus = one, pectoralis = breast and maculatus = spot/blotch, meaning „with a single pectoral spot“. It describes one of the main differences to the similar species *A. macmasteri*. In contrast to *A. macmasteri* which sometimes shows up to two pectoral spots, *A. viejita* only shows one pectoral spot (the upper one).

Key words

taxonomical contortion, economy, transduction, wastewater, ichthyology, Neotropics, old taxa, systematics.

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