Japanese Journal of Ichthyology
Vol. 27, No. 3 1980

魚類学雑誌
27巻3号 1980年

First Records of Three Apogonid Fishes from Japan

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(Received November 11, 1979)

Three species of apogonid fishes, *Apogon compressus* (Smith et Radcliffe), *A. sangiensis* Bleeker and *A. gilberti* (Jordan et Seale), were recently collected from coastal waters in Japan. These species, which are described here as new to Japan, were caught mainly at Kabira Bay, Ishigaki Island (24°25′N, 124°10′E). *A. sangiensis* is common in the Ryukyu Islands, but has been overlooked presumably because it was confused with *A. lateralis* Valenciennes. The other two species seem not common in the Ryukyu Islands. Most field surveys were made by snorkeling and catching fish with a dip net. In this report some descriptions of these materials and brief comments are made.

Apogon compressus (Smith et Radcliffe)
Japanese name: Hira-tenjikudai
(Fig. 1)

Amia compressa Smith and Radcliffe in Radcliffe, 1911: 246 (original description; type-locality: Bisucay I.); Fowler, 1928: 157 (listed; Shortland I.); Fowler and Bean, 1930: 75 (description; Philippine Is.).

Amia fasciata compressa: McCulloch, 1914: 118 (listed; Bougainville I.).

Apogon compressa: Herre, 1931: 5 (listed; Solomon Is.).

Apogon compressus: Herre, 1936: 129 (description; Tenibuli I., etc.); Lachner, 1953: 435 (key); Munro, 1967: 248 (description; New Guinea); Fraser, 1972: 18 (listed; Pinas I.); Burgess and Axelrod, 1975: 1435 (color photograph; New Guinea).

Apogon sp.: Shen and Lam, 1977: 184 (description; Taiwan).

Hira-tenjikudai: Masuda, 1980: 59 (color photograph; Palau Is.).

Material. YCM-P (Yokosuka City Museum) 4160, eight specimens, 38.4～49.4 mm SL, May 8, 1977; YCM-P 4564, 59.9 mm, Jul. 31, 1978; YCM-P 4577, four specimens, 27.4～33.4 mm, Aug. 2, 1978, from Kabira Bay, Ishigaki I., Okinawa Pref.: MTUF (Museum, Tokyo University of Fisheries) 24056, 38.7 mm, Mar. 1977, from Hoshino, Ishigaki I., Okinawa Pref.: AMSI (Australian Museum, Sydney) 17472-013, eight specimens, 43.0～83.0 mm, Jun. 22, 1973, from Efate, New Hebrides: QMI (Queensland Museum, Brisbane) 10702, 73.3 mm, Sep. 28, 1952, from Curacoa I., North Queensland, Australia.

Description. D. VI-I, 9; A. II, 9; P. 13 or 14; branched caudal rays 9+8; vertebrae including urostyle 10+14; gill rakers on first arch 7+1+20 (this count was made on only one specimen of the eight specimens in the YCM-P4160 sample); lateral line scales 25 plus 2～3 beyond caudal base; scales above and below lateral line 2/6; predorsal scales 3. Proportional measurements are almost similar to those in the original description of *Amia*

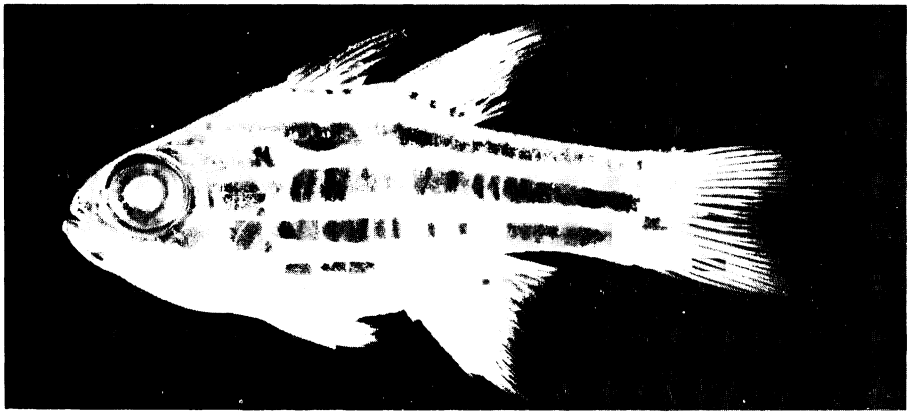

Fig. 1. *Apogon compressus*, 59.9 mm in standard length, YCM-P4564.

compressa given by Smith and Radcliffe in Radcliffe (1911).

General form like a tennis racket, strongly compressed; head and body deep; caudal peduncle relatively deep, compressed; eye very large, its diameter slightly larger than the length of pelvic spine; maxillary extending to vertical from posterior border of pupil; anterior nasal opening very short, widely separated; margin of preopercle finely serrated, preopercle ridge entire; teeth minute, in villiform bands in both jaws, on vomer and palatines; longest soft rays of dorsal equal to those of anal; caudal forked; lateral line system on head well developed.

Color in life: Excellent color photographs are present in Burgess and Axelrod (1975) and Masuda (1980).

Color in alcohol: Ground color pearly white or yellowish with blackish brown longitudinal stripes, one along middle of back, interspaces brilliant pearly stripes; four dark stripes extending from snout tip across eye to middle of caudal base; second dark stripe very short, extending behind origin of dorsal; third dark stripe breaks into two short bars or small spots at caudal base; spinous dorsal blackish brown, distal anterior margin of soft dorsal and anal blackish, outer caudal blackish; a pale brown bar remains near base of soft dorsal and anal; ventral dusky; pectoral hyaline.

Ecological observations. This species was collected usually together with *Apogon aroubiensis*. Both species live in coral hollows and the base of *Acropora*. Its behavior at night is unkonwn. The swimming action is rather slow. This species is ordinarily solitary.

Distribution. The populations of *A. compressus* around Ishigaki I. are thin. The species is not commonly seen there.

Notes. The color pattern of *A. compressus* is quite similar to that of *Apogon doederleini* especially in juveniles. Difference of *A. compressus* from *A. doederleini* lies in the presence of the second short stripe on the body and in the feature of the dark spots at the caudal base. The dark spots of *A. doederleini* are larger than those of *A. compressus*.

Apogon sp. described by Shen and Lam (1977: 184, fig. 29) from Hua-lian in Taiwan is herewith identified as *A. compressus*.

Apogon sangiensis Bleeker
Japanese name: Sangiru-ishimochi
(Fig. 2)

Apogon sangiensis Bleeker, 1857: 375 (original description; type-locality: Sangir I.); Günther, 1859: 235 (description; Sangir I.); Günther, 1873: 20 (description; Yap I.); Day, 1878～1888: 64 (description; Andaman Is.); Macleay, 1882: 235 (listed; New Guinea); Day, 1889: 500 (description; Andaman Is.); Jordan and Seale, 1906: 244 (listed; Navigator I.); Pellegrin, 1912: 1 (listed; New Hebrides Is.); Weber, 1913: 229 (listed; Sulawesi I.); Barnard, 1927: 515 (description; Natal Coast); Weber and de Beaufort, 1929: 343 (description; Singapore, etc.); Herre, 1936: 132 (description; Malaita I.); Aoyagi, 1941: 55 (description; Malakal I.); Smith, 1955: 690 (listed; Aldabra I.); Munro, 1967: 249 (description; New Guinea); Fraser, 1972: 19 (listed; Pinda I.).

Amia sangiensis: Bleeker, 1873～1876: 93 (description; Sangir I.); Bleeker, 1874: 56 (description; Sangir I.); Evermann and Seale, 1906: 72 (description; Bulan, Luzon I.); Fowler, 1928: 160 (description; Ascension I.); Fowler and Bean, 1930: 104 (description; Masbate I.).

Material. YCM-P 4140, fifty-five specimens, 33.2～52.3 mm SL; YCM-P 4144, three specimens, 37.4～40.7 mm, May 3, 1977; YCM-P 4149, four specimens, 41.5～45.9 mm, Apr. 30, 1977; YCM-P 4576, 25.6 mm, Aug. 2, 1978; ZUMT (Zoology, University Museum, University of Tokyo) 53142, 53144, two specimens, 34.6 and 36.3 mm, Nov. 15, 1974, from Kabira Bay, Ishigaki I., Okinawa Pref.; YCM-AP (Yokosuka City Museum, Aoyagi Collection) 4377, 34.7 mm, from Okinawa Pref.; YCM-P 462, six specimens, 31.3～36.5 mm, Jun. 21, 1970, from Malakal I.; YCM-P 1946, sixty-one specimens, 41.1～59.7 mm Nov. 19, 1974, from Cebu I..

Description. D. VI-I, 9; A. II, 8; P. 13 or 14; branched caudal rays 9(10)+8; vertebrae including urostyle 10+14; gill rakers on first arch 5+1+15 (this count was made on only one specimen of the 25 specimens in the YCM-P4140 sample); lateral line scales 24 plus 3～4 more beyond caudal base; scales

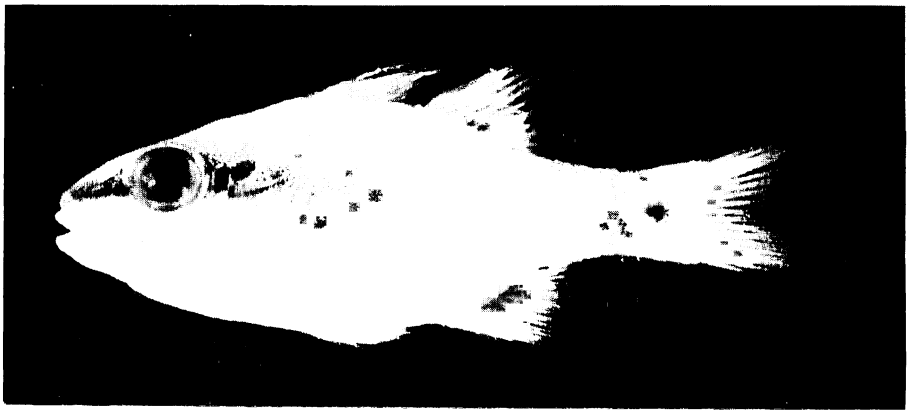

Fig. 2. *Apogon sangiensis*, 47.5 mm in standard length, YCM-P4140.

above and below lateral line 2/6; predorsal scales 5. Proportional measurements are in almost complete agreement with the description of *Apogon sangiensis* given by Weber and de Beaufort (1929).

Predorsal profile from snout to dorsal almost straight; tip of snout slightly elongate; anterior nasal opening long and directed downward; mouth somewhat oblique; teeth villiform, in bands on jaws, vomer and palatines; preopercle ridge entire, edge finely serrated; dorsal spines slender and weak, third and forth spine prolonged into a filament; pectorals as long as dorsal spines; caudal forked.

Color in alcohol: Entirely yellowish, dorsal side light brown, lower half of head and abdomen whitish, with silvery luster on side of opercle; a black band as wide as pupil from tip of snout across eye to posterior margin of opercule; a black spot smaller than pupil at middle of caudal base on lateral line; a small black spot at origin and end of second dorsal; front border of first dorsal, including filamentous part between second and third dorsal spines, black; other fins all colorless; pupil black (green when alive).

Ecological observations. This species was collected mostly among the coral limbs of *Pavona* sp. and *Stylophora* sp. at a depth of about two or three meters in Kabira Bay, Ishigaki I. They were found usually in small schools consisting of about 10 individuals of its own, but sometimes in company with another species, *Apogon leptacanthus*. Immature groups of *A. sangiensis* were commonly found in July and August. The number of individuals in each immature group was larger than that in mature groups.

Distribution. This species is very common around Ishigaki I.

Notes. Aoyagi (1943) described 19 species including two subspecies of apogonid fishes from the Ryukyu Is., but *A. sangiensis* was not included. I examined a collection of fishes made by the late Dr. Aoyagi from Miyako I., and found a specimen of *A. sangiensis* in it. For this species a Japanese name, Sangiru-ishimochi, was proposed by Aoyagi (1941). *A. lateralis* is often confused with *A. sangiensis*. However, *A. lateralis* can be distinguished by its narrow dusky line along the body from the hind angle of the opercle to the mid-base of the caudal fin. *A. lateralis* has not been collected from Japan.

Apogon gilberti (Jordan et Seale)
New Japanese name: Usumomo-tenjikudai
(Fig. 3)

Amia gilberti Jordan and Seale, 1905: 777 (original description; type-locality: Negros I.).

Apogon fragilis Smith, 1961: 385 (original description; type-locality: Pinda Reef, Mozambique); Fraser, 1972: 19 (listed; Mozambique); Burgess and Axelrod, 1975: 1442 (color photograph; New Guinea).

Materials. USNM (National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.) 51941, holotype of *Amia gilberti*, 33.2 mm SL, from Negros I.; RUSI (Rhodes University, J.L.B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology) 3078, two

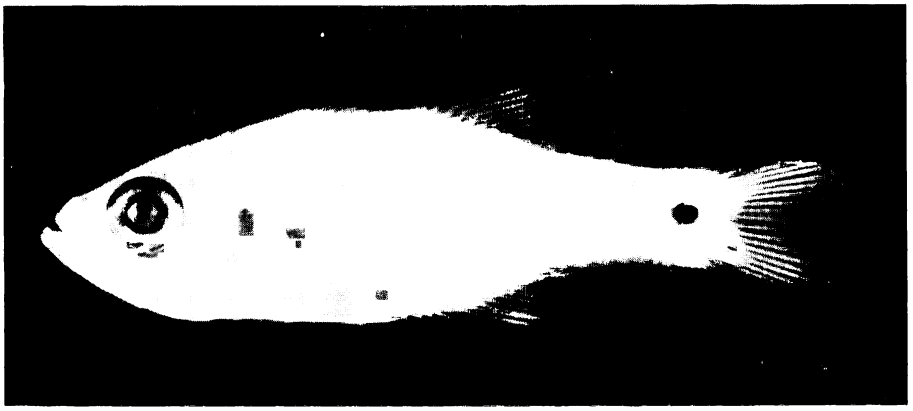

Fig. 3. *Apogon gilberti*, 27.2 mm in standard length, YCM-P4608.

paratypes of *Apogon fragilis*, 37.8 and 39.9 mm, Jul. 18, 1950, from Pinda Reef, Mozambique; AMSI 17087-009, two specimens, 35.3 and 37.0 mm, May 27, 1970, from Madang, New Guinea; YCM-P 4608, 27.2 mm, Jul. 31, 1978, from Kabira Bay, Ishigaki I., Okinawa Pref.; YCM-P 1955, three specimens, 34.9～38.7 mm, (data unknown); YCM-P 2821, six specimens, 32.0～41.5 mm, (data unknown); ZUMT 8314, ten specimens, 30.1～37.7 mm, from Malakal I.

Comparative material: *Apogon leptacanthus* YCM-P 4146, five specimens, 33.2～39.7 mm, May 1, 1977, Kabira Bay, Ishigaki I., Okinawa Pref.

Description. D. VI-I, 9; A. II, 9; P. 13 or 14; branched caudal rays 9+8; vertebrae including urostyle 10+14; gill rakers on first arch 5+1+17 (this count was made on only one specimen of the six specimens in the YCM-P2821 sample); lateral line scales 25 plus 1～2 more beyond caudal base; scales above and below lateral line 2/6; predorsal scales 5.

Head rather large, general form very thin; caudal peduncle compressed; eye very large, its diameter a little longer than length of longest anal spine; interorbital width wide; lower jaw elongate, maxillary reaching to below middle of pupil; lower limb of preopercle denticulate, other opercles entire; upper half of flap on posterior margin of opercle divided; villiform teeth in a narrow band on each jaw, apparent on vomer but not apparent on palatines; no filamentous or feeble spine in first dorsal; caudal slightly forked; lateral line complete.

Meristic characters and proportional measurements are shown in Table 1.

Color in life: Color photograph of *A. fragilis* (synonymized here with *A. gilberti*) is presented in Burgess and Axelrod (1975). Ground color pinkish, more or less translucent; a fine black spot on basal portion of caudal; numerous melanophores on upper part of opercle.

Color in alcohol: Ground color uniformly milky yellow or white; dorsal side of body particularly along dorsal base, pelvic base, tip of snout and tip of lower jaw with minute dark melanophores; a small dark spot on middle of caudal peduncle at anterior caudal base; a distinctly black spot on upper part of opercle just above and anterior to base of pectorals (not seen in YCM-P4608).

Ecological observations. Only a single specimen was collected from Ishigaki I. This fish was found among schools of *A. leptacanthus* living in coral hollows during the daytime. Detailed behavior of *A. gilberti* is unknown.

Notes. *Apogon gilberti* was regarded by Fowler and Bean (1930) as females of *A. leptacanthus* Bleeker, 1856 (type locality: Philippine Is.). *A. leptacanthus* differs from *A. gilberti* in having a long filamentous spine in the first dorsal and in its general coloration in life with orange shades on the head. *A. gilberti* has no such a filamentous spine. I examined both males and females of both species and found that these differences

Table 1. Comparison of characters of *Apogon gilberti* and *Apogon fragilis*, measurements expressed in percentage of standard length.

	A. gilberti				*A. fragilis*	
	Holotype USNM 51941 1* Negros	YCM-P 4608 1 Ishigaki	YCM-P 2821 1	ZUMT 8314 1 Marakal	Paratype RUSI 3078 1 Mozambique	AMSI 17087 1 New Guinea
Dorsal fin	VI-I, 9	VI-I, 9	VI-I, 9	VI-I, 9	VI-I, 9	VI-I, 9
Anal fin	II, 9	II, 9	II, 9	II, 9	II, 9	II, 9
Pectoral fin (Right or Left)	1+12+1 (R)	1+12+1 (L)	1+12+1 (L)	1+12+1 (L)	1+12+1 (R)	1+12+1 (R)
Branched caudal fin rays	9+8	9+8	9+8	9+8	9+8	9+8
Lateral line scales	23+?	25	25	25	24	
Scales above and below lateral line	2/6**	2/6	2/6	2/6	$1\frac{1}{2}$/6***	
Predorsal scales	5	5	5		5	5
Gill rakers (first arch)			5+1+17	5+1+19	5+1+20(21)***	5+1+17
Vertebrae (urostylar vertebra as 1)	10+14	10+14	10+14	10+14	10+14	10+14
Predorsal bone	3	3	3	3	3	3
Standard length (mm)	33.2	27.2	39.9	37.7	38.1	37.0
Body depth	41.3	33.1	35.1	37.1	38.8	39.7
Head length	38.3	37.1	41.4	40.8	39.9	37.8
Snout length	8.4	9.6	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.9
Eye diameter	13.9	11.4	13.3	13.8	15.2	13.0
Interorbital width	9.0	9.2	9.5	8.5	10.2	8.6
Upper jaw length	18.4	16.2	18.5	18.3	22.0	16.5
Caudal peduncle depth (least)	15.4	15.1	15.3	16.4	16.0	15.7
Snout to origin of dorsal fin base	44.3	37.9	40.1	43.8	41.2	40.0
Snout to origin of anal fin base	62.0	59.6	64.4	61.3	60.1	63.8
Snout to pectoral insertion	38.6	34.2	36.8	38.2	38.6	36.8
Snout to pelvic insertion	42.5	39.0	38.6	40.6	41.2	40.3
First dorsal spine (longest)	damaged	19.5	21.1	19.1	17.3	17.3
Length of dorsal fin base	37.3	32.7	37.3	35.8	36.5	36.2
Length of anal fin base	18.7	18.8	16.8	17.2	19.2	17.3
Length of anal spine (longest)	12.9	12.1	11.5	13.3	12.3	10.5
A black spot on the caudal base****	present	present	present	present	present	present
A black spot on the opercle****	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Dark short bar across the eye****	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Long spine in the first dorsal	not filamentous	not filamentous	not filamentous	not filamentous	not filamentous	not filamentous

* Number of specimen; ** After Jordan and Seale (1905); *** After Smith (1961); **** Color in alcohol.

are not due to sexual dimorphism.

As shown in Table 1, *A. fragilis* Smith described from Mozambique closely resembles to *A. gilberti* in many characters. According to Smith (1961), *A. fragilis* differs from *A. gilberti* in having a dark short bar extending from the snout tip across the eye and in lacking any sign of a distinct black spot on the opercle. Based on these differences and the large geographic gap between their original localities, *A. fragilis* was held as distinct by Smith (1961). However, my examination of type specimens of both species show no separation between the two species in both meristic counts and proportional measurements (Table 1). Moreover, the dark bar on the snout described by Smith (1961) is actually absent in two paratypes of *A. fragilis*. I therefore regard *A. fragilis* as a synonym of *A. gilberti*.

Acknowledgments

I am deeply indebted to Mrs. Toshiko Aoyagi and Dr. Tokiharu Abe of the Tokai Regional Fisheries Research Laboratory, and Dr. John R. Paxton of the Australian Museum, Sydney, Mr. Rolly McKay of the Queensland Museum, Dr. Hitoshi Ida of School of Fishery Sciences, Kitasato University, Dr. Yata Haneda of the Yokosuka City Museum, Dr. Yoshiaki Tominaga of the Department of Zoology, University Museum, University of Tokyo, and Mr. Akihisa Iwata and Mr. Akihiko Yatsu of the Tokyo University of Fisheries for the loan and the observation of comparative material, and for providing valuable data. I wish to thank Dr. Stanley H. Weitzman of the Division of Fishes, Smithsonian Institution, and Mrs. Margaret M. Smith of J. L. B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology, Rhodes University, for the loan of the type specimens. I am also grateful to Dr. Richard C. Goris of Tokyo Medical and Dental University for helpful suggestions and critical reading of the manuscript. I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Takashi Ito of the Yokosuka Health Center, and Mr. Akihiro Osato of the Sagami Shell Club for assistance in obtaining material.

This research was supported in part by the Ito Foundation and Hidaka Foundation for the Advancement of Ichthyology, which enabled me to study at museums in Australia.

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(Yokosuka City Museum, Yokosuka 238, Japan)

石垣島より得られた日本初記録のテンジクダイ科魚類3種

林　公義

沖縄県石垣島川平湾とその周辺水域において，フィリピン周辺までの分布が報告されていた *Apogon compressus*（ヒラテンジクダイ），*Apogon sangiensis*（サンギルイシモチ），と太平洋ギルバート諸島からだけ報告されていた *Apogon gilberti*（ウスモモテンジクダイ，新称）を採集した。これら3種のテンジクダイ科魚類は日本からの初記録である．

Apogon gilberti の学名を採用するにあたり，近似種の *Apogon fragilis*, *Apogon leptacanthus* などと外部形態や測定値の比較を行い，*A. fragilis* は *A. gilberti* のジュニアーシノニムであると認めた．

(238　横須賀市深田台　横須賀市博物館)