

**Validity of the Agonid Fish, *Podothecus hamlini*,
and the First Confirmed Record
from Japanese Waters**

Tsutomu Kanayama

Sogo Kagaku Inc., Tanimachi Excel Bldg., 1-1-7,
Noninbashi, Chuou-ku, Osaka 540, Japan

The agonid fish, *Podothecus hamlini*, was described by Jordan and Gilbert (1898), from two type specimens from Shana Bay, Iturup Island, and one doubtful specimen from Robben Island, off Sakhalin. *P. hamlini* was accepted by Okada (1938) and Okada and Matsubara (1938), but with reservation only by Jordan and Starks (1904) and Jordan et al. (1913). Schmidt (1904) considered *P. hamlini* to be a junior synonym of *P. gilberti* (Collett), and was followed by many workers (Soldatov and Lindberg, 1930; Schmidt, 1936, 1950; Matsubara, 1955; Ueno, 1967; Lindberg and Krasnyukova, 1987), none of whom made a detailed comparison of the nominal species.

Two examples of *Podothecus* were found among fishes collected by beam trawl off the Okhotsk coast of Hokkaido. They agree well with the types of *P. hamlini*, and differ from all other species in the genus. In this report, *P. hamlini* is redescribed from the types and the two Okhotsk specimens, and comments on the distribution of the species are made.

Counts and measurements follow Gruchy (1969) and Kanayama (1984). Of two syntypes, one (USNM 48251, see explanation of abbreviations) was checked by Dr. Susan L. Jewett, and the other (CAS-SU 5662) was examined by the author. Plate terminology follows Gruchy (1969). Abbreviations are as follows: CAS-SU—Natural History Museum, Stanford University, now housed at California Academy of Sciences; HUMZ—Laboratory of Marine Zoology, Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University; SU—Stanford University; USNM—United States National Museum.

Podothecus hamlini Jordan et Gilbert
(Japanese name: Chishima-tokubire)
(Fig. 1)

Podothecus hamlini Jordan et Gilbert in Jordan and Evermann, 1898, pp. 2054 and 2056–2058 (original description; type locality, Shana Bay, Iturup I.).

Material. CAS-SU 5662 (paralectotype, 97 mm SL),

Albatross St. 3653, 45°14'N, 147°52'30'E, Shana Bay, Iturup I., 6 September 1895; HUMZ 86872–86873 (2, 90–109 mm SL), off mouth of Oomu River, Okhotsk coast of Hokkaido, 55 m, 3 May 1979; USNM 48251 (lectotype, 153 mm SL), data as for CAS-SU 5662.

Diagnosis. A species of *Podothecus* with two patches of barbels on ventral surface of snout. Each ventral patch with 6–11 barbels. Uppermost preopercular spine expanded laterally. Eye ball with tubercles. Dorsolateral plates 24–25. Ventrolateral plates 23. Caudal peduncle spinous.

Description. Dorsal fin rays VIII–IX–8 in non-type specimens (IX–XI–8 in types); anal fin rays 10 (9–10); pectoral fin rays 16 (15); pelvic fin rays I, 2 (I, 2); caudal fin rays 6+5 (6+5); branchiostegal rays 6 (6); vertebrae 40–41 (40–42); lateral line plates 39–40 (39); predorsal plates 4 (4); mid-dorsal plates 13 (14); dorsolateral plates 24–25 (23); supralateral plates 32 (32); infralateral plates 37 (37); ventrolateral plates 23 (21–24); mid-ventral plates 14–15 (16).

Head length 3.2–3.4 (3.4 in CAS-SU 5662, not measured in USNM 48251) in SL; predorsal length 2.7–2.8 (2.7); pectoral fin length 5.5–5.8 (5.5); pelvic fin length 9.5–10.2; caudal fin length 7.8–8.3. Snout length 2.1 (2.0) in HL; orbit diameter 4.5–4.7 (4.5); interorbital width 4.8–4.9 (5.3); dorsal fin height 2.9–3.0 (3.2); anal fin height 3.6–4.0. Body width 0.9 (0.9) in depth. Caudal peduncle width 0.8–0.9 (0.9) in depth. Pelvic fin base to vent 9.5–11.9 (10.9) in pelvic fin base to anal fin.

Color in alcohol. Body brown, darker above, paler below. Many darker dashes on back. Nuchal region with two narrow, cross bands. A dark streak from eye to tip of snout. Dorsal fins pale with dark brown spots. A large dark spot on the anterodorsal corner of first dorsal fin. Uppermost rays of pectoral fin dusky, with a dark spot at base; lower rays pale. Pelvic and anal fins pale. Caudal fin dark, with pale spots. Mouth and gill cavities dark. Peritoneum pale.

Remarks. Although considered to be a junior synonym of *P. gilberti* since Schmidt (1904), *P. hamlini* differs from the former by having two patches of barbels on the ventral surface of the snout (three patches in *P. gilberti*), the uppermost preopercular spine well expanded laterally (slightly expanded), and a large spot on the anterodorsal corner of the first dorsal fin (no large spot). *P. hamlini* differs from all other species of *Podothecus*, viz *P. acipenserinus*, *P. veterinus*, *P. sachi*, and *P. thompsoni*,

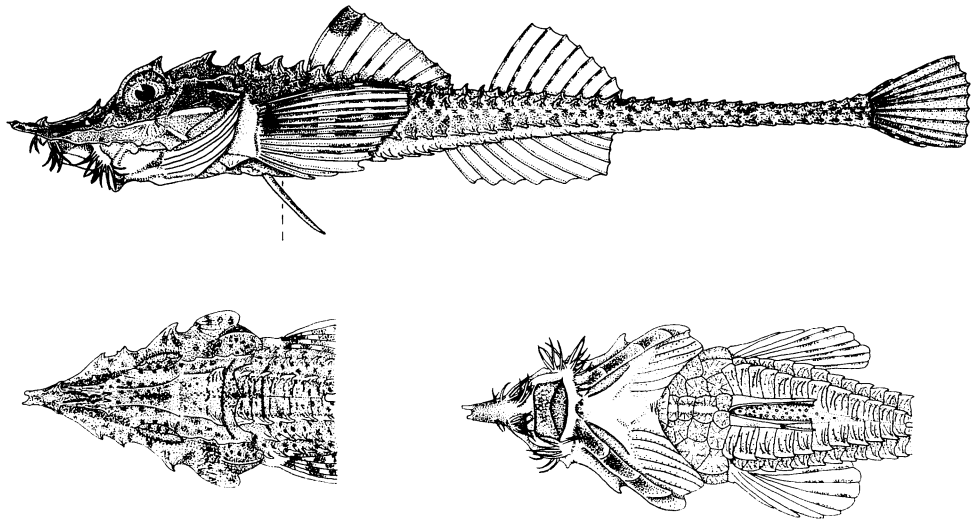


Fig. 1. *Podotheucus hamlini* from the Okhotsk coast of Hokkaido, HUMZ 86872, 109 mm SL. A dashed line indicates the position of vent.

by having two patches of barbels on the ventral surface of the snout, a spinous caudal peduncle, tubercles on the eye ball, and no serrations on the margin of the snout tip. Thus, *P. hamlini* is a well-differentiated, valid species.

Concerning the types of *P. hamlini*, Jordan and Gilbert (1898) originally designated two specimens (SU 5662) from Shana Bay as types. Böhlke (1953) indicated for the holotype of *P. hamlini* the catalogue number SU 5662 which included two specimens. At present, these specimens of SU 5662 are housed separately at USNM (USNM 48251, labeled as holotype) and CAS (CAS-SU 5662, paratype). Following the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1985: Art. 74a), the former is regarded as the lectotype, and the latter as the paratype.

P. hamlini was first recorded from Shana Bay, Iturup Island, and Robben Island, off Sakhalin. The record from Robben Island was based on the young specimen which was briefly mentioned, with uncertain identification, by Jordan and Gilbert (1898). This specimen seems to belong to *P. gilberti* in having 6 dorsal fin rays and 8 anal fin rays. Thus, the record from Robben Island is doubtful. In an ambiguous report, Jordan and Starks (1904) recorded *P. hamlini* from Kayabe, based upon a specimen in the Hakodate Museum. This specimen now appears to be lost (Prof. Kunio Amaoka, pers. comm., 1990), and its identity is therefore equivocal. The two

specimens taken off the Okhotsk coast of Hokkaido show strong agreement with the types of *P. hamlini*, and thus represent the first confirmed record from Japanese waters.

Acknowledgments

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チシマトクビレの有効性と日本からの初記録

金山 勉

チシマトクビレ *Podothecus hamlini* Jordan et Gilbert は Schmidt (1904) 以来コオリトクビレ *P. gilberti* (Collett) のシノニムとされてきた。本種の模式標本と北海道雄武沖から得た2個体の標本を本属の他種と比較したところ、吻下面に房状の髭が1対あること、吻前縁が円滑であること、前鰓蓋骨最上棘が側方への張り出しを持つこと、眼上に疣状突起があること、尾柄が棘に富むこと、第1背鰭前上端に1黒斑があることなどから容易に区別される。したがって、本種はコオリトクビレおよび本属他種とは別の独立した種であると判断した。なお、和名チシマトクビレは Okada (1938) によりはじめて提唱されたが、それ以後この和名が用いられたことはなかった。

本種はエトロフ島から知られていたが、北海道のオホーツク海側にも分布することが明らかとなった。

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編集後記・Editorial notes

38巻では、下記の先生方に掲載論文のご校閲をいただきました。ここに厚く御礼申し上げます。

E. M. Anderson, G. Arratia, C. L. Carter, P. J. Castle, D. M. Cohen, T. J. Donaldson, W. N. Eschmeyer, G. J. FitzGerald, 福田芳生, 福原 修, 後藤 晃, G. D. Grossman, A. S. Harold, 波戸岡清峰, 本間義治, 堀口正治, 細谷和海, 石山己喜夫, 板沢靖男, 岩井 保, 岩田明久, D. G. Johnson, 片野 修, M. H. A. Keenleyside, 岸本浩和, 小早川みどり, 河野 博, M. Kottelat, 桑村哲

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訂 正・Errata

魚類学雑誌 38 巻 1 号と 4 号に下記の訂正があります。

Japanese Journal of Ichthyology, 38 (1), Kanayama: page 78, Literature cited, read "J. Fish. Res. Bd. Can., 27: 1109-1114" for "J. Fish. Res. Bd. Can., 26: 1467-1472."

本会名誉会員黒沼勝造博士は平成 4 年 5 月 10 日逝去されました。
謹んで哀悼の意を表します。

日本魚類学会

We regret to announce that Dr. Katsuzo Kuronuma, honorary member of the Society, passed away on May 10, 1992.

The Ichthyological Society of Japan