

Record of the Beryciform Fish, *Anoplogaster cornuta*, from the Western North Pacific

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An adult specimen of the mesopelagic species *Anoplogaster cornuta* (Valenciennes, 1833), belonging to the monotypic family Anoplogasteridae in the order Beryciformes, was caught by the T/V Hokusei-maru of Hokkaido University. Although many juveniles or young of this fish have been recorded near Japan (see below), adult specimens have not been recorded in the northwestern North Pacific.

The fish was captured from a depth of 850 meters off Cape Erimo ($42^{\circ}38.4'N$, $144^{\circ}19.5'E$), Hokkaido, by trawl on April 6, 1977, and is deposited at the Laboratory of Marine Zoology, Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University (HUMZ 64191).

Counts and measurements (in mm) of the specimen with proportional dimensions in parentheses are as follows. The total length is about 113, standard length (SL) 96.7, head length (HL) 36.7 (2.63 in SL), body depth 47.8 (2.02 in SL), body width 15.2 (2.41 in HL), snout 11.4 (1.44 of orbit), upper jaw

32.7 (1.12 in HL), lower jaw 32.2 (1.14 in HL), eye diameter 7.9 (4.64 in HL), interorbital 11.9 (1.50 of orbit), caudal peduncle 8.4 (1.06 of orbit). Dorsal rays 17 (anterior two not branched), pectoral rays 15 (left) and 14 (right), pelvic with 1 spine and 6 rays, anal rays 7 (anteriormost not branched), caudal 6 spinous procurent rays +1 segmented principal ray +9 upper +9 lower branched principal rays +1 segmented principal ray +6 spinous procurent rays, branchiostegals 8, vertebrae $12+16=28$, gill rakers $8+1+10=19$, fang teeth 7 sets.

The characters mentioned above agree with those of *Anoplogaster cornuta* in previous literature (Valenciennes, 1833 and others); they especially fall into the range of variation of characters described by Woods and Sonoda (1973). In the present specimen, however, the caudal fin ray is peculiar in having 9 upper and 9 lower branched principal rays. Two other specimens (HUMZ 40410) and one deposited at the Department of Zoology, University Museum, University of Tokyo. (ZUMT 54054) examined for comparison, however, have 9+8 branched principal caudal rays as described by Woods and Sonoda (1973). The larger number of the caudal fin-ray counts may be an individual variation.

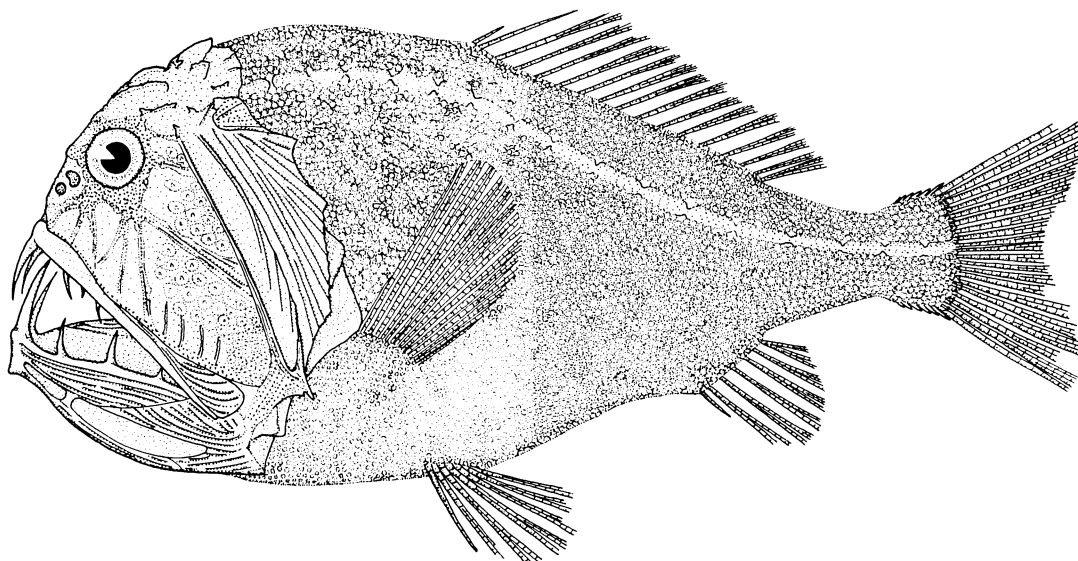


Fig. 1. *Anoplogaster cornuta*, HUMZ 64191, about 113 mm in total length, from off Cape Erimo, Hokkaido.

Anoplogaster cornuta exhibits considerable metamorphosis in growth. In the juvenile and young stage, the *Anoplogaster*-form, it has the characteristic long cephalic and preopercular spines and a proportionally long head (Lütken, 1877; Parr, 1933; Maul, 1954). These spines gradually diminish in proportional length with growth and finally disappear in the adult stage, the *Caulolepis*-form (Woods and Sonoda, 1973). The present specimen corresponds to the *Caulolepis*-form proposed by Grinols (1966) on the basis of the absence of cephalic and preopercular spines.

This species is world wide in distribution (Grey, 1955). In the Pacific, it has been recorded from various waters: in the north-eastern Pacific (Grinols, 1966), off Oregon (Pearcy, 1964), off California (Gilbert, 1899; Berry and Perkins, 1966), off Panama (Garman, 1899), off Ecuador and Peru (Bussing, 1965), off Hawaii (Gilbert, 1905), off Sumatra (Woods and Sonoda, 1973), and in the western tropical Pacific (Parin et al., 1977). Near the waters of Japan, many juveniles and young have been found in the stomachs of tunas and marlins caught near the Bonin Islands (Yabuta, 1953), and several specimens have been recorded from off the Bonin Islands and Rasa Island (Parin et al., 1977). The present specimen is the first adult record from the northwestern North Pacific.

The author proposes the new Japanese name, "Oni-kinme" (devil berycoid), for this species.

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北太平洋北西部で採集されたキンメダイ目魚類オニキンメ(新称)

清水 長

北海道襟裳岬沖水深 850 m から北海道大学水産学

部練習船北星丸により、オニキンメ科(新称) *Anoplogasteridae* のオニキンメ(新称) *Anoplogaster cornuta* の成魚 1 個体が採集された。この科はオニキンメ 1 種のみからなる。

本種は世界中に広く分布する中深海性の魚である。日本近海では小笠原諸島沖からの報告があり、同海域のマグロ・カジキ類の胃内容物から幼魚が記録されている。今回の標本は北太平洋北西部からの成魚の初記録である。

採集された標本の諸特徴は、尾鰭の分枝鰭条数(9+9)が1本多いことを除けば、過去の記載とよく一致する。

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