



Zootaxa 2710: 1–78 (2010)
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Copyright © 2010 · Magnolia Press

Monograph

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)

ZOOTAXA

ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

ZOOTAXA

2710

A revision of the genus *Pseudoscopelus* Lütken (Chiasmodontidae: Acanthomorphata) with descriptions of three new species

MARCELO R. S. MELO

Address: 331 Funchess Hall, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849 USA

Current Address: Museu de Zoologia / Universidade de São Paulo, Avenida Nazaré, 481 – Ipiranga, São Paulo, SP 04263-000 Brazil

E-mail: mrsmeo@hotmail.com



Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

Accepted by M. Craig: 21 Oct. 2010; published: 3 Dec. 2010

MARCELO R. S. MELO

**A revision of the genus *Pseudoscoelus* Lütken (Chiasmodontidae: Acanthomorpha)
with descriptions of three new species**

(*Zootaxa* 2710)

78 pp.; 30 cm.

3 Dec 2010

ISBN 978-1-86977-639-8 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-86977-640-4 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2010 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: zootaxa@mapress.com

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

© 2010 Magnolia Press

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted or disseminated, in any form, or by any means, without prior written permission from the publisher, to whom all requests to reproduce copyright material should be directed in writing.

This authorization does not extend to any other kind of copying, by any means, in any form, and for any purpose other than private research use.

ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

Table of contents

Abstract	3
Introduction	4
Materials and Methods	5
Results	9
<i>Pseudoscopelus</i> Lütken, 1892	9
Key to the species of <i>Pseudoscopelus</i>	11
<i>Pseudoscopelus scriptus</i> species group	13
<i>Pseudoscopelus scriptus</i> Lütken 1892	14
<i>Pseudoscopelus sagamianus</i> Tanaka 1908	21
<i>Pseudoscopelus cephalus</i> Fowler 1934	24
<i>Pseudoscopelus obtusifrons</i> (Fowler 1934)	26
<i>Pseudoscopelus pierbartus</i> Sptiz, Quéro & Vayne 2007	30
<i>Pseudoscopelus cordilluminatus</i> , new species	34
<i>Pseudoscopelus altipinnis</i> Parr species group	36
<i>Pseudoscopelus altipinnis</i> Parr 1933	36
<i>Pseudoscopelus paxtoni</i> , new species	42
<i>Pseudoscopelus scutatus</i> Krefft species group	44
<i>Pseudoscopelus scutatus</i> Krefft 1971	45
<i>Pseudoscopelus bothrorrhinos</i> Melo, Walker Jr. & Klepadlo 2007	47
<i>Pseudoscopelus aphos</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev species group	49
<i>Pseudoscopelus aphos</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev 2006	49
<i>Pseudoscopelus parini</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev 2006	51
<i>Pseudoscopelus astronesthidens</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev species group	55
<i>Pseudoscopelus astronesthidens</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev 2006	55
<i>Pseudoscopelus australis</i> Prokofiev & Kukuev 2006	58
<i>Pseudoscopelus odontoglossum</i> , new species	61
<i>Pseudoscopelus lavenbergi</i> Melo, Walker Jr. & Klepadlo species group	64
<i>Pseudoscopelus lavenbergi</i> Melo, Walker Jr. & Klepadlo 2007	65
Discussion	68
Material Examined	69
Acknowledgements	76
References	76

Abstract

Pseudoscopelus Lütken is a genus of meso- and bathypelagic fishes with a worldwide distribution. The genus is the most diversified within the family Chiasmodontidae, containing 16 valid species, three of which are described herein as new: *Pseudoscopelus scriptus* Lütken, from the western Central and North Atlantic; *P. sagamianus* Tanaka, from the Eastern Pacific and Indian Ocean; *P. altipinnis* Parr, widely distributed in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; *P. cephalus* Fowler, only known from the type locality in the Indo-Pacific; *P. obtusifrons* Fowler, from the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; *P. scutatus* Krefft, widely distributed in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; *P. aphos* Prokofiev and Kukuev, from the western North Atlantic; *P. parini* Prokofiev and Kukuev, from the western Central Pacific to Hawaiian islands; *P. astronesthidens* Prokofiev and Kukuev, from the North Atlantic; *P. australis* Prokofiev and Kukuev, widely distributed in the southern parts of the Atlantic, Indian, Pacific Oceans, and in the Southern Ocean; *P. pierbartus* Spitz, Quéro and Vayne, from the North Atlantic and western South Atlantic; *P. bothrorrhinos* Melo, Walker Jr. and Klepadlo, from the western Pacific and Indian Ocean; *P. lavenbergi* Melo, Walker Jr. and Klepadlo, from the western North, western Central and western South Atlantic, *P. paxtoni* new species, from the western South Pacific; *P. cordilluminatus* new species, from the Indian Ocean and eastern South Atlantic; and *P. odontoglossum* new species, from the Central Pacific. Herein, *Pseudoscopelus stellatus* is placed in synonymy of *P. scriptus*; *P. albeolus*, in synonymy of *P. australis*; and *P. vityazi*, in synonymy of *P. parini*. *Pseudoscopelus microps* is confirmed as a junior synonym of *P. altipinnis*. A key to the species of *Pseudoscopelus* is provided as well as updated diagnoses, redescription, areas and distribution maps, based on extensive examination of collection material and comparison with type specimens.

Key words: Taxonomy, systematics, mesopelagic, bathypelagic, deep-sea