



## On two *Jenynsia* taxa (Cyprinodontiformes: Anablepidae) from Argentina, originally placed in the poeciliid genus *Xiphophorus*

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### Abstract

The type material of *Xiphophorus heckelii* Weyenbergh, 1874 and *X. obscurus* Weyenbergh, 1877 has apparently been re-examined for the first time. *Xiphophorus heckelii* is confirmed as a junior synonym of *Jenynsia multidentata* (Jenyns, 1842). *Xiphophorus obscurus* is recognized as a senior synonym of *Jenynsia pygogramma* Boulenger, 1902, which is placed in synonymy. A lectotype and paralectotypes are designated for *Jenynsia obscura* (Weyenbergh, 1877).

**Key words:** anablepids, Córdoba, lectotype designation

### Resumen

El material tipo de *Xiphophorus heckelii* Weyenbergh, 1874 y *X. obscurus* Weyenbergh, 1877 ha sido re-examinado por primera vez aparentemente. *Xiphophorus heckelii* es confirmado como sinónimo junior de *Jenynsia multidentata* (Jenyns, 1842). *Xiphophorus obscurus* es reconocido como sinónimo senior de *Jenynsia pygogramma* Boulenger, 1902, la cual es transferida a sinonimia. Lectotipo y paralectotipos son designados para *Jenynsia obscura* (Weyenbergh, 1877).

### Introduction

The Neotropical genus *Jenynsia* Günther, 1866 (Cyprinodontiformes, Anablepidae) comprises 13 species distributed in various endorheic and Atlantic basins of southern South America. *Jenynsia multidentata* (Jenyns, 1842) is the species with the largest geographical distribution within this genus, occupying lowlands and higher altitudes about 1200 above sea level (Aguilera & Mirande 2005). Eigenmann (1910) considered the two species treated in the present paper together with *X. minor* Weyenbergh, 1877 and *Jenynsia multidentata* as junior synonyms of *J. lineata* (Jenyns, 1942) and was followed by various subsequent authors (e.g. Ringuelet *et al.* 1967). Perugia (1891) listed *Xiphophorus heckelii* Weyenbergh, 1874 as a questionable junior synonym of *Xiphophorus gracilis* Heckel, 1848 (sub ?*Gambusia gracilis*). Recently Lucinda (2003) included Weyenbergh's species as *incertae sedis* within the family Poeciliidae. With the exception of Perugia (1891), it is likely that none of the mentioned authors has examined any of the type material. We re-examined these specimens and provide below the results of our observations.

The examined specimens are deposited in the Museum of Natural History, London, United Kingdom (BMNH) and the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale 'Giacomo Doria', Genova, Italy (MSNG).