



A new species of *Hyphessobrycon* (Teleostei: Characiformes: Characidae) from the San Juan River drainage, Pacific versant of Colombia

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Abstract

We describe a new species, *Hyphessobrycon sebastiani*, from the San Juan River drainage of the Pacific versant of Colombia. This new species of *Hyphessobrycon* is distinguished from all congeners that share two humeral spots and no caudal blotch by having: five unbranched and 25 to 28 branched anal-fin rays; 12–13 branched pectoral-fin rays; 35–37 scales in the longitudinal series; eight scales between the lateral line and the dorsal-fin origin; 12–13 predorsal scales; 13–18 pored lateral-line scales and three pairs of large bony hooks on anal fin of mature males.

Key words: *Hyphessobrycon*, new taxon, Neotropical fish, South America

Resumen

Se describe *Hyphessobrycon sebastiani* de la cuenca del río San Juan, en el pacífico colombiano. La nueva especie de *Hyphessobrycon* se distingue de las otras especies descritas con dos manchas humerales y sin mancha caudal por presentar: cinco radios simples y 25 a 28 radios ramificados en la aleta anal; 12 a 13 radios ramificados en la aleta pectoral; 35 a 37 escamas en la línea longitudinal del cuerpo; ocho escamas entre la línea lateral y la aleta dorsal; 12 a 13 escamas predorsales; 13 a 18 escamas con poros en la línea lateral y tres pares de ganchos en la aleta anal en machos maduros.

Introduction

The genus *Hyphessobrycon* Durbin consists of small-sized species that do not surpass 70 mm SL. Traditionally this genus was defined by the following combination of features: incomplete lateral line, adipose fin present, few if any teeth on the maxilla, third infraorbital not in contact with the preopercle, two series of premaxillary teeth, the internal row with five or more teeth, and the caudal fin without scales. García-Alzate (2009) used osteological characters, to suggest possible monophyletic units within *Hyphessobrycon* and to support the monophyly of the genus with five synapomorphies.

Hyphessobrycon contains 120 species that are widely distributed from southern Mexico to the La Plata River drainage in Argentina (Laguna de Mar Chiquita in Buenos Aires), and reach their greatest diversity in rivers of cis-Andean South America (García-Alzate *et al.* 2008a). Fifteen *Hyphessobrycon* species have been reported from Colombia: *H. bentosi* Durbin, *H. columbianus* Zarske & Géry, *H. condotensis* Regan, *H. diancistrus* Weitzman, *H. ecuadorensis* Eigenmann, *H. erythrostigma* Fowler, *H. heterorhabdus* (Ulrey), *H. metae* Eigenmann & Henn, *H. ocaoensis* García-Alzate & Román-Valencia, *H. oritoensis* García-Alzate *et al.*, *H. panamensis* Durbin, *H. poecilioides* Eigenmann, *H. proteus* Eigenmann, *H. saizi* Géry and *H. sweglesi* Géry, one of which pertains to the group 'b' as defined by Géry (1977): *H. columbianus* Zarske & Géry, and occurs in the Pacific drainages of Colombia.