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Two new dwarfgobies from the Southwestern Pacific Ocean (Teleostei: Gobiidae: *Eviota*)

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Abstract

Two species of *Eviota* with red or orange bars crossing the body, a bifurcated 4th pelvic-fin ray with two long branches, and lacking many or all cephalic sensory-canal pores are described from Palau, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea. *Eviota jewettae* has a dorsal/anal fin-ray formula of 8/8, 98% of the specimens lack all cephalic sensory-canal pores, 2–4 lower pectoral-fin rays branched; non-filamentous dorsal-fin spines; short tubular anterior nares that are not black and are less than ½ pupil diameter in length, and five wide bars across the body. *Eviota pinocchioi* has a dorsal/anal fin-ray formula of 9/8, always lacks the POP and IT pores and the PITO and AITO pores are fused in about 50% of the specimens, unbranched pectoral-fin rays, males with filamentous dorsal-fin spines, tubular anterior nares black and very long, almost equal to the pupil diameter, and six narrow bars across body.

Key words: *Eviota jewettae, Eviota pinocchioi*

Introduction

While collecting gobiid fishes in Palau, Indonesia, and New Britain, Papua New Guinea the second author obtained two species of *Eviota* with distinctive red or orange bars crossing the body and lacking a number of the cephalic sensory-canal pores usually found in other species of *Eviota*. Both species have been illustrated in Dimara et al. (2010), one as *Eviota* Palau sp. 2 and the other as *Eviota* Raja Ampat sp. 2 (live) and *Eviota* Palau sp. 6 (preserved). These two species are described here. As is typical of all species of *Eviota*, the pelvic fins are separate and the 5th pelvic-fin ray, if present, is unbranched; there are ctenoid scales on the body; no scales on the head, nape or pectoral-fin base; the basal membrane of the pelvic fins is rudimentary or absent; and the teeth in the upper jaw are in two or more rows.

Material and methods

Counts and measurements, descriptions of fin morphology and the cephalic sensory-canal pore patterns follow Lachner and Karnell (1980). Measurements were made to the nearest 0.1 mm using an ocular micrometer and dial calipers, and are presented as percentage of Standard Length (SL). All specimen lengths are SL in mm. Cyanine Blue 5R (acid blue 113) stain was used to make pores more obvious (Akihito et al. 1993; Saruwatari et al. 1997; Nakabo 2002) and an airjet used to observe them. For measurements, values for the holotype are given first, followed by the range for all types and the mean in parentheses. Uchelbeluu Reef, off the S.E. corner of Koror Island, has also been called the Short Drop-Off or Augupelu Reef by various authors. Specimens have been deposited in the following museums: AMS—Australian Museum, Sydney; CAS—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; ROM—Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, and USNM—United States National Museum (Smithsonian), Washington D.C.

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