

***Oreichthys parvus* Smith, 1933 (Teleostei: Cyprinidae), an Addition to the Fish Record from the Peat Swamp, Southern Thailand**

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While conducting summer survey of freshwater fish fauna in Narathiwat and Yala Provinces in 12-25 July 2000. I had a good opportunity to observe the interesting fish diversity in the "black water" habitat type at Toh Dang Wildlife Sanctuary. Most of the observed fishes belong to the family Cyprinidae: subfamily Rasbora, *Rasbora einthoveni*, *Rasbora heteromorpha*, *Boraras maculata*, etc., among them I also noticed a school of a barb, *Oreichthys parvus*, living together at that point. Some had been caught for close observation in a glass box and their identity confirmed. As this particular species has never been recorded to inhabit the peat swamp before, I am of the opinion that, this information should be made known to others interested in the fish fauna of this country.

More details of the study site should be noteworthy described. The exact location is about 5 km north of Su-ngai Kolok, where the Chawanon road crosses Khlong Toh Dang stream that flowing out off the peat swamp, and this waterway also acts as a local water level regulator. The water is stained brownish and acidic. In the shallow water, about 1 m deep, dense mats of bladderwort cover the entire water surface; its banks thickly overgrown by wild *Crinum* bushes and other shore vegetation. All of the specimens were collected and now

deposited in the collection of the Thailand Natural History Museum (THNHM), Pathum Thani Province, Thailand.

Material examined.-THNHM F00071, 17ex.: 16.1-20.6 mm SL; Khlong Toh Dang stream about 5 km N of Su-ngai Kolok; Veera Vilasri, 18 July 2000.

Smith (1933) first described this fish on the basis of material from small mountain stream on Khao Sabap; Chanthaburi Province. Interestingly, Hora (1937) on comparing of the Indian specimens and Kottelat (1989) on the zoogeographical ground, both consider this species as a synonym of *Oreichthys cosuatis* (Hamilton); which the latter provides distribution of this specific species in southwest Kampuchea, southeast Thailand, Chao Phraya basin and in the Malay peninsula, in his discussion on the Indochinese inland fish fauna.

Dealing with the preferred natural habitat, according to the previous study reports of the peat swamp fish fauna in the Malay peninsula this species has not been found (Ng et al., 1994; Tarncharanukij et al., 1990). This fish was reported by Smith (1933) as a mountain stream dweller and by Kottelat (2001) as a clear water stream inhabitant. Both habitat types are quite different from that reported herein, which is distinctively brown-stained, and having low pH value of 5.35-5.40 (Tarncharanukij et al., 1990).

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FIGURE 1. *Oreichthys parvus*. Khlong Toh Dang stream, Su-ngai Kolok, 20.4 mm SL.

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