

A NEW GENUS OF LOACH FROM YUNNAN

By

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This new loach was collected by Mr. L. C. Chong from Yunnan. It is not only a new species, but also a new genus. I take pleasure in naming this new species for Prof. C. C. Yu of the Fan Memorial Institute.

Paralepidocephalus gen. nov.

Body elongate, rather compressed; eye small; an erectile bifid spine below the eye; mouth inferior; six barbels, four on snout and two on maxillaries; scales completely absent on head and body; origin of dorsal behind base of ventrals; anal short, behind dorsal; caudal truncate.

This new genus is closely allied to *Lepidocephalus* Bleeker, but differs from that in the absence of scales on head and body.

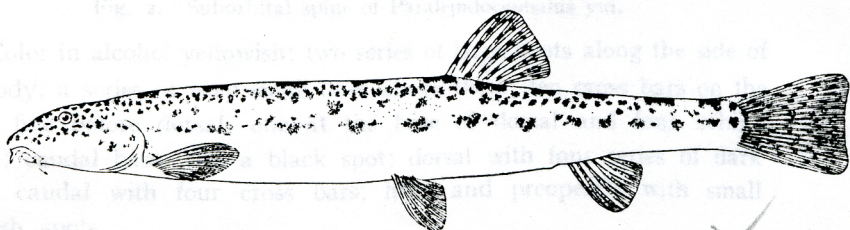


Fig. 1. *Paralepidocephalus yui* sp. nov. ✓

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***Paralepidocephalus yui* sp. nov.**

Description of a specimen from Shiping, Yunnan province. No. 11678, in Zoological Museum of Fan Memorial Institute of Biology.

Length to caudal base 70 mm. Depth in length 7.5; head 5.5; snout in head 2.5; interorbital 5; eye 7; pectoral 1.7; ventral 1.6; longest dorsal ray 1.4; longest anal ray 1.6; depth of caudal peduncle 2.5.

D. 1.6. A. 1.5. P. 1.8. V. 1.6.

Body elongate, rather compressed; caudal peduncle long and slender; head small and pointed; interorbital narrow; eye small, superolate-

ral, situated on the anterior half of the head; nostrils in front of eye; an erectile bifid spine below eye; barbels short, six in number, four on snout and two on maxillaries; snout pointed; no scales on head and body; lateral line absent; dorsal origin equidistant from caudal base and gill-opening, at some distance behind base of ventrals; ventral situated about equidistant from tip of snout and caudal base, not reaching the vent; anal origin about equidistant from ventral origin and caudal base; vent in front of anal; pectoral subfalciform, reaching about one-third the distance from its base to ventral origin; caudal truncate.



Fig. 2. Suborbital spine of *Paralepidocephalus yui*.

Color in alcohol yellowish; two series of large spots along the side of the body, a series of very small ones above them; ten cross bars on the back, five before dorsal, one at the base of dorsal and four behind dorsal; caudal base with a black spot; dorsal with four series of dark spots; caudal with four cross bars; head and preopercle with small blackish spots.

Measurements of some examples from the type-locality, are given as follows:

Length	Depth in length	Head in length	Dorsal rays	Anal rays
55mm.	7.9	5.4	1.6	1.5
54mm.	7.8	5.3	1.6	1.5
60mm.	6.6	5.2	1.6	1.5
63mm.	6.7	5.6	1.6	1.5
60mm.	6.9	5.6	1.6	1.5
59mm.	6.5	5.7	1.6	1.5