On the new catfish, *Pseudolaguvia virgulata*, from Mizoram, India

Lalramliana

Department of Zoology, Pachhunga University College, Mizoram University, Aizawl 796001, India

A new species of catfish was recently identified from some major rivers of Mizoram. Heok Hee Ng and Lalramliana named the new catfish *Pseudolaguvia virgulata*, after its distinctively striped colour pattern (*virgulata* = “striped” in Latin).

Besides its distinctive colour pattern, which consists of pale stripes running along the entire length of the body, a pale y-shaped marking on the head and brown stripes running through the caudal fin lobes, the new catfish also differs from congeners in other characters. These include: head width 21.2–24.4% standard length; pectoral-fin length 28.5–29.1% standard length; length of dorsal-fin base 17.2–19.9% standard length; dorsal-spine length 21.5–24.0% standard length; serrated anterior edge of dorsal spine; thoracic adhesive apparatus reaching beyond base of last pectoral-fin ray; body depth at anus 14.5–17.4% standard length; length of adipose-fin base 12.9–15.0% standard length; caudal peduncle length 18.2–20.2% standard length; caudal peduncle depth 7.8–9.7 % standard length; snout length 48.0–54.9% head length; interorbital distance 29.3–35.2% head length; 29 –30 vertebrae.

*Pseudolaguvia virgulata* was collected from clear, shallow, moderately flowing streams with a predominantly sandy bottom. It is known from the Barak River drainage (River Teirei, Tlawng Tuirial, Sihthiang, Langkaih of Mizoram) which forms the headwaters of the Surma-Meghna river system, one of the three rivers that form the Ganges Delta.

One of the authors Dr. Lalramliana is Assistant Professor of Zoology at Pachhunga University College.

For more information, see the paper: Ng, HH & Lalramliana (2010) *Pseudolaguvia virgulata*, a new sisorid catfish (Teleostei: Sisoridae) from Mizoram, northeastern India. *Zootaxa*, 2518, 60–68.