



A new distinctively banded species of *Panaqolus* (Siluriformes: Loricariidae) from the western Amazon Basin in Peru

NATHAN K. LUJAN¹, SARAH STEELE¹ & MIQUEL VELASQUEZ²

¹Department of Natural History, Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, ON, M5S 2C6, Canada.

E-mail: nklujan@gmail.com; sarah.steele@mail.utoronto.ca

²Departamento de Ictiología, Museo de Historia Natural, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Apartado, 14-0434, Lima 14, Peru. E-mail: mianvq@gmail.com

Abstract

Panaqolus albivermis is described as a new species based on four specimens from the San Alejandro River, a tributary of the upper Ucayali River in central Peru. *Panaqolus albivermis* is diagnosed from all other *Panaqolus* except *P. maccus* by having head, body, and fins with widely separated small white to yellow spots, vermiculations, and/or thin oblique bands on a black base (vs. exclusively small white to yellow spots on a black base in *P. albomaculatus*, generally broad oblique bands of alternating light to dark brown in *P. changae*, *P. gnomus*, *P. purusiensis*, and a uniformly dark gray to black body color in *P. dentex*, *P. koko*, and *P. nocturnus*); *P. albivermis* can be diagnosed from *P. maccus* by having a black base color (vs. brown), by having parallel dentary tooth cups (vs. acute intermandibular tooth cup angle), and by having a larger known adult body size (95.8 mm SL vs. 84.8).

Key words: Neotropics, Taxonomy, Ancistrini, Andean piedmont, Aguaytia, Ucayali

Resumen

Se describe la especie nueva *Panaqolus albivermis* basada en cuatro especímenes del río San Alejandro, tributario del río Alto Ucayali en el centro de Perú. *Panaqolus albivermis* se diferencia de los otros *Panaqolus* excepto *P. maccus* por presentar pequeños puntos dispersos blancos o amarillos en la cabeza, el cuerpo y las aletas, vermiculaciones y/o bandas delgadas oblicuas sobre un fondo negro (vs. pequeños puntos blancos o amarillos sobre fondo negro exclusivos en *P. albomaculatus*, generalmente bandas anchas oblicuas alternadas en claras y marrón oscuro en *P. changae*, *P. gnomus*, *P. purusiensis*, y color del cuerpo uniforme gris oscuro o negro en *P. dentex*, *P. koko*, y *P. nocturnus*); *P. albivermis* puede diferenciarse de *P. maccus* por presentar un fondo negro (vs. marrón), filas de dientes del dentario paralelos (vs. filas con ángulo agudo) y un tamaño de cuerpo mas grande en adultos (95.8 mm SL vs. 84.8).

Palabras clave: Neotrópico, Taxonomía, Ancistrini, piedemonte andino, Aguaytia, Ucayali

Introduction

Historically, suckermouth armored catfishes having evertible cheek odontodes, acutely angled mandibular and premaxillary tooth rows, relatively few spoon-shaped teeth, and diets consisting predominantly of wood have been either combined in the genus *Panaque*, or separated into the genera or subgenera *Panaque* and *Panaqolus* based on adult body size and up to seven different internal and external morphological characteristics. Eigenmann and Eigenmann (1889) erected *Panaque* and designated *Chaetostomus nigrolineatus* Peters 1877 as the type species, with *Chaetostomus cochliodon* Steindachner 1879 and *Chaetostomus dentex* Günther 1868 as congeners. Schaefer and Stewart (1993) hypothesized the existence of two clades within *Panaque*: a smaller bodied *P. dentex* clade (now composed of *P. albomaculatus*, *P. changae*, *P. dentex*, *P. gnomus*, *P. koko*, *P. maccus*, *P. nocturnus*, and *P. purusiensis*) and a larger bodied *P. nigrolineatus* clade (*P. armbrusteri*, *P. cochliodon*, *P. bathyphilus*, *P.*