

ON NEW FISH FROM MORETON BAY.

BY

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(Read on the 12th September, 1884.)

Owing to the local interest attaching to the fish of Moreton Bay, I am induced to draw the attention of this Society to some apparently undescribed ones lately captured by the "Queensland Fishing Association," and other friends.

SERRANUS GEOMETRICUS.

D. 11/16. A. 3/8. Lat. 85.

The height of the body is 4 nearly, the length of the head $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the total length; orbit nearly 5, snout $3\frac{4}{5}$, interorbit 7 in the length of the head. Preoperculum finely serrated, the serrations a little coarser near the angle. The maxillary extends beyond the middle of the eye. Caudal truncate above, rounded below. Fifth dorsal spine the longest, $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the length of the head. Red, with 4-5 faintly darker red cross bands, more conspicuous posteriorly; first dorsal with a conspicuous triangular black edge between each spine, the apex of the triangle scarlet.

Locality, Moreton Bay.

SERRANUS VIRIDIPINNIS.

D. 11/16. A. 3/8. Lat. 70.

The height of the body is 4 nearly, the length of the head $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the total length; orbit $4\frac{1}{2}$, snout $3\frac{3}{4}$, interorbit 6 in the length of the head; opercle with two points; caudal rounded; maxillary extending to the hinder edge of the orbit. Lower jaw the longer. Fifth dorsal spine the longest, $2\frac{3}{4}$ in the length of the head; preoperculum rather strong, serrated; especially at angle, emarginate above the angle. Red, each scale with a subocellated white spot. Fins green, more or

less stained with red. A broad red blotch on the base of the pectoral. Tips of dorsal webs bright yellow. Lower lip within violet blue.

Locality, Moreton Bay.

GENYOROGÉ AMABILIS.

D. 11/14. A. 3/8. Lat. 75.

The height of the body is $3\frac{1}{3}$, the length of the head $3\frac{2}{3}$ in the total length. Orbit 4 nearly, snout $2\frac{2}{3}$, interorbit $4\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the head. Preopercular notch distinct, but small; caudal strongly emarginate. The pectorals do not reach the anal. The upper maxillary reaches the fore edge of the orbit. Preopercle finely serrated above the notch. Red, fading to pinky white on the lower parts, but intenser on the head, where it forms a curved nuchal band and interorbital patch. Orbit yellow, that colour extending on the preorbital. A broad ill defined yellow band from the preoperculum to the caudal. First dorsal and pectoral pink. Second dorsal and anal light pink at base, crimson in the middle, and broadly white edged. Caudal crimson edged with yellow. Length, 14in.

Locality, Moreton Bay.

GENYOROGÉ REGIA.

D. 11/15. A. 3/10. Lat. 85.

The height of the body is $2\frac{4}{5}$, the length of the head $3\frac{2}{3}$, in the total length. Orbit $5\frac{1}{3}$, second dorsal spine $2\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the head. Habit elevated. Caudal strongly emarginated. Soft dorsal and anal peaked, the middle rays being the longest. Operculum, with a scarcely distinguishable point. Preoperculum finely serrated on hinder limb, more finely on lower, and with a small notch. Maxillary reaching anterior third of the eye: canines very small. Pectoral reaching beyond the origin of the anal. Basal third or more of soft dorsal and anal scaly. Second dorsal spine longest. Pink, each scale with a pearly base. A broad red stripe from the muzzle through the eye to the nape; a second broader, and increasing in breadth and intensity, from the first dorsal to the abdomen; a third fainter, from the end of the first dorsal to the caudal peduncle. Fore half of soft dorsal and of anal, tips of caudal lobes, webs of ventral, and axillary patch reddish black. Basal half of pectoral, and mesial portion of second dorsal and anal bright red. Apical half of pectoral, anal, and soft dorsal pink.

Locality, Moreton Bay, collected by Mr. O. Gardner.

LETHRINUS IMPERIALIS.

D. 10/9. A. 3/5. Lat. 50. Tr. 4/16.

The height of the body is rather less than $\frac{1}{3}$ (as 15 to 47) of the total length of the body; the length of the head still less (as 14 to 47). Orbit 5, snout $1\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the head. Operculum scaly. Cheek naked, but posteriorly impressed on the surface as by embedded scales. Head above naked to the nape. Form oval, percoid. Snout produced, rather concave above. Canines $\frac{4}{4}$; lateral teeth conical, not contiguous; no posterior canine. Caudal forked. First two dorsal spines short; third more than twice as long as the second, and the longest. Third anal spine much the longest. Light purplish red; most of the scales of the back being purplish at the base. Upper part of head stained with scarlet, which forms a pale curved band across the occiput, and an intense one bounding the orbit below, and running over the posterior nostril. Gape and within the mouth, a band across the base of the pectoral, and an axillary patch bright scarlet. First dorsal mostly scarlet, streaky greenish grey at the base. Second dorsal and anal greenish, passing into red towards the edge. Caudal broadly edged with red. Pectoral light red. Ventral scarlet at base, rays violet, and webs brownish purple.

Locality, Moreton Bay.

COSSYPHUS AURIFER.

D. 12/10. A. 3/12. Lat. 35. Tr. 6/13.

The height of the body is $3\frac{1}{2}$, the length of the head $3\frac{4}{5}$ in the total length. Orbit $5\frac{1}{2}$, snout 3, interorbit $3\frac{1}{2}$ in the length of the head. No posterior canine; cheek with subimbricate scales. Scaly sheath of the dorsal beginning beneath the 5th spine. Profile convex. Preoperculum entire. Caudal truncate with lobes much produced. The first dorsal rises over the middle of the base of the pectoral; ventral with the first ray the longest. Red, paler on the chin; scales edged with darker red. First eight dorsal spines black. A pale blotch beneath the 8-9 dorsal spine, and edged with black. Head covered with golden spots. Length 18in.

Locality, Moreton Bay.

SALARIAS GALEATUS.

D. 12/18. A. 22.

The height of the body is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in the total length; head the same. A high rounded crest on the head—not continuous with the dorsal fin. No tentacles. No canines. Dorsal not notched; spinous portion rather arched, soft, gradually rising to a considerable height; the eighth to the fifteenth rays filamentose; the whole not continued on to the caudal. Caudal forked; its lobes a little filamentose. Profile of snout nearly vertical. Dark brown, paler posteriorly, with small scattered and few black spots. A dark longitudinal line or two on the first dorsal.

Locality, St. Helena; living in the recesses of coral and very active. All these little fish turn upon their capturers, and those with canine teeth readily draw blood. Collected by Mr. D. Macpherson, a zealous correspondent.

CHÆROCPS VENUSTUS.

D. 13/17. A. 3/10. Lat. 29. Tr. 3/9.

No posterior canine. Serrature of preopercle rather indistinct. Head obtuse, as high as long. Preorbital high; half of the length of the head. Caudal truncate, with the lobes a little prolonged. Scales of cheeks in 9-10 rows—subimbricate. Colour (recent) pale blueish-green, pretty uniform, or with the side pale crimson, and the belly pale flesh colour, with a pale blue spot more or less distinct on each scale. A blue or purple line round the eye; before the eye, a yellow patch, with a blue or purple bar in its middle, and a blue or purple spot above and below it; chin and throat light blue, becoming purplish over the angle of the preoperculum. Upper rays and base of each ray of the pectoral, azure blue. Base of fin, yellow. Anal yellow, with a broad submarginal band of blue, broken up posteriorly by the ground colour: a bright blue band, or series of large spots, at the base. Dorsal yellow, with a similar band at the base: a broad band of blue spots, more or less confluent, in the middle; and a narrow blue edge. Caudal greenish yellow, with some of the middle, or all of the rays, azure blue. Muzzle with blue dots on a yellow ground. Upper lip blue; edge of maxillary yellow. Length to 22 inches.

Locality, Moreton Bay.



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