

DESCRIPTION OF ANGUILLA MANABEI, A NEW EEL FROM JAPAN.

By DAVID STARR JORDAN,
Of Stanford University, California.

During a recent visit to Japan the writer found, in the collection made by his former student, Mr. Yoshiro Manabe, for the Kwansei Gakuin (College) in Kobe, a species of eel apparently new to science. It may be described as follows:

ANGUILLA MANABEI Jordan, new species.

Plate 57.

Head 2 times in trunk and $6\frac{2}{3}$ in length; $1\frac{1}{2}$ in distance from mouth to dorsal; upper jaw 3 in head, extending much beyond eye; lower jaw slightly projecting; snout rather obtuse, flattish above, $5\frac{1}{5}$ in head; eye $2\frac{1}{2}$ in snout; distance from front of dorsal to vent $1\frac{5}{6}$ in head; pectoral rather small, $3\frac{5}{6}$ in head; distance from snout to dorsal $2\frac{5}{7}$ in length. Color in alcohol, olivaceous, paler below, dorsal olive, anal pale, posterior edge of the continuous vertical fin somewhat darker.

This species is known from one specimen, the type (Cat. No. 74118, U.S.N.M.), $16\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, taken by Mr. Yoshiro Manabe in a rapid near Koyadaira, a village at the foot of Mount Tsurugi, in Awa, Shikoku. The tributary running north about 22 miles, joins the River Yoshino at Anafuki 22 miles distant from Tokushima, a large city at the mouth of the river.

Anguilla manabei seems nearest to *Anguilla aneitensis* described by Günther¹ from a single example from Aneitum. The dorsal fin in *A. manabei* is inserted, however, somewhat farther back than in *A. aneitensis*.

From the common eel or "Unagi," *Anguilla japonica*, found everywhere in the rivers of Japan, *A. manabei* differs widely. The head is much larger, the jaws longer, the eye and the pectoral smaller.

¹ Cat. Fish. Brit. Mus., vol. 8, 1870, p. 34.

Still more strongly, it differs in the backward insertion of the dorsal, which is not more than half a head's length in front of the vent.

The species is named for Mr. Yoshiro Manabe, teacher of Zoology in the Kwansei College. The accompanying drawing was made by Mr. Manabe.

Comparison of measurements.

	<i>A. japonica.</i>	<i>A. manabei.</i>
Head in trunk.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2
Head in length.....	8	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Upper jaw in head.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3
Origin of dorsal to vent in head.....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
Pectoral in head.....	3 $\frac{3}{8}$	3 $\frac{3}{8}$
Snout to dorsal in length.....	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{5}{7}$



Jordan, David Starr. 1913. "Description of *Anguilla manabei*, a new eel from Japan." *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* 44, 359–360.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/53514>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/52482>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.