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New Record of the Moray *Gymnothorax pindae* from the Amami Islands, Japan

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Gymnothorax pindae was described by Smith (1962) from Mozambique, southern Africa. This species has been subsequently collected from various Indo-West Pacific locations, the northernmost being Taiwan (Randall and McCosker, 1975). During my examining the fish collection of the Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyoto University (FAKU), I found a specimen of *Gymnothorax pindae* collected from the Amami Islands in the summer of 1958. Since the species is new to Japan, I here describe the specimen. This is the northernmost record of this species. Measurements follow those of Hatooka and Yoshino (1982).

Gymnothorax pindae Smith

(New Japanese name: Nokogiri-utsubo)
(Fig. 1)

Gymnothorax pindae Smith, 1962: 430, pl. 55D (type locality, Mozambique, Pinda); Randall and McCosker, 1975: 17–18 (Tahiti, Johnston Island, Guam, Taiwan, Heron Island, Chagos Archipelago, Maldives, Seychelles, and Mauritius); Randall et al., 1985: 33 (Johnston Island).

Gymnothorax moluccensis (not of Bleeker): Schultz, 1953: 109, 113–114, fig. 10b (Marshall Islands, Bikini Atoll); Gosline, 1955: 446 (Johnston Island); Randall, 1955: 16 (Gilbert Islands); Gosline and Brock, 1960: 113 (Hawaii).

Material examined. FAKU 51352, 358.5 mm TL, Tokunoshima Island, Amami Islands, July 15, 1958.

Description. In parentheses as percent of total length: preanus length 2.3 (43); head length 6.6 (15); body depth at anus 6.9 (14); all in TL. In parentheses as percent of head length: eye diameter 12 (8.4); interorbital width 5.6 (18); predorsal length 1.2 (81); all in HL. Dorsal height at anus 3.0 (33) in body depth. Abdominal vertebrae 53, caudal vertebrae 68, total vertebrae 121.

Body elongate and compressed. Dorsal fin moderately high and its origin (over the 7th vertebra) slightly before gill opening. Anal fin low and its origin (under the 45th vertebra) just behind anus. Snout blunt. Gill opening nearly horizontal, its center slightly below mid-body, its length somewhat less than eye diameter. Anus in front of midbody.

Anterior nostril within a slender tube on each side of tip of snout, extending about to edge of upper lip when depressed. Posterior nostril over front edge of eye, with a slightly raised rim.

Head pores distinct (Fig. 1B). Supraorbital canal with three pores, one of which is situated antero-ventrally to the anterior nostril. Infraorbital canal with four pores. Mandibular canal with six pores. Two pores situated antero-dorsally to the gill opening.

Jaws subequal, mouth closing completely. Teeth in jaws uniserial (Fig. 1C). Peripheral series of premaxillary plate with 17 teeth; posterior sharp and with serrated edges, anterior blunt. Mesial part of premaxillary plate with two teeth; posterior one sharp and with serrated edges, anterior one blunt. Prevomerine teeth minute; anteriorly bifurcated, posteriorly uniserial. Maxillary teeth sharp, compressed, and its size decreasing posteriorly; 10 in left, 11 in right; because the edges of most teeth of this part are damaged, serration of edge of each tooth is questionable. In mandible, most teeth uniserial except at near symphysis with additional inner row; outer row with about 25 teeth, teeth at near symphysis blunt, some of posterior teeth with serrated edges; anterior inner row with two teeth, anterior blunt, posterior with serrated edges.

Color in formalin plain brown; no pale edges to fins.

Remarks. *Gymnothorax pindae* was described on the basis of a single specimen from Pinda, Mozambique, by Smith (1962). Schultz (1953) mistakenly identified specimens of this species from the Marshall Islands as *G. moluccensis*. Randall (1955) and Gosline and Brock (1960) also mistakenly identified specimens from the Gilbert Islands and Hawaii as *G. moluccensis*. Randall and McCosker (1975) corrected these misidentifications and recorded *G. pindae* from Tahiti, Johnston Island, Guam, Taiwan, Heron Island (Great Barrier Reef), Chagos Archipelago, Maldives, Seychelles, and Mauritius. Gosline (1955) mistakenly identified his specimens from Johnston Island as *G. moluccensis*, but this misidenti-

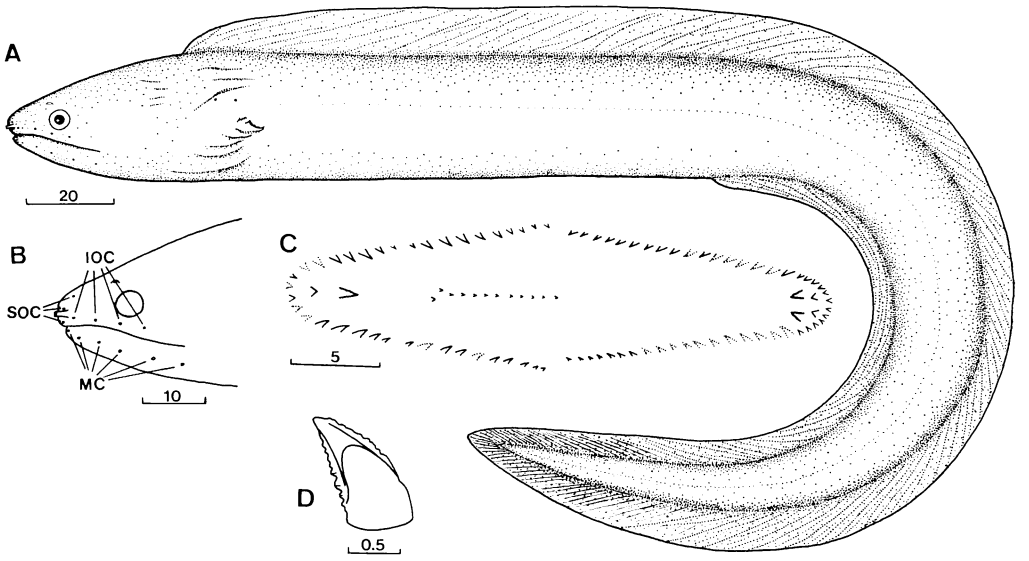

Fig. 1. *Gymnothorax pindae*, FAKU 51352, 358.5 mm TL. A, lateral view of body. B, lateral view of head. IOC, pores of infraorbital canal; MC, pores of mandibular canal; SOC, pores of supraorbital canal. C, dentition. Left, upper jaw; right, lower jaw; dotted lines, shed or broken teeth. D, tooth with serrated edges. Right, anterior.

fication was also corrected by Randall et al. (1985).

G. pindae is closely related to *G. moluccensis* (Bleeker, 1865) and *G. angusticauda* (Weber and de Beaufort, 1916) which were collected from Ambon and the Schouten Islands, respectively, in having a uniform brown coloration and serrated teeth. This species is distinguished from *G. angusticauda* in having a deeper body (14–19 in total length instead of 27 in *angusticauda*) and from *G. moluccensis* in its shorter preanus length (2.3–2.4 in total length instead of 1.79 in *moluccensis*).

Acknowledgments

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日本初記録のノコギリウツボ（新称）

波戸岡清峰

奄美諸島，徳之島よりウツボ属の一種ノコギリウツボ（新称）*Gymnothorax pindae* が 1 個体採集された．本種はこれまで南アフリカ，中部，西部太平洋域で知られていたが，本邦では初記録である．本種は体が一様な茶褐色であること，顎歯の縁辺に鋸歯状部を持つことにより本邦産ウツボ科魚類の他種と容易に区別できる．

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