

Neotropical Ichthyology

TAXONOMIC CONTRIBUTION STYLE SHEET

March 2015

This summary is intended to provide specific information for taxonomic manuscripts only.

Generic accounts

Order of presentation [brackets mean facultative items]:

Name Author, Year (or “new genus” - do not abbreviate)

[Synonymy.]

Type species.

Diagnosis.

Description.

Etymology. For new genus only

[Remarks.]

[Key to species.]

Comments on above:

Type species: For newly proposed genera, the original Name of the proposed type species, followed by Author and Year of publication (or new species) is sufficient. For previously proposed generic names, the following additional information is required (in this order): Nature of type designation (*e. g.*, original designation, monotypy, absolute tautonymy, etc). If the type species was not designated in the original publication, the author, year and page of the designation should be cited (*e. g.*, Type by subsequent designation by Jordan, 1919: 45).

Diagnosis: Diagnoses should NOT be written in telegraphic style (for clarity purposes). Generic diagnoses preferably should list the unique synapomorphies of the genus, followed by homoplastic derived characters and/or other useful distinguishing characteristics.

Description: In telegraphic style (*i.e.*, no verbs or articles).

Etymology: For new names, state the gender, even though it may be obvious from the construction. Do not give an etymology for preexisting names. If it is necessary to discuss the etymology of an old name (for example, to justify an interpretation of its gender), put that in the Remarks section.

Key to species: Keys are strongly recommended to be provided when applicable. If a key for identification is provided and it was not mentioned in the title, add it as keywords.

Specific accounts

Order of presentation:

Name Author, Year (or “new species” - do not abbreviate)

[Synonymy.]

Holotype. For new species only - include full collection data (see details, below)

[Paratype(s).] For new species only - include full collection data (see details, below)

[Non-types.] For new species only - include reduced collection data (no coordinates, date and collectors) (Justification for separating non-types should be provided in Material and Methods)

Diagnosis. Pay attention to the comments below

Description.

Coloration.

Neotropical Ichthyology

[Size.]

[Sexual dimorphism.]

[Geographic distribution.]

[Ecological notes.]

Etymology. For new species only

[Conservation status.]

[Remarks.]

[Comparative material examined.] For accounts of previously named species

Comments on the above:

Types: Should be listed separately from other material examined only for new species. Should include full collection data, in the following order:

Museum acronym catalog number, # specimens (except for holotype), size range separated by hyphen, number and size range of measured specimens, if different - in parentheses, locality (country, state, municipality, locality, basin, coordinates), date of collection [in dd, Month (3 letters abbreviation only) and yyyy], and collector(s) (e.g., LIRP 5640, 25, 38.5-90.3 mm SL (12, 75.0-90.3 mm SL), Brazil, São Paulo, Município de Marapoama, rio Tietê basin, ribeirão Cubatão at road between Marapoama and Elisiário, 21°11'35"S 49°07'22"W, 10 Feb 2003, A. L. A. Melo). For paratypes, material should be grouped by country or basin, in alphanumeric order of catalog numbers inside each group proposed.

Diagnosis: diagnoses should NOT be written in telegraphic style (for clarity purposes). A species diagnosis is typically a paragraph constructed of full sentences that list the most important traits that allow the reader to unequivocally identify the species. Ideally, the diagnosis includes one or more features that are unique to the species, preferably autapomorphic characters. If unique features were not discovered, the next best option is a differential diagnosis, within which a series of direct comparisons are made among species and the alternative character states specified by contrasts are stated explicitly (using "vs." followed by the condition found in the species, or group of species, being compared, for each diagnostic feature). Diagnoses that consist only of a combination of characters (i.e., traits listed sequentially which, when considered together, distinguish the species from congeners) in many cases fail to make a convincing case that the species warrants recognition, mostly because too little information is offered in the way of direct comparisons with congeners. For that reason, this form of diagnosis should be avoided.

Description: In telegraphic style (i.e., no verbs or articles)

Coloration: In telegraphic style (i.e., no verbs or articles), may be divided in Color in alcohol and Color in life, if applicable.

Etymology: For new names, state the usage (adjective, noun, patronym, etc.), even though it may be obvious from the construction. Do not provide an etymology for preexisting names, unless the etymology is necessary to justify the spelling. In such cases, this information belongs in the Remarks and not as a separate heading.

Conservation status: Please consider providing the conservation status, at least for new species, based on the IUCN criteria and categories [e.g. **Conservation status.** According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categories and criteria (IUCN Standards and Petitions Subcommittee, 2014), *Genus species* can be classified as Category (category abbreviation)]. In such case, the reference to be provided is:

IUCN Standards and Petitions Subcommittee. 2014. Guidelines for using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. Version 11. Prepared by the Standards and Petitions Subcommittee. Downloadable from <http://www.iucnredlist.org/documents/RedListGuidelines.pdf>, or a more updated version.

Comparative material examined: Provide only taxa, museum acronym catalog number, # specimens, size range separated by hyphen and locality (country, state, and basin). In case of type material, indicate any types by: (Holo-Syn-, etc.) type of *Genus species* Author, date, just after the size range. For Lectotype or Neotype, also provide citation for source of designation (e.g., lectotype of *Genus species*, Author, date, designated by Author (year: pp) [or designated herein]). Specimen lots should be arranged by taxa, and then by country or basin, in alphanumeric order of catalog numbers inside each group proposed (e.g., *Auchenipterichthys coracoideus*: **Peru**: CAS 220574, 2, 104.0-107.0 mm SL, syntypes of *Trachycorystes coracoideus* Eigenmann & Allen, 1942, Loreto, río Amazonas).

Neotropical Ichthyology

Revisions and reviews

Species accounts should be in alphabetical order. In case of revisions with descriptions of new species, place the new species in alphabetic order before the other valid species to avoid the new name appear in the text (*e.g.* comparative diagnosis) before its formal description.

Other guidelines

For original descriptions, the words “**new species**” or “**new genus**” should appear after the name of the new species or genus, preceded by a comma. Also must to appear in the caption of the holotype’s figure, in case of new species.

Typically, the whole generic name should be spelled out in full at the first usage in the text and captions and in the beginning of the sentences. Thereafter, an abbreviation can be provided that there is no possibility of confusion with another generic name. In such cases, the abbreviation can include more than the first letter up to allow the differentiation between genera beginning with the same letter.

Bilaterally paired structures must be treated in the singular (*e.g.*, pelvic fin short, not pelvic fins short).

Compound adjectives that include a noun should be connected by a hyphen (*e.g.*, pectoral-fin spine, NOT pectoral fin spine).

Fin-ray formulae should be reported with unbranched rays in lower case Roman numerals, spines in upper case Roman, and branched rays in Arabic numerals. Transitions between different types of rays should be indicated by a comma (,) and not a plus sign (+), or hyphen (-) (*e.g.*, iii,7 or II,9. Not iii-7 or iii+7; no spaces should be inserted after the comma). We treat the catfish spinelet as a spine, so dorsal fin counts that include a spinelet should be reported as II,6 (or whatever the branched ray count is).

Latitude and Longitude: no spaces between numerals and symbols. For degree sign, use Control +@, space (in MS Word) and not superscript O; for seconds, do not use the single quote mark twice, use the double quote mark (Shift quote).

Percent: no space between numeral and % (*e.g.* 25%).

Further information

Contact Editor at neoichth@nupelia.uem.br