

Records of the Crested Hairtail, *Tentoriceps cristatus* from the Philippine Waters

Tetsushi SENTA

The crested hairtails were found to be sold both fresh and dry at local markets in Philippine villages facing the Sulu Sea. The fish were reportedly caught by basnig net, a kind of lift nets, and were ranged from 450 to 700 mm in total length. This is the first record of the fish from the Philippine waters.

The crested hairtail, *Tentoriceps cristatus* (Klunzinger), was first recorded from the Red Sea more than ninety years ago (Klunzinger, 1884). Recently, the occurrence of the species was reported in Taiwan waters (Yang, 1974), the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (Senta, 1975), and the Tasman Sea (personal communication from Dr. Izumi Nakamura, Kyoto University). Yang (op. cit.), Senta (op.

cit.) and Senta (1976) also consider that *Trichiurus muticus* (non Gray) reported from Japanese waters by Kamohara (1940) and by Iwai and Hotta (1950), and *Pseudoxymetopon sinensis* newly described by Chu and Wu (1962) from the East China Sea are all synonyms of *T. cristatus*.

Only two species of hairtails, *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus and *Lepturacanthus savala* (Cuvier), have been known from the Phi-

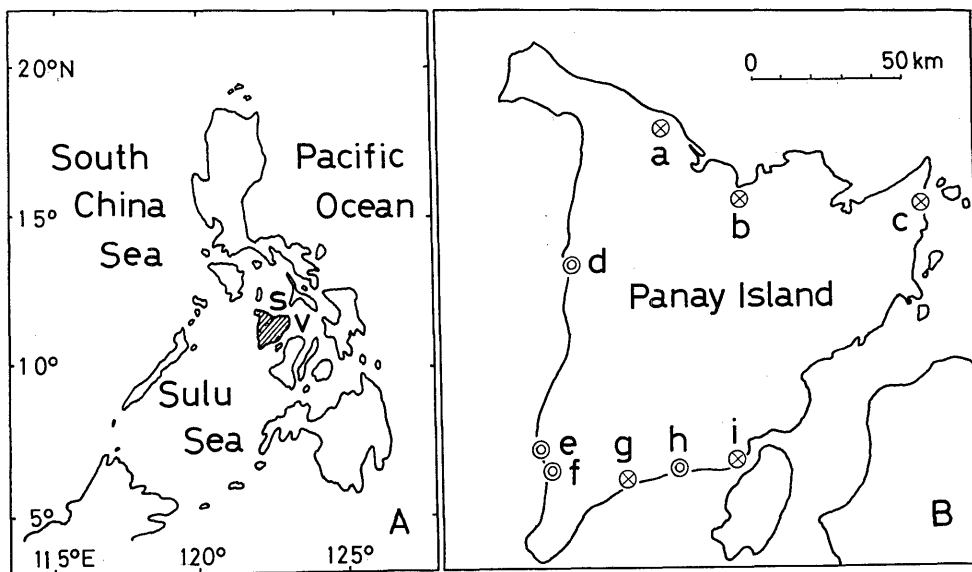


Fig. 1 A. A map showing the location of Panay Island (shaded). S and V stand for the Sibuyan and Visayan Seas, respectively. B. Villages of Panay Island in which the author visited markets, where *T. cristatus* was either sold (double circles) or not sold (circles with a cross). a, Kalibo; b, Sapian; c, Estancia; d, Tibiao; e, San Jose de Buenavista; f, Hamtik, g, Miyagao; h, Tigbauan; i, Iloilo.

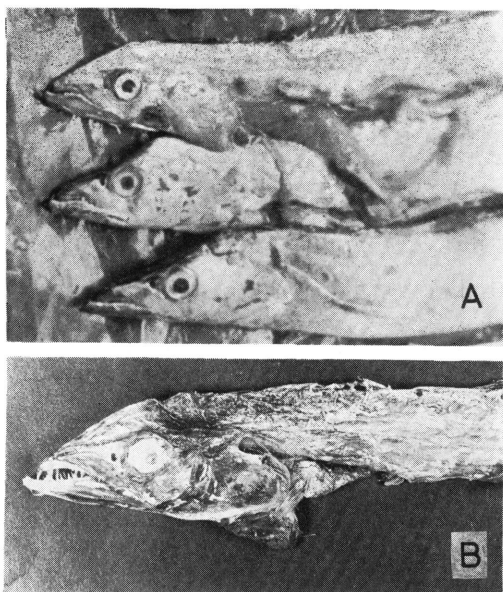


Fig. 2. *Tentoriceps cristatus* sold at markets in Panay Island. A. A photograph taken at the Tigbauan market to show a *T. cristatus* (top), rather very poor in freshness, sold together with *Trichiurus lepturus* (bottom two). B. A dried specimen of *T. cristatus*, 68 mm in head length, purchased at the Hamtik market. The abdomen is badly distorted.

lippine waters (Herre, 1953)*. During his three-month trip to Panay Island, Philippines, starting from the middle of March, 1976, the author found that the crested hairtail were commonly seen at local markets in the island as described below. This is the first record of the species from the Philippine waters.

Situated at the north east of Sulu Sea, Panay Island faces the Sibuyan Sea in the north and the Visayan Sea in the east (Fig. 1 A). In every village of the island, a fair is held weekly on a market day, and fresh as well as dried fish are sold together with daily necessities and provisions for residents. The author visited

markets in nine villages as illustrated in Fig. 1 B and Table 1 during his trip.

The author first saw dried hairtails were sold at the market in Hamtik on March 21, 1976. Most of them were *Trichiurus lepturus*, but *Tentoriceps cristatus* were mixed in them at a ratio of one *T. cristatus* to 30 to 40 *T. lepturus*. Being dried fish, the caudal parts of all the fish were broken. The head length of the purchased specimens of *T. cristatus* ranged from 50 to 68 mm. As the head of the species is 8.8-10.6 in total length (Senta, 1975), the total length of the specimens is calculated as to range from about 450 to 700 mm. On further three occasions shown in Table 1, the author saw the hairtails consisting of *T. lepturus* in a decided majority and *T. cristatus* in a minority were sold both fresh and dry (Fig. 2 A and B). The size of *T. cristatus* was almost the same as that at Hamtik market. All these happened

Table 1. Occurrence of *Tentoriceps cristatus* at the markets in Panay Island visited by the author.

Market	Date visited	<i>T. cristatus</i>
Kalibo	March 22, '76	Not sold
Sapian	March 22, '76	Not sold
Estancia	March 28, '76	Not sold
Tibiao	March 21, '76	Sold dry
San Jose de Buonavista	March 21, '76	Sold dry
Hamtik	March 21, '76	Sold dry
Miyagao	May 23, '76	Not sold
Tigbauan	April 11, '76	Sold fresh and dry
do.	May 30, '76	Not sold
Iloilo	March 25, '76	Not sold

* Although Herre listed four species, *T. haumera* (Forskål), *T. japonicus* (Schlegel), *T. lajor* Bleeker, and *T. savala* Cuvier, the former three species are conspecific with *T. lepturus* Linnaeus (Tucker, 1956).

in villages facing the northern Sulu Sea. On the other hand, *T. cristatus* was not found in the markets along the coasts of the Sibuyan and Visayan Seas.

According to the sellers, the hairtails were caught by basnig, a kind of lift nets, rectangular in shape and about 22×34 m in size. No basnig boats carry ice to keep their catch fresh, and their fishing grounds are within a reach of no more than few hours from their base ports. Therefore, it is sure that *T. cristatus* seen by the author were caught in the northern Sulu Sea. On the contrary, it is not sure if the species does not inhabit the Sibuyan and Visayan Seas, as the markets facing these seas had been visited by the author only once. It may be also possible that there is a certain fishing season for hairtails in any fishing ground, as suggested by the fact that they were not sold at the market of Tigbauan when the author visited it for the second time.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Dr. Toru Takita of Nagasaki University for his critical reading of the manuscript.

References

1. Chu, Y. T. and H. L. Wu. (1962). Description of a new genus and a new species of a trichiurid fish of China. *Acta Zool Sinica*, 14, 219-223.
2. Herre, A. W. (1953). Check list of Philippine fishes. *U. S. Dept. Interior, Fish and Wildl. Serv., Res. Rep.* (20), 1-977.
3. Iwai, T. and H. Hotta. (1950). The first record of *Trichiurus muticus* from the Pacific coast of Japan. *Bull. Tokushima Pref. Fish. Exp. Sta.*, (1948-1949), 23-26. (in Japanese)
4. Kamohara, T. (1940). Scombroidei (exclusive of Carangiformes), Section Percomorphi, Subclass Teleostomi. *Fauna Nipponica* 15-2 (5). Sanseido, Tokyo, viii+225 pp. (in Japanese)
5. Klunzinger, C. B. (1884). Die Fische des Rothen Meeres. E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlags-handlung (E. Koch), Stuttgart, ix+133 pp.
6. Senta, T. (1975). Redescription of trichiurid fish *Tentoriceps cristatus* and its occurrence in the South China Sea and the Straits of Malacca. *Jap. J. Ichth.* 21, 175-182.
7. Senta, T. (1976). Comments on the specific name of "*Trichiurus muticus*" reported from Japanese waters. *Jap. J. Ichth.* 23, 109-113 (in Japanese)
8. Tucker, D. W. (1956). Studies on the trichiurid fishes - 3, A preliminary revision of the family Trichiuridae. *Bull. Brit. Mus. (N. H.)*, *Zool. ser.* 4, 73-130.
9. Yang, H. C. (1974). Fishery biology of the ribbon fishes. III. Morphological notes on the ribbon fish of the genus *Tentoriceps* from Taiwan. *Uo*, (23), 5-19. (in Japanese)

カンムリダチ、フィリピンに産す

千田 哲 資

従来、フィリピン水域のタチウオ科魚類としてはタチウオ *Trichiurus lepturus* と *Lepturacanthus savala* の2種のみが知られていた。この度、フィリピンのほぼ中央に位置するパナイ島のスルー海沿いの4つの村の市場で、カンムリダチ *Tentoriceps cristatus* がタチウオと混って売られているのが発見された。それらは岸近くの漁場で敷網の一種により漁獲されたもので、鮮魚および干物として売られていた。カンムリダチは Klunzinger が1884年に紅海から初めて報告して以来、ほぼ90年間に亘ってどこからも知られていなかった魚種であるが、極く最近になって、アンダマン海、南支那海、東支那海、日本近海、タスマン海などに産することが報告されている。