

SPIXIANA	37	1	151–152	München, August 2014	ISSN 0341-8391
----------	----	---	---------	----------------------	----------------

## Two new records of fishes from the coast of Senegal

(Pisces)

Peter Wirtz

Wirtz, P. 2014. Two new records of fishes from the coast of Senegal (Pisces). *Spixiana* 37(1): 151–152.

*Didogobius* cf. *wirtzi* and *Liopropoma* cf. *emanueli* are recorded from the coast of Senegal. A previous mistaken record of *Cephalopholis adscensionis* is corrected.

Peter Wirtz, Centro de Ciências do Mar, Universidade do Algarve, 8000-117 Faro, Portugal; e-mail: peterwirtz2004@yahoo.com

### Introduction

Cadenat (1950) summarized the state of knowledge on the marine fishes of Senegal. Since then, numerous publications have noted the presence of additional species, described new species and/or revised genera and families of the area (e. g. Cadenat 1953, Cadenat 1960, Wirtz 1980, Séret & Opic 1981, Edwards 1986, Bath 1990, Rocha et al. 2012, Wirtz 2012). The coasts of Senegal, however, are still poorly explored and without doubt many cryptic species remain to be detected, in particular by SCUBA diving. During dives at the coast of Senegal, in the vicinity of Dakar, two fish species were observed that apparently have not yet been recorded from the African mainland coast.

### Material and methods

Observations were made while SCUBA diving at the western tip of the Cape Verde peninsula, in the area of NGor Island (14°45' N, 17°30' E) and Madeleine islets (14°39' N, 17°28' W), in May 2012. The animals were photographed in the field but no specimens were collected. The photos of *Liopropoma* and *Didogobius* from Senegal are available at [www.fishbase.org](http://www.fishbase.org) and have been deposited in the photo collection of the Bavarian State Collection of Zoology (Zoologische Staatssammlung) in Munich.

### Results

#### *Didogobius* cf. *wirtzi* Schliewen & Kovačić, 2008

The species *Didogobius wirtzi* Schliewen & Kovačić, 2008 was described from Santiago Island, Cape Verde Islands. There it lives in a depth range of at least 10 to 20 m, in burrows of the circum-tropical axiid shrimp *Axiopsis serratifrons*, on sandy-gravelly bottoms (Schliewen & Kovačić 2008). On 8 May 2012, a *Didogobius* was encountered on sandy bottom close to the Isles Madelaine in 15 m depth. The animal was at the entrance of a burrow that presumably was built by an *Axiopsis serratifrons*. A single photo could be taken before the animal disappeared into the burrow. Comparing this photo with photos from the Cape Verde Islands (Schliewen & Kovačić 2008), it appears almost certain that these animals belong to the same species. The next most similar species would be *Didogobius amicuscaridis* Schliewen & Kovačić, 2008 from Sao Tomé, but the animal photographed at the Isles Madelaine differ from it in having a light head and a white shoulder region (versus dark head and dark brown shoulder region in *D. amicuscaridis*).

#### *Liopropoma* cf. *emanueli* Wirtz & Schliewen, 2012

The species *Liopropoma emmanueli* Wirtz & Schliewen, 2012 was described from Santiago Island, Cape Verde Islands. There it lives in a depth range of at least 20 to 40 m in rocky habitat (Wirtz & Schliewen 2012).

On 4 May 2012, a *Liopropoma* was encountered in 26 m depth at the dive site Rabacissé near NGor Island. The animal disappeared quickly below a rock. On 6 May 2012, three more *Liopropoma* were encountered in 37 m depth at the dive site Masai near NGor Island. Several photos of one of them could be taken, before it disappeared below a big rock. Comparing photos of the animal from Senegal and from the Cape Verde Islands (Wirtz & Schliewen 2012), it appears almost certain that these animals belong to the same species.

### *Cephalopholis nigri* (Günther, 1859)

Wirtz (2012) recorded the presence of *Epinephelus adscensionis* (Osbeck, 1765) at the coast of Senegal. To check his provisional identification, he had sent underwater photos of the species to two specialists for the fish family Serranidae, who confirmed the species as being *Epinephelus adscensionis* (Osbeck, 1756). These photos, printed in Wirtz (2012), however, show very colourful individuals of another species, namely *Cephalopholis nigri* (Günther, 1859) (L. Rocha, pers. comm.). *Cephalopholis nigri* has already been recorded from Senegal by Cadenat (1950).

### Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Hilda and Philippe at Nautilus Plongée for the dives near NGor/Dakar, to Patrice de Voice for diving with me at Iles de Madeleine and other sites near Dakar, and to Luis Rocha for pointing out to me the misidentification of *Cephalopholis nigri*.

### References

- Bath, H. 1990. Taxonomie und Verbreitung von *Parablennius* Ribeiro, 1915 an der W-Küste Afrikas und den Kapverdischen Inseln mit Revalidation von *P. verruckeni* (Poll, 1959) und Beschreibung drei neuer Arten (Pisces: Blennioidei). Senckenbergiana Biologica 70: 15–69.
- Cadenat, J. 1950. Poissons de mer de Senegal. Initiations Africaines 3: 1–345.
- 1953. Notes d'ichthyologie ouest africaine VI. – Poissons des campagnes du "Gérard Treca". Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire 15: 1051–1102.
- 1960. Notes d'ichthyologie ouest-africaine. XXVIII. *Deania cremouxi*, sp. nov. de cotes de Senegal. Bulletin de l'Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire 22: 312–324.
- Edwards, A. 1986. A new damselfish, *Chromis lubbocki* (Teleostei: Pomacentridae) from the Cape Verde Archipelago, with notes on other Eastern Atlantic pomacentrids. Zoologische Mededelingen 60: 181–207.
- Rocha, L. A., Brito, A. & Robertson, D. R. 2012. *Sparisoma choati*, a new species of parrotfish (Labridae: Scarinae) from the tropical eastern Atlantic. Zootaxa 3152: 61–67.
- Schliewen, U. K. & Kovačić, M. 2008. *Didogobius amiciscaridis* and *D. wirtzi*, two new species of symbiotic gobiid fish from São Tomé and Cape Verde Islands (Perciformes, Gobiidae). Spixiana 31: 247–261.
- Séret, B. & Opic, P. 1981. Poissons de mer de l'ouest africain tropical. 453 pp., Paris (Orstom).
- Wirtz, P. 1980. A revision of the Eastern Atlantic Tripterygiidae (Pisces, Blennioidei) and notes on some Westafrican blenniid fish. Cybium 11: 83–101.
- 2012. Seven new records of fish from Ngor Island, Senegal. Arquipelago Life and Marine Sciences 29: 77–81.
- & Schliewen, U. K. 2012. A new species of *Liopropoma* Gill, 1862 from the Cape Verde Islands, Eastern Atlantic. Spixiana 35: 149–154.

# ZOBODAT - [www.zobodat.at](http://www.zobodat.at)

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Spixiana, Zeitschrift für Zoologie](#)

Jahr/Year: 2014

Band/Volume: [037](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Wirtz Peter

Artikel/Article: [Two new records of fishes from the coast of Senegal. 151-152](#)