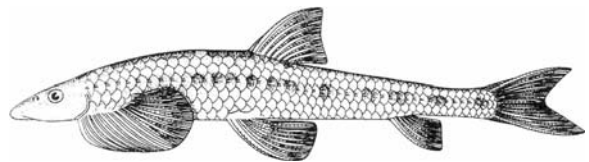


Threatened fishes of the world: *Psilorhynchus homaloptera* Hora & Mukerji, 1935 (Psilorhynchidae)

Youji Wang · Menghong Hu · Yunfei Wu

Received: 13 October 2008 / Accepted: 2 September 2009 / Published online: 16 September 2009
© Springer Science + Business Media B.V. 2009

Common name: Naked-snout carp, Homaloptera Minnow, Torrent Stone Carp. **Conservation status:** Endangered in China red data book of endangered animals and classified as vulnerable in India. **Identification:** Inferior and small mouth; fleshy lips with well developed rostral cuticle and papilla; margin of jaws sharp and horny; no barbels. Pectoral fin broad and large with 8–9 branched rays; lateral line scales 42–46; abdomen pale and with 7–10 dark spots along lateral line. Maximum standard length 7.8 cm (Vishwanath and Manojkamur 1995; Arunachalam and Muralidharan 2008). Figure by Yue and Chen (1998). **Distribution:** Lower reaches of the Brahmaputra River and its tributaries, including Tibet, India, Myanmar and Nepal (Wu 1987; Talwar and Jhingran 1991; Kapoor et al. 2002). **Abundance:** Rare in China, no official records and the exact population in other regions is unknown. **Habitat and ecology:** Lives in high-gradient streams



with rocky bottom of small tributaries of large rivers rising in Himalayas (Menon 1999). Omnivorous, feed mainly on algae and aquatic invertebrates (Yue and Chen 1998). **Reproduction:** Spawns during July and August. The egg is small and yellowish in color (Yue and Chen 1998). **Threats:** Its habitat conditions are pretty high and it must live in clear water. Vegetation around the habitat was destroyed, inducing the erosion and pouring of soil into the water, resulting in a disruption of the normal habitat of this species. **Conservation action:** No attention has been paid to this fish and hence no protective measures are conducted in China; however, in Manipur, India, the species has been considered vulnerable from 1997. **Conservation recommendation:** Biological investigation and habitat protection should be commenced as early as possible. The local government should list it as endangered to call for protection of this species. Research on artificial propagation and breeding should be conducted.

Y. Wang · M. Hu (✉)
Department of Biology and Chemistry,
City University of Hong Kong,
Tat Chee Avenue,
Kowloon, Hong Kong
e-mail: menghonhu2@student.cityu.edu.hk

Y. Wu
College of Fisheries, Ocean University of China,
Qingdao 266003, China

References

- Arunachalam M, Muralidharan M (2008) Description of a new species of the genus *Psilorhynchus* (Teleostei: Psilorhynchidae) from a Western Ghat stream in Southern India. *Raffles Bull Zool* 56(2):405–414
- Kapoor D, Dayal R, Ponniah AG (2002) Fish biodiversity of India. National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources Lucknow, India, p 186
- Menon AGK (1999) Check list - fresh water fishes of India. Zoological Survey of India. Occasional Paper No.175, 153 pp
- Talwar PK, Jhingran AG (1991) Inland fishes of India and adjacent countries. vol 1. A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam, p 441
- Vishwanath W, Manojkamur W (1995) Fishes of the cyprinoid genus *Psilorhynchus* McClelland from Manipur, India, with description of a new species. *Jap J Ichthyol* 42(3/4):249–253
- Wu YF (1987) A survey of the fish fauna of the Mount Namjagbarwa region in Xizang (Tibet), China. In: Kullander SO, Fernholm B (eds) Proceedings Fifth Congress European Ichthyologists, Stockholm, Sweden, pp 109–112
- Yue PQ, Chen YY (1998) China Red Data Book of endangered animals-Pisces. Science, Beijing, pp 194–195