

## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF BLENNY FROM JAPAN.

By HUGH M. SMITH.

Among the miscellaneous zoological collections made by the Fish Commission steamer *Albatross* on the coast of Japan in 1900 is a small blennioid fish belonging to a species not heretofore met with by ichthyologists and representing a new genus. The specimen was dredged at a depth of 67 fathoms, at the head of the Suruga Gulf, island of Nipon.

### **EULOPHIAS**, new genus of *Blenniidae*.

*Generic diagnosis:* Body very elongate; dorsal fin low, extending entire length of body and consisting of numerous rigid spines succeeded by a few simple rays; anal fin long and low, composed of one spine and numerous simple soft rays; caudal fin small but distinct, blended with the dorsal and anal; pectoral fins short and pointed; ventral fins absent; scales absent; no lateral line; gill membranes broadly united, free from the isthmus; nostrils tubular; ventral opening in advance of middle of body.

*Eulophias*, from *εὖ*, well; *λοφιάς*, one having a bristly back; in allusion to the very long spinous dorsal fin.



*Eulophias tanneri* H. M. Smith, new genus and species. (Enlarged about 24 times.)

This genus falls within the limits of the heterogeneous family *Blenniidae*, but must there be placed in a separate subfamily (*Eulophiasinae*) based on the very elongate form, the shape and size of the pectoral fins, and the few soft rays in the dorsal fin, combined with the presence of a pre-anal spine and the absence of a lateral line.

This genus seems to be nearly related to no other genus. From *Cebedichthys* (represented by a single species from the Pacific coast of the United States), which it appears most closely to resemble, it differs in being much more elongated, with lower fins, more numerous dorsal soft rays, more anterior origin of the dorsal and anal fins, absence of lateral line, absence of a prominent longitudinal cephalic crest, etc. From *Neozoarces*, the type of which is from Okhotsk Sea, this genus may be distinguished by its more slender form, the presence of a caudal fin, the absence of a tentacle above the nostril, etc.

***Eulophias tanneri*, new species.**

Body elongate, eel-like, cylindrical anteriorly, compressed posteriorly; tapering gently backward and terminating in a blunt point; greatest depth about 0.05 total body length. - Head rather long, conical, not larger than body, its length 0.12 body length, terminating posteriorly in a rounded flap. Eye large, directed slightly upward, rather less than 0.33 length of head; interorbital space contracted, not wider than pupil. Snout short, rounded, 0.5 length of eye. Mouth rather large, terminal slightly oblique, jaws equal. maxillary extending to vertical of anterior edge of pupil; nostrils tubular, midway from eye to end of snout; gill membranes broadly united, not attached to isthmus. Anal orifice 0.4 distance from snout to end of body. Dorsal fin low, continuous, beginning slightly in advance of posterior edge of opercle and extending to caudal fin, gradually increasing in height from before backward; composed of 121 stiff spines and 13 simple soft rays; anal fin long and low, beginning under thirty-sixth dorsal spine and extending to caudal; consists of 1 spine and about 75 simple rays, the length of the spine being about twice that of the adjoining rays; caudal fin blended with dorsal and anal, composed of 7 simple rays; pectoral fins short, pointed, and narrow, less than half length of head. Length of specimen, 45 mm.

Colors: Underparts whitish; a series of brownish elongated blotches, about 20 in number, extends along side from head to tail; above these a series of smaller blotches of same color, about twice as numerous; a dark-brown stripe, less than width of eye, extending behind eye; a blackish blotch on cheek beneath eye, extending anteriorly and posteriorly on the branchiostegal membrane; gill membrane with dark-brown area; fins unmarked.

Type (No. 49798, U. S. National Museum) collected by *Albatross*, in about 67 fathoms, at station 3715, in Suruga Gulf, Japan, May 11, 1900.

This interesting species is named for Commander Z. L. Tanner, U. S. N., commander of the Fish Commission steamers *Albatross* and *Fish Hawk* from 1879 to 1894, the foremost exponent of the methods of modern deep-sea exploration, whose intelligent and zealous investigations have led to most valuable contributions to oceanic biology and physics.

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